



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

**COMMANDER FRANK A. ERICKSON
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

For meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flights on 22 September, 1946, as pilot of HNS helicopter engaged in the rescue of eighteen survivors of the Belgian Sabena DC-4 airliner which crashed twenty-four miles southwest of Gander Airport, Newfoundland on 18 September 1946. In the face of hazardous terrain and the necessity of making difficult landings on very small platforms constructed on soft muskeg, Commander Erickson, by his outstanding airmanship and determination, expeditiously effected the rescue of two injured survivors. His courage and unwavering devotion to duty reflect the highest credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.