

THE AIR POWER LEAGUE

Incorporated in the District of Columbia

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING
NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

...

April 19, 1945

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Executive Vice President

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Mr. Amon G. Carter, President
Carter Publications, Inc.
400 West Seventh Street
Fort Worth, Texas

Dear Mr. Carter:

As you will recall, the Board of Directors voted to accept the invitation of the Army Air Forces to hold the next directors' meeting at Eglin Field, Florida.

The date for this meeting has been set for June 7th. Army transport planes will call for League directors at their various locations on the afternoon of the 6th. The board meeting will be held on the 7th. Following this meeting, and during the day of June 8th, the directors will tour the installations of the Proving Ground Command and have opportunity to see in action the radical, experimental aircraft and weapons now undergoing tests at Eglin.

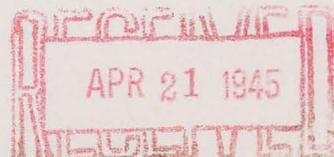
This will be our most interesting meeting to date and certainly one of the most urgent. Several important matters must come before the board at that time, particularly with respect to organization and to a national program for air power.

It is necessary that the Army be informed quickly as to the names of directors who will attend, so that plans for transportation can be set. Will you, therefore, please wire me your answer within the next few days?

Sincerely,

Howard W. Angus
Howard W. Angus

HWA:T



[encl. 4/19/45]

Notice of Special Executive Committee Meeting
The Air Power League - September 10, 1945

The executive committee meeting originally scheduled for August 14th didn't bring a quorum and has been postponed to Monday, September 10th in the General Electric Luncheon Lounge on the 48th floor of 570 Lexington Avenue, New York at 12:30 P.M.

C. D. Frazer

Secretary

MEMORANDUM OF SCHEDULED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE AIR POWER LEAGUE
Held in Mr. Wilson's Office, Tuesday, August 14, 1945

Present:

- Mr. Wilson
- Mr. Bierwirth
- Mr. Carroll
- Mr. Meigs
- Mr. C. S. Jones
- Mr. Angus
- Mr. Frazer

Since there was not a quorum of the executive committee present at this meeting, no action could be taken. Thus, the principal question before the meeting - recommended changes in the constitution and by-laws of the Air Power League - was deferred to an executive committee meeting tentatively scheduled for September 4, 1945.

Mr. Bierwirth then described in considerable detail the League's financing plan as developed by the committee of which he is chairman. Mr. Bierwirth read off the various groupings of industry to whom appeals for contributions are to be made and the members present discussed the names of directors and charter members who might be asked to seek contributions in their various fields. Announcement was made by Mr. Bierwirth of the contribution of \$30,000 from the Bell Aircraft Corp. and another of \$25,000 from the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co. He expressed the hope of the finance committee that the desired sum of \$2,500,000.00 might be raised without acceptance by the League of any contribution exceeding \$50,000. In connection with the report on financing there was a discussion of possible additional charter members and directors of the League. This matter is to come before the committee meeting again on September 4th.

Mr. Carroll and Mr. Angus then described steps taken toward a merger with the Civil Air Patrol. It was their recommendation and the opinion of the meeting that the Civil Air Patrol League should be allowed to dissolve and that active CAP wing commanders and state organizations be invited to undertake on behalf of the Air Power League the organization of clubs in their respective areas. Mr. Angus put forth the suggestion that the League itself consist of a relatively small number of national members and that it take on more of the character of a foundation than had been originally conceived, with mass membership to be sought only on a local level by the establishment of community clubs - affiliates of the League but not an accepted part of it, with voting and other rights.

Mr. Angus then submitted a proposal for establishment of the Boynton Foundation for Aviation Medicine, which the Army had advanced as a possible Air Power League undertaking. The opinion of the meeting was that the League is not yet far enough along in its financing and organization to proceed with such activities but that this proposal should be tabled for future consideration.

Mr. Frazer reported on the nationwide celebration of Air Force Day and

the League's participation therein. Some of the more significant facts concerning this celebration are described in an accompanying memorandum.

Mr. Wilson read a letter from General Arnold, expressing his appreciation of the part played by the Air Power League in the observance of Air Force Day. Mr. Wilson then brought to the attention of the meeting a letter from Mrs. Evalyn Walsh McLean in which she had offered to will her home, FRIENDSHIP, to the League for a library or other purposes. This subject was taken up in some detail by the members, with the decision that the legal aspects of accepting this offer be explored and the adaptability of FRIENDSHIP to the League's purposes be investigated. Mr. Meigs offered to obtain some further information of this nature.

The meeting was adjourned until September 4th with the understanding that members of the executive committee would previously be informed by mail of some of the more involved questions to be brought up at that time, notably the suggested relationship between the League and its clubs and the necessary changes in constitution and by-laws.

Charles D. Frager
Secretary

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MEMO ON AIR FORCE DAY CELEBRATION

Reports indicate that there were more than 500 celebrations of Air Force Day throughout the country, sponsored either by the Air Power League in conjunction with such organizations as the Wings Club, the Aero Club of Washington, and the NAA, or by the Civil Air Patrol with help and direction from the Air Power League. The largest dinner was that in New York honoring General Arnold, from which a nation-wide broadcast was made. Other very large and successful dinners were given in Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, Buffalo, Minneapolis and elsewhere. In Detroit, as in Columbus, Ohio and many other communities, the day's observance featured a luncheon at which Army officers appeared and thereafter by demonstrations at neighboring air fields.

Among the speakers who appeared at the various celebrations were these:

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| New York | General Arnold |
| Washington, D. C. | Mr. Lovett and Gen. Fred Anderson and Gen. Devers |
| Chicago | Gen. Eaker |
| Los Angeles | Clark Gable and Gen. Vandenberg |
| Detroit | General McClelland |
| Dallas | Gen. Ralph Royce |
| Columbus | Mr. Rickenbacker |
| Minneapolis | Gen. Leon Johnson |
| Buffalo | General Quesada. |

Enthusiasm and attendance was high in nearly every section of the country. For example, at Flint, Michigan, more than 50,000 people visited the display of Army aircraft at the city's airport. Even in such relatively sparsely populated states as Idaho, lively celebrations were staged. For the successful work throughout all the smaller towns the Civil Air Patrol was almost wholly responsible.

Mr. Reed Chambers, president of the Wings Club and a charter member of the Air Power League, made the observation that not the least of the favorable results of Air Force Day was the fact that so many aviation and general business organizations were brought into cooperation by the League in sponsorship of what was, after all, a national event.

Publicity results everywhere were extremely good. Newsreels covered the New York dinner, the ceremonies at Wright Field, and the first publicized flight of the P80. Two major networks, Mutual and American Broadcasting, carried the broadcast arranged for the New York dinner. The press gave the event generous coverage with front page stories appearing almost everywhere, including the New York Times, and a great deal of subsequent editorial discussion, like the attached reprint of a syndicated editorial in the Daily News. It seems probable that rarely, if ever before, has the Army Air Forces had so great an audience for the story of air power.

Financially, Air Force Day was self-sustaining. The biggest single undertaking was the dinner and broadcast from New York and receipts were adequate to cover both the dinner costs and the several unusual expenditures incurred.