

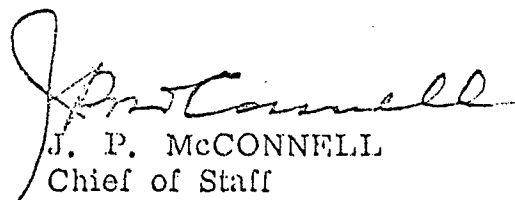
CITATION

TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY

The Koren Kolligian, Jr., Trophy is awarded to Major Bruce D. Stocks in recognition of his outstanding feat of airmanship in successfully coping with an emergency situation during a combat mission over North Vietnam.

Major Stocks distinguished himself by extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight on 19 November 1967. Major Stocks was the lead pilot in a flight of four F-105F aircraft attempting to suppress enemy radar controlled defensive weapons. While maneuvering near the target area, Major Stocks' and his wingman's aircraft were severely damaged by enemy surface-to-air missiles. Major Stocks sustained severe wounds in his left arm and chest. In addition, his radio was destroyed and the aircraft fuel system was damaged. Damage to the wingman's aircraft caused massive fuel syphoning which made an engine flameout imminent. Despite his incapacitation, he quickly assessed the damage of each aircraft and escorted his wingman to a safe bail-out area. After the crew ejected, Major Stocks provided protective air cover until search and rescue aircraft arrived on the scene. He then flew to a rendezvous with a post-strike tanker, and in face of the complications caused by the damaged fuel system, loss of radio, and effects of his wounds, Major Stocks was able to accurately assess the situation and successfully complete the inflight refueling after jettisoning his external fuel tanks. Major Stocks then flew several hundred miles back to his home base where he successfully recovered his damaged aircraft.

Major Stocks' outstanding feat of airmanship in successfully coping with this emergency while wounded and over enemy territory conforms to the highest standards established for the Koren Kolligian, Jr., Trophy and reflects great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.


J. P. McCONNELL
Chief of Staff