

C-1945

GENTLEMEN: IT IS A PRIVILEGE TO HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ADDRESS THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF FORT WORTH, AT THIS, THEIR JOINT LUNCHEON IN RECOGNITION OF AIR FORCE DAY.

AIR FORCE DAY IS A BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY -- THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMY AIR FORCES. YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE TYPE OF BIRTHDAY CANDLES WHICH THE LIERS OF THE AAF ARE KEEPING WELL LIT IN TOKYO THESE DAYS.

THE AAF IS SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME AGE AS THE AIRPLANE ITSELF, BEING LESS THAN FOUR YEARS YOUNGER. WE MAY CONSIDER THIS 35TH ANNIVERSARY AS THE AGE OF THE AERIAL WARRIOR--ONE OF THREE BROTHERS IN ARMS -- THE FOOT SOLDIER, THE SAILOR AND THE FLIER. THUS THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES ARE OBSERVING NOT ONLY THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORGANIZATION ITSELF, BUT IN A SENSE THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AERIAL FIGHTER. CONSIDER A COMPARISON WITH THE FLIER'S TWO TEAMMATES. THE FOOT SOLDIER AND THE SAILOR ARE DESCENDANTS OF COUNTLESS GENERATIONS OF FOOT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS. THERE HAVE BEEN GROUND ARMIES EVER SINCE THE DAYS WHEN PRE-HISTORIC MEN SET FORTH TO BATTLE WITH CLUBS AND SPEARS. THERE HAVE BEEN FIGHTING SAILORS SINCE THE DAYS WHEN MEN DISCOVERED THEY COULD USE LOGS AND

AFTS TO INVADE EACH OTHER'S TERRITORY. AND NOW, WITHIN THE SPAN OF 38 YEARS, LESS THAN THE LIFE OF ONE MAN, THE AERIAL FIGHTER HAS GROWN TO FULL STATURE WITH THE LAND FIGHTER AND THE SEA FIGHTER. IN ONE GENERATION THERE HAS BEEN A TREMENDOUS CHANGE. WHERE THERE WERE TWO WARRIORS, NOW THERE ARE THREE.

THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS AGO TODAY AN AERONAUTICAL DIVISION WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER (I QUOTE) "TO STUDY THE FLYING MACHINE AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ADAPTING IT TO MILITARY PURPOSES." THE DIVISION CONSISTED OF ONE CAPTAIN, ONE CORPORAL AND ONE PRIVATE FIRST CLASS. CONTRAST THAT WITH A TOTAL AAF STRENGTH OF WELL OVER TWO MILLION.

THE AERONAUTICAL DIVISION OF THE SIGNAL CORPS WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE AAF. AT THAT TIME THE WRIGHT BROTHERS WERE BUSY IN AN OHIO COW PASTURE, BUILDING AN IMPROVED MODEL OF THEIR FIRST SUCCESSFUL AIRPLANE. YOU ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH THEIR FIRST FLIGHTS AT KITTY HAWK IN 1903. ORVILLE WRIGHT'S FIRST AIRPLANE RISE WAS SHORTER THAN THE WING SPAN OF A HEAVY BOMBER. THE AIRPLANE WAS DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR BEFORE THE DAY WAS OVER, BUT NOT BEFORE IT HAD MADE FOUR FLIGHTS. THE LAST AND LONGEST, WITH WILBUR WRIGHT ABOARD, WAS GOOD FOR 852 FEET, A FRACTION OF THE LENGTH OF A MODERN RUNWAY. THE PERFORMANCE OF MODERN AIRCRAFT EMPHASIZES NOT ONLY THE AVIATION PROGRESS MADE SINCE 1903 BUT

ALSO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WRIGHT BROTHERS' AMAZING ACHIEVEMENT OF THAT DAY.

PERHAPS THERE IS NO BETTER WAY TO INDICATE THE RAPIDITY OF PROGRESS IN THE AAF THAN TO CITE THE CONTRASTS BETWEEN THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND THIS ONE. AT THE END OF HOSTILITIES IN 1918 THE UNITED STATES ARMY AIR SERVICE HAD 45 SQUADRONS ASSIGNED TO THE ARMY, INCLUDING OBSERVATION PLANES, AND OBSERVATION BALLOONS, AS WELL AS FIGHTERS AND A FEW BOMBERS. THE AMERICAN AIR FORCES AT THE FRONT HAD 740 AIRPLANES, A NUMBER APPROXIMATELY EQUAL TO THE B-29S AND THEIR FIGHTER ESCORTS ENGAGED IN A CURRENT SINGLE RAID OVER JAPAN. AMERICAN PILOTS IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR FLEW 215 BOMBING RAIDS, AND DROPPED 128 TONS OF BOMBS. THAT TONNAGE NOW CAN BE CARRIED BY 18 OR 19 SUPERFORTRESSES IN ONE RAID AT FULL RANGE, OR BY A LESSER NUMBER AT MEDIUM RANGE. IN OTHER WORDS, LESS THAN A SCORE OF B-29S DROP IN ONE RAID MORE EXPLOSIVES THAN OUR ARMY AIR SERVICE UNLOADED ON THE ENEMY THROUGHOUT THE FIRST WORLD WAR.

IN LESS THAN THREE DECADES SINCE 1918, PROGRESS HAS BEEN PHENOMENAL. FOR EXAMPLE, I SHOULD LIKE TO CITE A FEW THINGS THAT WERE GOING ON IN 1929. IN JANUARY OF THAT YEAR A MAJOR SPATZ AND A CAPTAIN BAKER SET A REFUELING ENDURANCE RECORD OF 150 HOURS, 40 MINUTES AND 15 SECONDS. AS YOU KNOW, GENERAL

SPAATZ HEADED THE STRATEGIC AIR OFFENSIVE IN EUROPE AND NOW HAS THE SAME ASSIGNMENT IN THE PACIFIC, AND GENERAL BAKER NOW IS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE AAF AND CHIEF OF THE AIR STAFF. IN SEPTEMBER OF 1929, A LIEUTENANT BOOLITTLE GAVE THE FIRST PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION OF INSTRUMENT FLYING. YOU ARE FAMILIAR WITH HIS SUBSEQUENT CAREER AND HIS NEW ASSIGNMENT IN THE PACIFIC AS HEAD OF THE REDEPLOYED EIGHTH AIR FORCE.

EVEN A PERSONAL FLIGHT OF THAT YEAR, WHICH WOULD BE LESS THAN COMMON-PLACE IN THIS DAY AND AGE, MADE THE FRONT PAGE OF THE NEW YORK TIMES. THIS WAS A DAWN-TO-DUSK FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D. C., TO CUBA. IT SCARCELY SEEMS POSSIBLE THAT THE RETURN FLIGHT, THREE DAYS LATER, IN 11 HOURS, ESTABLISHED A RECORD AT THAT TIME.

IN MENTIONING THE YEAR 1929, I HAVE NOT OVERLOOKED SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED THE FOLLOWING YEAR. ON JUNE 30, 1930, RANDOLPH FIELD WAS DEDICATED. AS YOU ARE TEXANS, YOU KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF RANDOLPH, AS YOU KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF THE EARLY FIELDS, HICKS AND KELLY FOR EXAMPLE. I SIMPLY CALL ATTENTION TO THE FACT RANDOLPH FIELD WAS DEDICATED ONLY 15 YEARS AGO.

I HAVE SET FORTH A FEW OF THE AAF'S HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS TO DEMONSTRATE THE FACT THAT MILITARY AVIATION AND THE AAF ARE PRODUCTS OF LESS THAN

THE LIFETIME OF ONE MAN. AS THAT ONE MAN, IT IS MOST APPROPRIATE TO NAME
GENERAL H. H. ARNOLD, WHO WAS TAUGHT TO FLY IN 1911 BY THE WRIGHT BROTHERS.
HIS CAREER SPANS THE HISTORY OF THE AIRPLANE AND OF AERIAL WARFARE.

EVEN THOUGH MILITARY AVIATION IS THE PRODUCT OF BUT A FEW YEARS, IT
HAS BROUGHT FORTH A NEW CONCEPT OF MARTIAL CONFLICT AMONG NATIONS. THE FIRST STEP
CAME DURING WORLD WAR I, WHEN THERE WAS CREATED THE EXPRESSION, "A NATION AT WAR."
BEHIND THAT TERM LIES THE FACT THAT MODERN WARFARE INVOLVES TREMENDOUS MILITARY
FORCES, WHOSE PROBLEMS OF SUPPLY TAX THE EFFORTS AND ECONOMY OF THE ENTIRE NATION.
THE SUPPORT OF THE CIVILIAN POPULATION BECOMES THE DETERMINING FACTOR IN THE OUTCOME
OF THE CONFLICT. THE SECOND STEP OF THIS NEW CONCEPT DEVELOPED AS THE PRESENT WAR
PROGRESSED. NOW A NEW INSTRUMENT CHALLENGES A "NATION AT WAR." THAT INSTRUMENT
IS AIR POWER, STRIKING AT THE VERY HEART OF THE ENEMY, AT THE RESOURCES HE REQUIRES TO
SUSTAIN HIS ARMIES IN THE FIELD.

I HAVE SAID THE AERIAL WARRIOR HAS GROWN TO FULL STATURE WITH HIS TEAM-
MATES, THE LAND FIGHTER AND THE SEA FIGHTER. THE RECORD OF HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS LIES
IN THE HEAPS OF RUBBLE IN BERLIN, AND THE HEAPS OF RUBBLE PILING UP IN TOKYO. STRATE-
GIC BOMBING PRODUCED THAT RUBBLE, BUT WE SHOULD NOT OVERLOOK THE AIRMAN'S CONTRIBUTION
TO TACTICAL WARFARE. AFTER THE SAINT LO BREAK-THROUGH, TACTICAL AIR STRIKES

AFFECTED THE WHOLE ALLIED RIGHT FLANK FOR THE EASTWARD SWEEP INTO FRANCE. CAPTURED GERMAN OFFICERS ADMITTED LATER THEY COULD NOT LAUNCH A FLANK ATTACK, BECAUSE ALLIED AIR POWER HAD PARALYZED THEIR COMMUNICATIONS AND PINNED DOWN THEIR LAND FORCES, SHATTERING THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.

I HAVE BEEN SPEAKING OF PAST EVENTS, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN WE ARE IGNORING THE PRESENT OR THE FUTURE. ONLY LAST WEEKEND, FOR EXAMPLE, CAME THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE FIRST B-32S HAVE GONE INTO COMBAT. TODAY, WHEN ALL INSTALLATIONS OF OUR TRAINING COMMAND ARE HOLDING "OPEN HOUSE," FORTWORTH ARMY AIR FIELD IS DISPLAYING THE B-32. FORT WORTH IS THE LOCATION OF OUR TRAINING COMMAND'S NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, OF THE CONSOLIDATED-VULTURE PLANT WHICH IS BUILDING THE B-32, AND OF THE FIELD WHICH IS TRAINING B-32 CREWS FOR COMBAT. HENCE FORT WORTH RIGHTLY MAY TAKE CREDIT FOR BEING THE HOME OF A NEW HEAVY BOMBER NOW JOINING THE ATTACK ON JAPAN.

AS FOR A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE OF THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN, WE HAVE AN INDICATION OF WHAT THE AAF IS PLANNING. TWO MILLION TONS OF BOMBS HAVE BEEN DROPPED BY THE AAF SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THIS WAR. AND NOW GENERAL ARNOLD SAYS THAT B-29S ALONE WILL DROP TWO MILLION TONS ON THE JAPS IN THE YEAR 1946. ANOTHER 700,000 TONS WILL BE ADDED BY OTHER STRATEGIC BOMBER FORCES.

IT WOULD BE WELL FOR US TO LOOK A LITTLE MORE DEEPLY INTO THE FUTURE.

SO RAPID IS THE RATE OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT THAT WITHIN A FEW YEARS IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR AN AGRESSOR TO SUBJECT THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF OUR NATION TO ATTACK FROM ANOTHER CONTINENT, IN A MATTER OF A FEW HOURS. THAT IS NO IDLE SPECULATION. LIKEWISE, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO DROP ARMIES FROM THE SKIES, TO SEIZE INDUSTRIES AND LINES OF COMMUNICATION, THEREBY PARALYZING THE DEFENSE OF LARGE AND VITAL AREAS.

THE PRESENT STATUS OF AIR POWER WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE TECHNOLOGY OF THE NINETEEN-THIRTIES, WHICH PRODUCED THE CONTROLLABLE-PITCH PROPELLER, ENGINE COWLING AND ADJUSTABLE WING-FLAPS. NOW WE ARE IN THE STAGE OF THE GAS TURBINE AND THE LAMINAR FLOW WING. YOU ALL KNOW THAT JET AND ROCKET POWER ARE CAPABLE OF MANY RADICAL DEVELOPMENTS. IF AERIAL WARFARE CAN ADVANCE SO RAPIDLY IN 38 YEARS, IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT THE ADVANCES THAT COULD BE MADE IN THE NEXT FEW DECADES.

YOU ARE AIR-MINDED CITIZENS OF AN AIR-MINDED STATE, AND I COMMEND TO YOUR MOST CAREFUL CONSIDERATION THE POINTS WHICH GENERAL ARNOLD HAS MADE IN HIS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR AIR POWER. HE HAS SET FORTH THE NECESSITY FOR AN EFFECTIVE AIR FORCE IN BEING, AND THE NECESSITY FOR AIR BASES FROM WHICH WE CAN OPERATE OVER LONG DISTANCES. HE HAS CALLED FOR A PROGRESSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT, BACKED UP BY A HEALTHY AVIATION INDUSTRY AND AN EFFECTIVE AIR TRANSPORT SYSTEM.

EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM, EVERYONE IN THE CITY, AND EVERYONE IN THE NATION HAS A STAKE IN THE FUTURE OF OUR AIR FORCE. I BELIEVE YOU WILL AGREE WITH ME THAT IT HAS BECOME A MOST POWERFUL INSTRUMENT, BY MEANS OF THE FASTEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE HISTORY OF WARFARE. WE MUST KEEP IT POWERFUL. NEVER AGAIN WILL TIME BE A FACTOR WE CAN COUNT ON. THE BATTLE CRY RAISED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS WAR -- "REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR" -- IS A REMINDER THAT THE JAPS STRUCK FIRST THROUGH THE AIR. THAT IS THE PATTERN OF MODERN WARFARE, TO STRIKE FIRST THROUGH THE AIR, AND THEN TO STRIKE AT THE HEART OF A "NATION AT WAR." AIR POWER HAS TAKEN ITS PLACE WITH LAND POWER AND SEA POWER AS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE.

LET US HOPE THAT AFTER THE TOTAL VICTORY OVER JAPAN WE SHALL HAVE A LASTING PEACE. WE MUST WORK AS NEVER BEFORE TO CREATE A PEACEFUL WORLD, TO WIN THE PEACE. WE MUST MAKE SURE A PEACEFUL WORLD STAYS THAT WAY.

THE SYMBOL OF PEACE IS THE DOVE. THE SYMBOL OF STRENGTH IS THE EAGLE. TODAY, ON AIR FORCE DAY, LET US REMEMBER THAT THE TRUE DOVE OF PEACE IS THE EAGLE OF STRENGTH.