



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

TO

**Lieutenant Commander ARTHUR H. WAGNER
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD**

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight on September 10, 1965 while serving as pilot of a Coast Guard helicopter engaged in the rescue of men, women and children during the flood disaster in the New Orleans area following the passage of Hurricane "Betsey". Despite hazardous weather conditions, caused by low ceilings, gusty winds, and poor visibility, Lieutenant Commander WAGNER departed the New Orleans Air Station and made numerous trips to the flooded area to rescue persons marooned on the top of a schoolhouse. Operating dangerously close to tall trees, power lines and other obstructions, he successfully rescued 218 persons during the afternoon and early evening. Lieutenant Commander WAGNER displayed outstanding airmanship throughout this perilous mission. His skill, courage, sound judgement and unwavering devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Coast Guard.