

Colorado Springs Chapter, CO Article MOWW Magazine

2026 Lufbery Award at United States Air Force Academy

Col Steve Shambach, Commander, Colorado Springs Chapter, Military Order of the World Wars had the honor of presenting the Lufbery Award to Cadet First Class (now 2LT) Hudson Baese at the Air Force Academy (USAF) Awards Ceremony in the Department of Foreign Languages on 26 May 2026. The MOWW Outstanding USAFA Cadet in Western Language Minor Award is a National level Award. This award is in memory of Major Gervais Raoul Victor Lufbery (March 14, 1885 – May 19, 1918) who was a French and American fighter pilot and flying ace in World War I. Because he served in both the French Air Force, and later the United States Army Air Service in World War I, he is sometimes listed alternately as a French ace or as an American ace. Officially, all but one of his 17 combat victories came while flying in French units. This award is presented annually to the United States Air Force Academy (USAF) cadet who, above all other cadets, excels in western languages. The USAFA faculty determines the recipient on behalf of the Order.



Col Shambach presents the Raoul Lufbery MOWW Award statue to C1C (now 2LT) Hudson Baese, USAF



Col Shambach presents the MOWW Lufbery Award certificate and MOWW America 250 Coin to C1C (now 2LT) Baese, USAF