

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

TO

GORDON C. THAYER

Airman Basic Gordon C. Thayer distinguished himself by heroism involving aerial flight as pararescueman on an unarmed and unarmored CH-3C Helicopter over North Vietnam on 27 July 1965. On that date, Airman Thayer's aircraft penetrated the Surface to Air Missile envelope surrounding Hanoi, North Vietnam, to successfully recover a pilot who had abandoned his crippled aircraft in that area. This recovery operation involved flight in excess of 300 miles over hostile territory under marginal weather conditions and without navigational aids. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty demonstrated by Airman Thayer reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

