



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE FY01 KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY

TO

MICHAEL K. HONMA

Captain Michael K. Honma distinguished himself by outstanding achievements in airmanship in safely coping with an in-flight emergency on 5 September 2001. Captain Honma was able to recover a severely crippled aircraft to an uneventful landing by maintaining aircraft control, analyzing the situation, and taking immediate and appropriate corrective actions during the emergency. His timely decision to shut down a burning engine, resulting from a catastrophic internal failure, saved the lives of ten crewmembers and the total destruction of the aircraft. The internal failure of the number four engine caused a fuel-fed fire to spread throughout the engine and over the wing. Despite shutting the engine down and taking all appropriate emergency actions to extinguish the flames, the fire continued to burn out of control. Approximately four minutes later, after leveling at a safe altitude en route to the nearest emergency airfield, the burning engine departed the wing. In the face of a life-threatening situation, Captain Honma intently battled a raging fuel-fed fire and significant aircraft controllability problems encountered once the engine departed the wing, to safely recover the crippled aircraft to an uneventful landing.

Captain Honma's superior aviation skills, in-depth systems knowledge, and ability to perform under extremely stressful conditions reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

JOHN P. JUMPER, General, USAF
Chief of Staff