



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL
TO
SERGEANT DANA M. BEACH

Sergeant Dana M. Beach distinguished himself by outstanding achievement as Pararescue Recovery Specialist, 301st Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Homestead Air Force Base, Florida on 26 April 1983. On that date, Sergeant Beach's actions were instrumental in saving the life of a critically ill seaman on board the United States Coast Guard cutter "Tamaroa," located 480-miles southwest of Homestead Air Force Base. With the helicopter positioned in a hover forty feet above the stern, he strapped himself and the medical equipment to the penetrator and began descending on the hoist. Despite the extreme difficulties of hoisting at night over a pitching and rolling deck, and the closeness of the cutter's superstructure and antennae Sergeant Beach alighted safely on the stern. His exceptional ability to diagnose the patient's condition, administer necessary emergency medical treatment, and quickly hoist the patient to the helicopter were absolute essentials in this time-critical mission. By his prompt actions and outstanding airmanship Sergeant Beach contributed immeasurably to saving the life of a fellowman. The distinctive accomplishments of Sergeant Beach reflect credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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