

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL

TO

RALPH C. ERCHINGER

Major Ralph C. Erchinger distinguished himself by meritorious service as D Flight Commander, Intelligence Officer and Officer in Charge of Flying Training, 536th Tactical Airlift Squadron, while serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force at Vung Tau Army Airfield, Republic of Vietnam from 12 November 1966 to 30 October 1967. During this period, Major Erchinger displayed exceptional initiative and sound judgement in the implementation of squadron intelligence policies. He demonstrated outstanding competence in the formulation and adoption of flying training programs and contributed materially to the smooth and effective transitioning of C-7A Caribou aircraft from Army to Air Force control. Major Erchinger's achievements enabled his squadron to consistently set records in tonnage hauled in support of the United States Air Force airlift mission in Southeast Asia. The exemplary leadership, personal endeavor, and devotion to duty displayed by Major Erchinger in this responsible position reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

