GENERAL HENRY H. ARNOLD EDUCATION GRANT
in honor of

MILTON A. CANIFF

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When Milton Caniff died on April 3, 1988, the Air Force lost a great friend. Mr. Caniff was the originator of the cartoon strips of "Terry and the Pirates" and "Steve Canyon." "Steve Canyon" was created in 1947, the same year as the Air Force. Caniff's strip characters came to life because he used real people as role models. He even dedicated "strip space" each year urging readers to support the Air Force Aid Society.

Roger Beaumont, a professor at Texas A&M said of Caniff's drawings ". . . he created a certain image of the service persona which was very sympathetic to enlisted men. But it was also very adulatory toward officers. He struck a very interesting balance between the two."

Milton Caniff was born February 28, 1907 in Hillsboro, Ohio. He was the son of a printer and began drawing very early in life. During his life, he served on the boards of the Air Force Association, the Aerospace Education Foundation and the Air Force Aid Society. He served with the Society from 1974 until 1980. Milton Caniff did all of the portraits for the Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio.

The Freedom Foundation, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania awarded him the Freedom Leadership Medal in 1967. His citation began: "Milton Caniff, Beloved citizen - ardent patriot." He was the Air Force Association's Man of the Year in 1965.