



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS  
(FIFTH OAK LEAF CLUSTER)  
TO  
STAFF SERGEANT RICKY D. HINDMAN

Staff Sergeant Ricky D. Hindman distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as a Pararescue Specialist on an HH-3E helicopter at the scene of a maritime disaster two hundred and seventy-five miles southeast of Okinawa on 1 December 1971. On that date, Sergeant Hindman was instrumental in saving the lives of eight crewmen from a sunken cargo ship. While the helicopter hovered above the violent sea, Sergeant Hindman was lowered into the shark infested waters five times. With complete disregard for his own safety, Sergeant Hindman placed each survivor on the rescue penetrator and expedited their recovery. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Sergeant Hindman reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

[BACK TO DFC's](#)

[BACK TO MEDALS  
HOMEPAGE](#)

[BACK TO HISTORY  
HOMEPAGE](#)