CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

TO

FLETCHER A. HATCH III

First Lieutenant Fletcher A. Hatch III distinguished himself by heroism in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force near Katum, Republic of Vietnam on 25 June 1968. On that date while airlifting essential supplies into the remote airfield, the C-130E flown by Lieutenant Hatch was hit by heavy hostile ground fire and erupted into flames. Only by the highest degree of airmanship and outstanding personal courage was the aircraft landed and the lives of all on board saved. The outstanding heroism and selfless devotion to duty displayed by Lieutenant Hatch reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.