



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20380

IN REPLY REFER TO
MSDM-2-bes
1650
8 AUG 1977

Mr. Allen E. Cates
501 Harwell Drive
Lafayette, Louisiana 70503

Dear Mr. Cates:

This is in reply to your letter of recent date regarding awards in your behalf for your service with the U. S. Marine Corps.

As requested, a permanent citation and certificate for the Air Medal (1st through 13th Strike/Flight Awards); the National Defense Service Medal and the Vietnam Service Medal to which you are entitled are forwarded as enclosures (1) through (3).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. Stevenson".

D. STEVENSON

Head, Decorations Section
Decorations Branch

By direction of the Secretary of the Marine Corps

Encl:

- (1) Citation and certificate
for AM(1st-13th S/F Awds)
- (2) NDSM
- (3) VSM



COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the AIR MEDAL (First through Thirteenth Strike/Flight Awards) to

**FIRST LIEUTENANT ALLEN E. CATES
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS RESERVE**

for service as set forth in the following

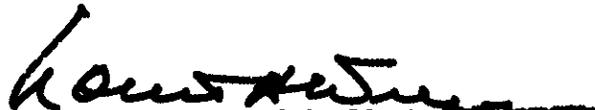
CITATION:

For meritorious achievement in aerial flight as a Helicopter Pilot during missions in support of combat operations against the enemy in Southeast Asia while serving with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron Three Hundred Sixty-Five from 3 October 1964 to 29 July 1965. In the successful completion of these missions. First Lieutenant Cates contributed materially to the success of the United States effort in Southeast Asia. His skill, courage, and devotion to duty in the face of hazardous flying conditions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

The Numeral "13" to represent Thirteen Strike/Flight Awards is authorized.

For the President,




Commandant of the Marine Corps