

# FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

MORNING

EVENING

SUNDAY

AMON G. CARTER, PRESIDENT

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

April 14, 1949.

General Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
Chief of the Air Force  
Pentagon Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Vandenberg:

Commemorating the first non-stop flight around the world ever made, you, as Chief of Staff of the Air Force, have been made an honorary lifetime citizen of the City of Fort Worth and have been awarded this city's gold medal for aeronautical achievement in 1949.

Fort Worth, now observing the centennial of its founding, is extremely proud and honored that this epochal flight by an Air Force B-50 bomber began here February 26 and ended here March 2, 1949.

Lifetime honorary citizenship of this city and the gold medal award likewise have been conferred upon Captain James G. Gallagher and members of the crew who made this flight, as well as President Harry S. Truman; Mr. James V. Forrestal, former Secretary of Defense; Mr. W. Stuart Symington, Secretary for Air; Lieutenant General Curtis E. LeMay, Chief of the Strategic Air Command; Major General Roger M. Ramey, commanding the Eighth Air Force; Colonel James G. Selser, commanding the 43rd Bombardment Wing; Colonel D. E. Bailey, his deputy; Colonel Alvan N. Moore, commanding the 43rd Bombardment Group, as men who planned and directed this notable flight.

A copy of the medal also is being sent to Colonel Louis A. Johnson, the new Secretary of Defense, as a memento of this great feat, which marks the beginning of a new chapter in the development of American air power.



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These honors were presented in person to Captain Gallagher and his men at a dinner honoring them, given here by the Fort Worth Chamber of Commerce the evening of April 7, 1949.

The medal, as well as a leather wallet in which it may be carried which also contains a card attesting to this city's citizenship, and a leather folder containing the resolution by the Fort Worth City Council conferring citizenship upon you and these distinguished airmen under your command, are being forwarded to you with the respect and best wishes of the citizenship of Fort Worth.

Sincerely,

AGC:mm

*J. G. O'N*  
*P. Carey*

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