



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR MEDAL
(FORTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO
STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH S. STANALAND

Staff Sergeant Joseph S. Stanaland distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight as an HH-53 rescue helicopter Pararescue and Recovery Specialist in Southeast Asia on 27 April 1971. On that date Sergeant Stanaland took part in the rescue of two American airmen whose aircraft had been shot down by a surface to air missile deep within hostile territory. Sergeant Stanaland manned his machine gun position and defended the helicopter throughout the entire rescue mission. At one point Sergeant Stanaland observed small arms fire, and at which time he quickly returned the fire with his machinegun. The professional skill and airmanship displayed by Sergeant Stanaland reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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