

NEWS RELEASE

From the
NATIONAL AERONAUTIC ASSOCIATION

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February 7, 2007 -- F-22 RAPTOR WINS 2006 COLLIER TROPHY

The National Aeronautic Association has announced that The Lockheed Martin Corporation and the F-22 Raptor Team have won the 2006 Robert J. Collier Trophy.

The Collier Trophy, first created in 1911, is considered the most prestigious of all aviation awards. It is granted each year “for the greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America... during the preceding year.” It is administered by the National Aeronautic Association and is permanently housed at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum.

The Raptor team will be presented the trophy “for designing, testing, and operating” the newly-operational F-22 Raptor. The nomination specifically noted the aircraft’s performance in the 2006 *Northern Edge* military exercise. Team members include Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Pratt & Whitney, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, BAE Systems and the U.S. Air Force.

This amazing aircraft has been described as “the most efficient and effective fighter in history, through exceptional performance and outstanding safety features.”

The F-22 joins past winners of the trophy including Orville Wright, Howard Hughes, Chuck Yeager, Scott Crossfield, the crew of Apollo 11, and SpaceShipOne.

NAA President and CEO David Ivey called the F-22 “a revolution in aeronautics,” and pointed out the fighter’s performance in *Northern Edge* saying it “established the unquestionable superiority of the Raptor, a culmination of years of visionary design, rigorous testing, and innovative manufacturing.”

A black-tie dinner honoring members of the Raptor Team is scheduled for June 8 at the Mellon Auditorium in Washington, D.C.

(The non-profit National Aeronautic Association is the oldest national aviation organization in the United States. Founded in 1905, NAA is "dedicated to the advancement of the art, sport and science of aviation in the United States." It is the record-keeper for United States aviation and administers aviation's most important awards. NAA's offices are at 1737 King Street, Suite 220, Alexandria, Virginia, 22314, 703-527-0226.)