



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS  
(FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)

TO

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS LELAND H. SORENSEN

Airman First Class Leland H. Sorensen distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as an HH-53 rescue crewmember on 4 September 1969. On that date, Airman Sorensen courageously participated in the repeated attempt to rescue a downed allied pilot from a heavily defended hostile area. Under heavy ground fire, being directed at his aircraft by belligerent forces, Airman Sorensen voluntarily exposed himself to enemy ground fire to protect his aircraft and his fellow crewmembers. He continued his valiant actions until his aircraft was so severely damaged that it was no longer able to further pursue the rescue effort. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Airman Sorensen reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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