

24Mar70 Burns DFC

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO
JAMES W. BURNS

Staff Sergeant James W. Burns distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Flight Engineer/Gunner on a CH-3E Helicopter, in Southeast Asia on 24 March 1970. On that date while landing in hostile territory to rescue a Forward Reconnaissance Team, Sergeant Burns fought and overcame heavy ground fire from a numerically superior hostile force. His steady and accurate fire not only shielded the team members from further injury as they boarded the helicopter, but also prevented the hostile force from damaging the helicopter during a critical phase of flight. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Burns reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.