CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR. TROPHY

TO

CAPTAIN TIMOTHY K. KILLHAM

The Koren Kolligian, Jr. Trophy is presented to Captain Timothy K. Killham, 33d Flying Training Squadron, 33d Fighter Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. On 23 June 2014, Captain Killham was assigned as number two of a two-ship of F-35As conducting an Opposed Surface Attack sortie in the Rose Hill Military Operating Area. Upon receiving takeoff clearance, and after his flight lead was airborne, Captain Killham executed his briefed military power rolling takeoff. At rotation speed, Captain Killham heard an explosive bang and was forcibly thrown forward in the ejection seat harness. Experiencing a catastrophic malfunction at flying airspeed, Captain Killham quickly analyzed the multiple audio and integrated caution and warning indications and made the split second decision to abort the takeoff. With failing brakes and at a high speed, Captain Killham deftly controlled the burning aircraft to ensure it remained on the runway. He flawlessly applied the prescribed emergency abort procedures and brought the fifty thousand pound fighter aircraft, which was almost completely engulfed in flames, to a stop on the runway. Despite a thirty foot wall of fire steadily burning its way toward the cockpit, Captain Killham methodically executed the flight series data emergency shutdown procedures and safely egressed the burning aircraft. Ultimately, Captain Killham's superior airmanship and steadfast composure in a life threatening situation helped avert the loss of a 205 million dollar national asset and ensured his safety. The safety awareness and risk management skills exhibited by Captain Killham reflect credit upon himself, Air Education and Training Command, and the United States Air Force.

MARK A. WELSH III General, USAF Chief of Staff

Jack Welsh



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

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

JAN 16 2015

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

General Robin Rand 1 F Street, Suite 1 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4324

Dear General Rand:

I am pleased to inform you that Captain Timothy K. Killham, 33d Flying Training Squadron, 33d Fighter Wing, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, is the recipient of the Koren Kolligian Jr. Trophy for Fiscal Year 2014.

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

Sincerely,

MARK A. WELSH III

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General, USAF

Chief of Staff