

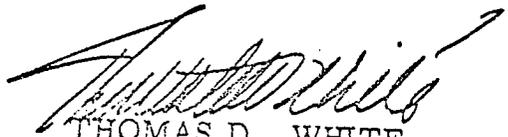
CITATION FOR THE AWARD OF  
THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY

The KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY is awarded to First Lieutenant Ronald L. Warner, United States Air Force, in recognition of his accomplishment of an outstanding feat of airmanship.

On 4 September 1959, Lieutenant Warner was flying as pilot of a C-119 aircraft transporting passengers from Okinawa to Guam. At a point midway to Guam, while cruising at 9000 feet, the aircraft suddenly experienced a runaway propeller on the right engine. Severe vibration of the aircraft and an uncontrollable loss of altitude posed the immediate threat of abandoning the aircraft over the perilous open sea.

Unable to feather the defective propeller, Lieutenant Warner alerted the passengers and dispatched emergency distress signals. By slowing the aircraft to an airspeed slightly above a stall, Lieutenant Warner was able to regain sufficient control to remain airborne. A critical appraisal of the situation revealed that, under these conditions, the aircraft had insufficient fuel to reach the nearest landing facility. A nearby atoll offered the prospect of bailing out the passengers, to reduce the weight of the aircraft, and thereby assure sufficient endurance to reach safety. However, rather than risk the lives of his passengers to the uncertainties of a bail-out over the small treacherous atoll and surrounding shark infested waters, Lieutenant Warner decided, in the face of overwhelming odds, to attempt the hazardous four hour flight to Iwo Jima. Having made his decision, he ordered all possible equipment jettisoned. Thereafter, with the success of the flight dependent on the continued operation of one engine, a runaway propeller causing severe aircraft vibration on the other, and a serious shortage of fuel, Lieutenant Warner skillfully piloted his aircraft to a safe landing at Iwo Jima with only minutes of fuel remaining.

Lieutenant Warner's outstanding feat of airmanship in coping with an airborne emergency situation conforms to the high standards established for the KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY and reflects great credit upon himself, the Pacific Air Forces, and the United States Air Force.

  
THOMAS D. WHITE  
Chief of Staff  
United States Air Force