Absolute Aviation World Records

The desirability of a standard procedure to certify air records was recognized early in the history of powered flight. In 1905, representatives of Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, and the US met in Paris to form the Federation Aeronautique Internationale, the world body of national aeronautic sporting interests. The FAI today comprises the national aero clubs of some 100 nations and certifies national records as world records. Since 1922, the National Aeronautic Association, based in Arlington, Va., has been the US representative to the FAI. The NAA supervises all attempts at world and world-class records in the United States. Absolute world records are the supreme achievements of all the records open to flying machines.


Launched from a B-52 mothership, X-15 test pilot Maj. Robert White flew to a world record-setting altitude of more than 59 miles in 1962.
The Robert J. Collier Trophy

This award, presented by the National Aeronautic Association, is the most prestigious in American aviation. It recognizes the "greatest achievement in aeronautics or astronautics in America, with respect to improving the performance, efficiency, and safety of air or space vehicles, the value of which has been thoroughly demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year." The award is named for a prominent publisher, sportsman, and aviator. Collier, the first person to purchase a Wright airplane for personal use, commissioned the trophy and presented it to the Aero Club of America (the forerunner of the NAA) in 1911.

1917-20 No award.
1935 Donald Douglas and staff. DC-2. 1975 USAF, Rockwell, B-1 industry team. B-1 bomber.
1939 US airlines. Air travel safety record. 1979
**The Robert J. Collier Trophy, continued**

1982 T.A. Wilson, Boeing, supported by FAA, industry, airlines. 757 and 767 airliners.
1983 US Army, Hughes Helicopters, industry team. AH-64A Apache helicopter.
1985 Russell W. Meyer, Cessna Aircraft, Cessna Citation business jets. Outstanding safety.
1990 Bell–Boeing team. V-22 Osprey.


1994 Cessna Citation X design team. Cessna Citation X.
1995 Gulfstream Aerospace Corp., Gulfstream V industry team. Gulfstream V.
1997 Boeing, Hornet industry team, and US Navy. F/A-18E/F.

**The Mackay Trophy**

The Mackay Trophy was established by Clarence H. Mackay, an industrialist, philanthropist, communications pioneer, and aviation enthusiast. Presented by the National Aeronautical Association, the trophy recognizes “the most meritorious flight of the year” by an Air Force member, members, or organization.

1912 2nd Lt. Henry H. Arnold.
1914 Capt. Townsend F. Dodd and Lt. S.W. Fitzgerald.
1915 Lt. B.Q. Jones.
1916-17 No award.
1918 Capt. Edward V. Rickenbacker.
1921 Lt. John A. Macready.
1928 1st Lt. Harry A. Sutton.
1929 Capt. A.W. Stevens.
1930 Maj. Ralph Royce.
1933 Capt. Westside T. Larson.
1935 Capts. O.A. Anderson and A.W. Stevens.
1937 Capts. Carl J. Crane and George V. Holfman.
1940-46 No award.
1947 Capt. Charles E. Yeager.
1949 Capt. James G. Gallagher and crew of Lucky Lady II.
1950 27th Fighter Wing.
1951 Col. Fred J. Ascani.
1953 40th Air Division, SAC.
1954 308th Bombardment Wing (M) and 38th Air Div., SAC.
1956 Capt. Iven C. Kincheloe Jr., Air Research and Development Command.
1957 93rd Bombardment Wing, SAC.
1960 6593rd Test Sq., Hickam AFB, Hawaii.


1964 464th Troop Carrier Wing, TAC.


1969 49th Tactical Fighter Wing, TAC.


1973 MAC aircrews.


1977 C-5 aircrew (Capt. David M. Sprinkel and crew).


1980 Crews S-21 and S-31, 644th Bombardment Sq.


1982 B-52 Crew E-21, 19th Bombardment Wing.

1983 Capt. Robert J. Goodman and his crew, 42nd Bombardment Wing, SAC.


1987 Det. 15, USAF Plant Representative Office, and B-1B SPO.

1988 C-5 crew, 436th Military Airlift Wing.

1989 B-1B crew, 96th Bomb Wing.

1990 AC-130 crew, 16th Special Operations Sq.


1992 C-130 crew, 310th Airlift Sq., ACC, Howard AFB, Panama.

1993 B-52 crew, 668th Bomb Sq., ACC.


1995 Aircr ew BAT 01, Dyess AFB, Tex.


1997 Crew of Whiskey 05, 7th Special Operations Sq., RAF Mildenhall, UK.


2000 Crew of Airevac 10E1/10E2, 86th AES and 75th AS, Ramstein AB, Germany.

2001 Crew of Knife 04, 20th SOS, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

2002 Crew of Grim 31, 16th SOS, Hurlburt Field, Fla.

Gen. Thomas Power (right), commander in chief of Strategic Air Command, greets the B-58 Hustler crew that set three speed records and was later awarded the 1962 Mackay Trophy. From left are Maj. Robert Sowers and Capts. Robert MacDonald and John Walton. For their record-setting flight, the crew flew roundtrip between New York and Los Angeles in four hours, 42 minutes.
The Gen. Thomas D. White USAF Space Award

The Gen. Thomas D. White USAF Space Award is named for the fourth Air Force Chief of Staff, a longtime champion of USAF’s role in space. The Air Force selects the recipients among USAF individuals or organizations that made the year’s outstanding progress in the field of aerospace. It was established in 1961 and, until 1996, sponsored by the National Geographic Society. It is now an AFA national award sponsored by the Gen. B.A. Schriever Los Angeles Chapter.

1963 Maj. L. Gordon Cooper.
1965 Lt. Col. Edward H. White II.
1966 Alexander H. Flax.
1974 No award.
1978 No award.
2002 Lt. Gen. Roger G. DeKok, USAF (Ret.).

The Raytheon Hughes Achievement Award

The Raytheon Hughes Achievement Award (formerly the Hughes Trophy) is presented annually to the top Air Force squadron with an air defense/air superiority mission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Unit, Base</th>
<th>Aircraft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>58th FIS, Otis AFB, Mass.</td>
<td>F-94C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954</td>
<td>96th FIS, New Castle County Airport, Del.</td>
<td>F-94C</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>496th FIS, Landstuhl AB, West Germany</td>
<td>F-86D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>317th FIS, McChord AFB, Wash.</td>
<td>F-86D/F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957</td>
<td>512th FIS, RAF Bentwaters, UK</td>
<td>F-86D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1958</td>
<td>31st FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<tr>
<td>1959</td>
<td>31st FIS, Ellsworth AFB, S.D.</td>
<td>F-89J</td>
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<tr>
<td>1960</td>
<td>460th FIS, Portland Arpt., Ore.</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>83rd FIS, Hamilton AFB, Calif.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962</td>
<td>444th FIS, Charleston AFB, S.C.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1963</td>
<td>497th FIS, Torrejon AB, Spain</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>329th FIS, George AFB, Calif.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>317th FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<td>1966</td>
<td>32nd FIS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<td>1967</td>
<td>317th FIS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>1968</td>
<td>64th FIS, Clark AFB, Philippines</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>71st FIS, Malmstrom AFB, Mont.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>57th FIS, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
<td>F-102A</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>48th FIS, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972</td>
<td>43rd TFS, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-4E</td>
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<tr>
<td>1973</td>
<td>555th TFS, Udorn RTAB, Thailand</td>
<td>F-4D</td>
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<tr>
<td>1974</td>
<td>119th FIG (ANG), Hector Field, N.D.</td>
<td>F-101B</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>318th FIG, McChord AFB, Wash.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>1976</td>
<td>57th FIG, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
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<td>1977</td>
<td>43rd FIG, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska</td>
<td>F-4E</td>
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<th>Aircraft</th>
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<tr>
<td>1978</td>
<td>49th FIS, Griffiss AFB, N.Y.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>32nd TFS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-15A/B</td>
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<td>32nd TFS, Soesterberg AB, Netherlands</td>
<td>F-15A/B</td>
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<td>12th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>1982</td>
<td>44th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>1983</td>
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<td>120th FIG (ANG), Great Falls Arpt., Mont.</td>
<td>F-106A/B</td>
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<td>67th TFS, Kadena AB, Japan</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>1987</td>
<td>57th FIG, NAS Keflavik, Iceland</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>1988</td>
<td>22nd FIG, Bitburg AB, West Germany</td>
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<td>58th TFS, Eglin AFB, Fla.</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>71st FIG, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
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<td>178th FIG (ANG), Hector Arpt., N.D.</td>
<td>F-16A/B</td>
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<td>493rd FIG, RAF Lakenheath, UK</td>
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<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>493rd FIG, RAF Lakenheath, UK</td>
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<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>71st FIG, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>27th FIG, Langley AFB, Va.</td>
<td>F-15C/D</td>
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