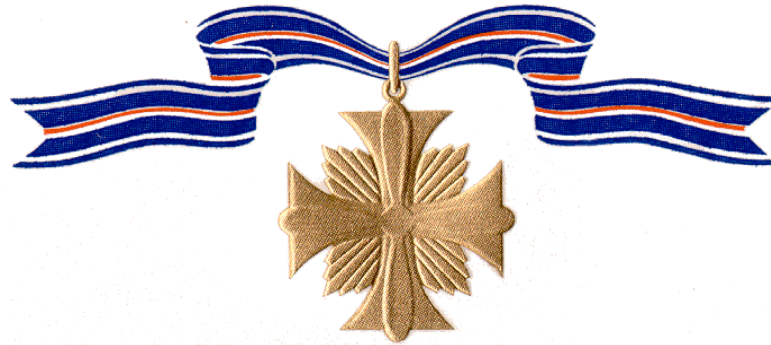


## **CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS**

**TO**

**Lieutenant ROBERT E. LONG  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant Robert E. LONG distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as Aircraft Commander of an HH-53C Rescue Helicopter near Ban Klang, Laos, on September 1972. On that date, Lieutenant LONG'S outstanding airmanship, sound judgment and exemplary leadership displayed under extremely hazardous conditions, resulted in the successful rescue of two United States Air Force aircrewmembers from capture by hostile armed forces. With full knowledge of movement of hostile troops throughout the area, Lieutenant LONG flew his aircraft to the survivors' location and hovered over thirty minutes during the daring recovery of both downed crewmen. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant LONG reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.



## **CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS**

**TO**

**Lieutenant ROBERT E. LONG  
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

Lieutenant Robert E. LONG distinguished himself by heroism while participating in aerial flight as an Aircraft Commander of an HH-53C rescue Helicopter at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand on 27 December 1972. On that date, Lieutenant LONG voluntarily flew into a highly hostile and heavily defended area of North Vietnam to attempt the rescue of a downed American airman. When his wingman's aircraft was severely damaged during the rescue attempt, Lieutenant LONG provided invaluable assistance in locating a crash landing site and then landed and recovered the entire crew of the downed helicopter. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant LONG reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Coast Guard.