



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

THE KOREN KOLLIGIAN, JR., TROPHY

TO

MAJOR JACK A. NELSON

The Koren Kolligian, Jr., Trophy is presented to Major Jack A. Nelson, 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. His superior performance resulted in the safe recovery of a 250 million dollar aircraft on 8 July 2015. Major Nelson's aircraft suffered a complete loss of primary heading and reference systems to include the autopilot and navigation systems. His keen reflexes allowed him to simultaneously troubleshoot the system failure and maintain aircraft control in a very tight flight envelope called the "coffin corner." While expertly handling the navigation and autopilot problem, Major Nelson also encountered an environmental control system malfunction further complicating the situation. Temperatures in the aircraft quickly reached -9 degrees Fahrenheit. Major Nelson used outstanding crew resource management and checklist discipline to safely recover the aircraft while flying in below freezing temperatures. The distinctive accomplishments of Major Nelson reflect great credit upon himself, Air Combat Command, and the United States Air Force.

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