



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE
SILVER LIFESAVING MEDAL**

TO

**LIEUTENANT CLARENCE R. EASTER
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

The Secretary of the Treasury has presented the Silver Life-Saving Medal to LT Clarence Raymond Easter for heroic action on 4 September 1951 when, as pilot of a Coast Guard helicopter, he went to the assistance of an Air Force pilot whose plane had collided with another plane in midair, off the Coast of Newburyport, Mass. Observing the pilot parachute from his damaged plane and drift toward the ocean, LT Easter inflated the emergency flotation gear, landed his helicopter several hundred yards downwind, and headed directly for the pilot as he hit the water. As the pilot sank, LT Easter cut his engine and, with complete disregard for his own personal safety and with flight gear and harness on, dove into the cold water. He grabbed the floating parachute and, with the aid of his crew member, brought the unconscious pilot aboard. LT Easter's courage, initiative, and unwavering devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.