

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

TO

STEPHEN T. WRIGHT

Senior Airman Stephen T. Wright distinguished himself by outstanding achievement as B-2 Instrument and Flight Controls System Journeyman, 393d Bomb Squadron, 509th Operations Group, 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri, from 24 March 1999 to 11 Jun 1999. During this period, Airman Wright was instrumental in the launch, recovery, and regeneration actions of B-2 aircraft in support of Operation ALLIED FORCE, a North Atlantic Treaty Organization air campaign against Serbian aggression in Kosovo. He maintained and repaired numerous critical flight control components allowing the aircraft to safely complete combat sorties. Additionally, when flight control actuator remote terminals approached zero balance in supply, he coordinated with engineers to allow the units to be repaired locally, resulting in zero impact to combat sorties. Airman Wright was an integral part of the aircraft maintenance efforts that ultimately resulted in 45 B-2 combat sorties, a 100 percent on-time takeoff rate, a 96 percent mission effectiveness rate, and the release of over 1.35 million pounds of weapons. The planes flew less than one percent of the sorties flown by North Atlantic Treaty Organization pilots, but accounted for 11 percent of the bombs dropped. Additionally, at the conclusion of the conflict, during the visit of the Commander-in-Chief, President William J. Clinton, to the 509th Bomb Wing, Airman Wright again demonstrated his dedication and professionalism while providing direct support to this presidential visit. The distinctive accomplishments of Airman Wright reflect credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

