



**CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE COAST GUARD COMMENDATION MEDAL**

TO

**LIEUTENANT HAROLD B. McDUFFEE
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant McDUFFEE is cited for meritorious performance of duty on the afternoon of March 7, 1962, while serving as co-pilot of a Coast Guard helicopter, HO4S 1256, engaged in the rescue of men, women and children during a flood emergency on Chincoteague Island, Virginia. Lieutenant McDUFFEE, upon arrival at the distress scene, found the island almost completely inundated by ocean flooding. The populace was being evacuated from established sites within the flooded township to safe havens by helicopters of other services on the scene. Although severely handicapped by strong and turbulent winds, the Coast Guard helicopter immediately began a sweeping search for persons stranded and unable to wade to these evacuation sites. When small groups of survivors were subsequently located in inaccessible places, Lieutenant McDUFFEE skillfully aided the pilot in maneuvering the helicopter into position to accomplish several successful hoist operations. Lieutenant McDUFFEE's skill undoubtedly contributed to the saving of many lives. His courage, sound judgment and unwavering devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard