



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
(THIRD OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS CHARLES B. ALDEAN

Airman First Class Charles B. Aldean distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescue Specialist on an HH-53 Rescue Helicopter near Phum Kampong Thma, Cambodia, on 29 November 1971. On that date, Airman Aldean's outstanding airmanship, sound judgment, and exemplary leadership, displayed under the extremely hazardous conditions of making a pick up in a known hostile area, culminated in the rescue of a United States Air Force pilot from certain death or capture by hostile armed forces. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, and despite the threat of intense small arms and anti-aircraft artillery fire, Airman Aldean exposed himself on the open ramp of the helicopter to man his defensive gun position throughout the rescue of the survivor. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Airman Aldean reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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