



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

CITATION

TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY
TO
MARK E. KENNEDY

On 14 November 1991, then Captain Mark E. Kennedy distinguished himself by meritorious action as an F-16 instructor pilot. Just after takeoff, the F-16D in which Captain Kennedy was instructing suffered a complete loss of thrust. Captain Kennedy immediately took control of the aircraft from the upgrading front seat pilot and observed an illuminated engine warning light, decreasing RPM, and heavy smoke in both cockpits. Realizing that an air start was not feasible, nor was a flameout landing on the departure runway possible, Captain Kennedy traded what little excess airspeed he possessed for maneuvering altitude. A quick assessment of the airfield revealed an unoccupied taxiway as a possible landing surface. Despite heavy smoke in the cockpit and the normally restricted visibility from the rear seat of the F-16D, Captain Kennedy skillfully maneuvered his aircraft to a flawless flameout landing on the vacant taxiway. Total time from engine failure to touchdown was less than a minute. The distinguished accomplishments of Major Kennedy reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

MERRILL A. McPEAK, General, USAF
Chief of Staff