



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE SILVER STAR
(FIRST OAK LEAF CLUSTER)
TO
ROBERT D. BOWERS

Airman Second Class Robert D. Bowers distinguished himself by gallantry in connection military operations against an opposing armed force in Southeast Asia on 16 February 1967. On that date, the HH-3E helicopter on which Airman Bowers was Paramedic, attempted to recover a downed pilot over hostile territory. Despite intense and accurate small arms fire and with complete disregard for his personal safety, Airman Bowers exposed himself to aid his pilot in positioning the helicopter over the survivor for an attempted recovery. The intense fire however forced the aircraft to withdraw from the area before the rescue could be effected. In spite of extensive battle damage, the extent of which could not be determined in flight, Airman Bowers concurred with the crew decision to remain in the hostile environment as an emergency rescue backup for the companion aircraft to the limit of fuel endurance. By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Airman Bowers reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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