

SYNOPSIS OF EVENTS PRECIPITATING THE FOLLOWING AWARDS

LT. ROY
Silver Star Medal
LT R. V. GOODLOE, Jr.
Distinguished Flying Cross
AX3 B. G. SPRAGUE
Air Medal
AX3 R. A. SETKO
Air Medal

"For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action while serving in Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron SIX, embarked in USS KEARSARGB (CVS-33), flying an unarmored ASW" helicopter during a mission in support of combat operations in Southeast Asia against North Vietnam Forces on 20 August 1966. LT ROY and his crew proceeded to a position in vicinity of Ron, North Vietnam, to rescue a downed Air Force Pilot. The survivor had been located at a position fifteen miles inland on the crest of a wooded ridge line. After successfully avoiding enemy AAA defenses deployed along the penetration route, LT ROY and his crew resolutely continued inland toward the downed pilot. As the helicopter approached the survivor, the crew sighted a distress signal, and an approach for a pickup was made. Enemy ground forces however, had closed to within one hundred yards of the downed pilot's position} the approach had to be aborted while supporting attack aircraft fired cannon and rockets at the North Vietnamese to prevent them from advancing to capture the survivor.

After the enemy had been thoroughly mauled by the air support aircraft, the helicopter approached, and dropped a rescue seat to the Air Force pilot. As the helicopter hovered at tree top level for the pickup, the enemy continued sporadic small arms fire in an attempt to prevent the rescue. LT ROY and the crew hurriedly lifted the downed pilot out of his precarious position and took him aboard the helicopter. A rapid departure ensued to clear enemy forces who had reached positions which made the helicopter an easy target. As their aircraft retired toward the coast line, alerted enemy AAA batteries commenced firing in a final determined effort to thwart the rescue. LT ROY and his crew adroitly evaded the enemy barrage by changes in course and altitude and escaped unscathed to the sea and safety.