



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

TO

AIRMAN SECOND CLASS STEVE M. NORTHERN

The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 2, 1926, takes pleasure in presenting the Distinguished Flying Cross to Airman Second Class Steve Michael Northern (AFSN: AF-18724833), United States Air Force, for extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight as Rescue Specialist on a vital and dangerous rescue mission near Lai Khe, Republic of Vietnam on 31 March 1967. On that date, the crew was scrambled at 0300 hours in a dense overcast to locate a pilot who had bailed out of his crippled fighter. Penetrating the heavy overcast and letting down through it with no navigation aids and encountering heavy visible ground fire from the hostile forces, the crew located the downed pilot in the dark and hoisted him to safety aboard the helicopter. The crew twice penetrated the heavy overcast and encountered ground fire three times during their attempt to locate and rescue the downed airman. The professional competence, aerial skill, and devotion to duty displayed by Airman Northern reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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