



# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR. TROPHY

TO

LIEUTENANT COLONEL WILLIAM E. LEE

The Koren Kolligian, Jr. Trophy is presented to Lieutenant Colonel William E. Lee, 96th Flying Training Squadron, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas. On 22 March 2013, Colonel Lee was performing a solo T-38C functional check flight departing from Laughlin Air Force Base. During the flight, the rear cockpit multi-function display dislocated from the rear cockpit console and became lodged between the control stick and the instrument panel. Colonel Lee experienced the aircraft abruptly pitch up and roll violently to the left. He attempted to correct the pitch, but was unable to achieve any forward stick movement. He determined that 70 degrees of bank was required to maintain level flight. With 10 minutes of fuel remaining, Colonel Lee executed a controllability check and configured with partial flaps to maintain control. During his return to base, he essentially relearned how to fly the aircraft using only rudder, ailerons, and differential power to maintain a controlled descent. Just prior to touchdown, Colonel Lee experienced an un-commanded roll at which time he added power. This action ceased the rolling motion and he completed the landing, stopping only a few feet prior to the raised barrier. The safety awareness and risk management these accomplishments exhibit, reflect great credit upon Colonel Lee, Air Education and Training Command, and the United States Air Force.

MARK A. WELSH III  
General, USAF  
Chief of Staff



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC 20330

JAN 13 2014

HQ USAF/CC  
1670 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1670

General Robin Rand  
Commander, Air Education and Training Command  
1 F Street, Suite 1  
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4324

Dear General Rand: *BABA*

I am pleased to inform you that Lieutenant Colonel William E. Lee, 96th Flying Training Squadron, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, is the recipient of the Koren Kolligian Jr. Trophy for Fiscal Year 2013.

On March 22, 2013, Colonel Lee departed from Laughlin Air Force Base and was performing a solo T-38C functional check flight when the rear cockpit multi-function display dislocated from the rear cockpit console and became lodged between the control stick and the instrument panel. Colonel Lee experienced the aircraft abruptly pitch up and roll violently to the left. He attempted to correct the pitch, but was unable to achieve any forward stick movement. He determined that 70 degrees of bank was required to maintain level flight. With 10 minutes of fuel remaining, Colonel Lee executed a controllability check and configured with partial flaps to maintain control. During his return to base, he essentially relearned how to fly the aircraft using only rudder, ailerons, and differential power to maintain a controlled descent. Just prior to touchdown, Colonel Lee experienced an un-commanded roll, at which time he added power. This action ceased the rolling motion and he completed the landing, stopping only a few feet prior to the raised barrier.

Please extend my congratulations to Colonel Lee for his selection as the recipient of this prestigious award.

*Make me sweat just thinking about that landing!*

Sincerely,

MARK A. WELSH III  
General, USAF  
Chief of Staff