

1981

CITATION

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

Captain Larry E. Faber distinguished himself by extraordinary airmanship while participating in aerial flight as a U-2 pilot on an overseas operational mission on 3 August, 1981.

Shortly after takeoff and just as Captain Faber had entered the 500-foot low-cloud ceiling in instrument flying conditions, he experienced an aircraft electrical system failure with simultaneous loss of all attitude reference indications. Due to forecast cloud tops extending to 40,000 feet, Captain Faber elected to reduce power and attempt to descend to visual conditions while simultaneously making a heading change to avoid high terrain off the departure end of the runway. When clear of the clouds, with only the aircraft battery supplying electrical power, he analyzed and initiated corrective action to correct gear-lowering problems and made several unsuccessful attempts to reset the aircraft generators. With weather rapidly deteriorating and cloud coverage down to the 500-foot level, Captain Faber terminated fuel dumping and elected to land. Although the U-2 aircraft contained over three times the amount of fuel recommended for landing and the elevator trim was inoperative, Captain Faber completed a successful landing.

Captain Faber's exemplary aircraft systems knowledge, competent and decisive actions, and superior airmanship were directly responsible for saving a valuable national asset and won great credit for himself, the Strategic Air Command, and the United States Air Force.

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CHARLES A. GABRIEL, General, USAF
Chief of Staff