



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR MEDAL**

TO

**LIEUTENANT DANIEL C. BURBANK
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant BURBANK is cited for meritorious achievement in aerial flight on the night of 31 December 1990 and early morning hours of 1 January 1991 while serving as pilot of Coast Guard HH-3F 1489 engaged in the search and rescue of three men of the fishing vessel SEA BIRD which had capsized and sank in 8-12 foot seas 45 nautical miles southeast of Cape Fear, North Carolina. Dispatched from Coast Guard Air Station Elizabeth City, Lieutenant BURBANK piloted the helicopter to the scene and commenced search operations. Designated On Scene Commander, Lieutenant BURBANK coordinated the search efforts of a Marine Corps helicopter, three fishing boats and a commercial tug. Despite navigation difficulties involving an inoperative LORAN, failed datum marker buoy and low visibility due to rain showers, Lieutenant BURBANK continued searching using navigation data from the boats and visual markers to provide references for search patterns. After two and a half hours on scene and running low on fuel, the survivors were located, and Lieutenant BURBANK hoisted them to safety from the breaking seas. Lieutenant BURBANK's actions, aeronautical skill and coordination of all available assets were instrumental in the rescue of three men. His courage, judgement and devotion to duty are most heartily commended and in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard