

Kolligian Citation



# DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF  
THE FY00 KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY

TO

**BARRY R. CORNISH**

Captain Barry R. Cornish distinguished himself by outstanding achievements in airmanship on 26 January 2000. Captain Cornish was leading a four-ship of F-15Cs on recovery to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. During landing, less than two seconds after touchdown, the left main landing gear strut structurally failed and departed the aircraft. When directional control could not be maintained, Captain Cornish made a split-second decision to execute an afterburner go-around. He directed his wingman to rejoin for a damage assessment and the wingman relayed that the lower portion of the gear was completely gone. Captain Cornish quickly applied the appropriate checklist procedures and coordinated with the Supervisor of Flying to determine landing options. With less than 10 minutes of fuel remaining, the Supervisor of Flying discovered the arresting gear was severed during the first attempted landing. Captain Cornish immediately turned inbound to set up an opposite direction approach. Knowing he had only one chance at landing, he modified his approach to account for his low fuel state and skillfully established arrestment parameters on short final. He landed on centerline and rolled into the cable in a perfect two-point attitude.

Captain Cornish's lightning-fast decisions, superior situational awareness, and outstanding airmanship in dealing with a critical mechanical failure prevented the loss of a valuable combat asset and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

//signed//  
MICHAEL E. RYAN, General, USAF  
Chief of Staff