

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

TO

JOHN T. RICHARDSON

Sergeant John T. Richardson distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescue Specialist of an HH-53C Rescue Helicopter near Quang Ngai, Republic of Vietnam, on 7 November 1972. On that date, Sergeant Richardson's outstanding airmanship and sound technical skill displayed under extremely hazardous conditions, resulted in the successful rescue of seven American aircrew members from certain death or capture by hostile armed forces. With full knowledge that other rescue attempts had been deterred by hostile ground fire in the area, Sergeant Richardson manned his gun position to defend the helicopter as it was flown through marginal weather conditions to the survivors' location and was landed in a clearing from which all seven survivors were recovered. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Richardson reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

