

24Oct69

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(SECOND OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO
LELAND H. SORENSEN

Sergeant Leland H. Sorensen distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescueman on an HH-3E rescue helicopter in Southeast Asia on 24 October 1969. On that date, Sergeant Sorensen aided in the rescue of a United States Air Force pilot downed in hostile territory. Three flights of rescue helicopters had already attempted to recover the downed pilot, but accurate and intense gunfire had forced them to withdraw. With complete disregard for his personal safety, undeterred by crackling gunfire and ordnance exploding around him, Sergeant Sorensen persisted courageously and aggressively and against almost insurmountable odds, rescued the pilot from the midst of the hostile troops which surrounded him. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Sorensen reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.