

# THE AIR POWER LEAGUE

INCORPORATED IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



EMPIRE STATE BUILDING

NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

CHICKERING 4-5360

August 23, 1946

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Dear Mr. Carter:

In order to make the Air Power League's membership an effective factor in determining the aviation policies of the nation, the League has planned to send you, for your constructive comment, a series of reports on the subjects it has under way.

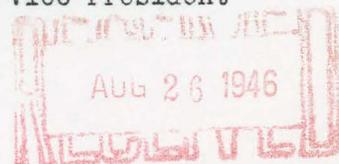
Our aim in this is to obtain for the League's benefit and information your views and suggestions on the further development of these projects. You are urged to write us your comments as you receive the reports. In this way your League's work will become more comprehensive and you will enable us to make it an ever-increasing factor in the cause of air progress and enduring peace.

Enclosed is the first of these reports. It deals with the objectives and progress of the educational survey being conducted for the League under the direction of one of your member associates, Mr. Charles F. Kettering of General Motors. It is one of a number of activities your League is sponsoring in line with its fundamental concept of "National Security and Permanent Peace -- Through Air Power."

Subsequent reports will give details of other work of the League, as well as continuing progress on the educational survey. These projects will have greatly increased value to the League and to the nation if you will promptly send us your comments and suggestions as you receive this and other reports.

Very truly yours,

Jacob E. Smart,  
Executive Vice President

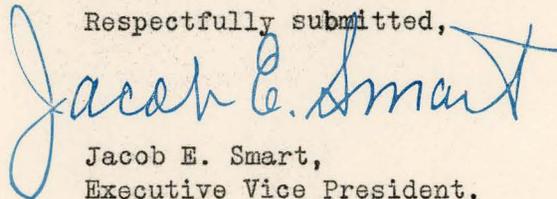


Early expressions of opinion from chief engineers and research administrators show consistent agreement that a primary need is for more basically trained men--more scientists and pure mathematicians. Technical problems include heat-resisting alloys and improved fuels in the field of power plant development, as well as traffic problems, terminals and related items. It is felt that military research in guided missiles will supply ample data in the supersonic realm.

Plans for the next phase of the survey are to take advantage of the many offers of assistance by working with the Civil Aeronautics Administration, the Air Force technicians at Wright Field, the Aeronautical Division of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, and other groups. The job now is to assemble data, and this has already begun. A staff drawn from the General Motors Corporation is engaged in working out the graphic techniques for best presenting the data which will be derived.

The League's members have much to contribute to the success of this important survey. The vast majority have had experience in both aviation and education; their comments and suggestions are requested to add to the factual results of the survey and to any conclusions which may be drawn. Any help given will be a positive contribution to this exploration of a hitherto neglected problem.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacob E. Smart,  
Executive Vice President.

From:

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[encl. 8/23/46]  
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THE AIR POWER LEAGUE'S EDUCATIONAL SURVEY  
An Interim Report, Preliminary to Establishment  
of the League's Fellowship and Scholarship Program

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For the past four months the Air Power League has been sponsoring a survey of the related needs of our school system and the aviation industry, probing the problems in a field which has not hitherto been adequately explored. Upon completion of the survey the League will be able to plan its program for the establishment of aviation fellowships and scholarships in the best interests of both education and industry.

This survey is under the direction of Mr. Charles F. Kettering, a charter member and director of the League and Vice President in charge of research for the General Motors Corporation. Conducting the survey is Mr. William W. Squier, Director of Educational Research for the League and formerly training consultant for General Motors.

In presenting to the League's members the preliminary findings of Mr. Squier and his staff it is hoped to elicit comment and suggestions from the membership which may be invaluable in determining the future direction of the survey and in adding to the facts so far uncovered. Expressions based on your own knowledge and experience will be of great assistance.

The philosophy behind the survey is founded in the long-held belief of Mr. Kettering that in many respects industry and education have been too far apart. The aim of this task is to team the two in the field of aviation.

The first phase of the survey has been to sound out both industrialists and educators to discover what present and future needs are in terms of people and the things those people should be able to do. Among those approached already have been many of the League's members. The findings to date have been obtained by personal interviews and in the form of complete reports from aviation corporations and organizations.

Everyone with whom the League's staff has made contact has expressed approval and without exception has offered to assist. Military personnel, educators and industrialists all say that they are pleased to see this study being made and have long felt the need for it.

One educator said: "My faith in American Industry has been restored if this is an example of its attitude toward education."

Publicity already given the survey has resulted in a number of inquiries from schools, educators and individuals seeking scholarships. We have advised our correspondents that they will be informed as soon as the final details of the scholarship and fellowship programs are developed.