

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

DOUGLAS L. HORKA

Sergeant Douglas L. Horka distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescue Specialist in Southeast Asia on 5 December 1969. On that date, Sergeant Horka, aboard a rescue helicopter, voluntarily flew into an area of known hostile force concentration, despite his knowledge that a previous rescue attempt had been driven off by the intense ground fire. As his helicopter approached a hover, it sustained several hits, yet he elected to continue toward his objective. When the hostile fire became so intense and accurate that the vulnerable aircraft faced certain destruction, Sergeant Horka was forced to egress the area, during which time the helicopter sustained further damage. Although unsuccessful in his rescue attempt, Sergeant Horka's conspicuous bravery helped locate the exact positions of numerous hostile forces. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Horka reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

