

# THE NATIONAL AIR COUNCIL

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, NEW YORK 1, N. Y.

CHICKERING 4-5360

September 27, 1948

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

Dear Amon:

Beginning this week, the officers and the Finance Committee of the Council are initiating a drive for Company Memberships through which to finance the Council's program.

A phase of this drive will be the mailing of letters to numerous organizations throughout the country, both in aviation and general industry. The letter that we propose to use will invite prospective members to inquire further about the Council through acquaintances they may have on our Board of Managers or Board of Governors.

I therefore want to advise you that it is quite possible you will receive a few such inquiries.

While you have already received a copy of the attached leaflet, I am sending along another so that you may have it at hand and be familiar with all the Council's recent activities. As to the future, our Board is presently drafting a long-range program which will be largely in support of the many recommendations of the Finletter Commission and the Congressional Aviation Board which have not yet been acted upon and which are considered essential to broad aviation development and growth.

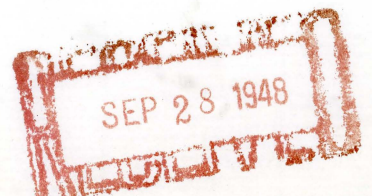
Since the success of the Council's efforts will depend on adequate financing, it is our hope that you will give this membership campaign your fullest support and indorsement whenever possible.

Sincerely,



F. Trubee Davison  
President

FTD:js  
Encl.





# THE NATIONAL AIR COUNCIL

*World peace and national security rest on the foundation of American air power. Our air power, civil and military, is indivisible. It contains the same elements—natural resources, trained personnel, industrial organization, airways, airway facilities, air transport fleets, research and development. It will have a far-reaching effect upon our whole national economy in the years immediately ahead.*

*American air supremacy can be achieved and maintained only when there is continued public understanding of what constitutes air power. The underlying purpose of the National Air Council is to foster that broad understanding.*

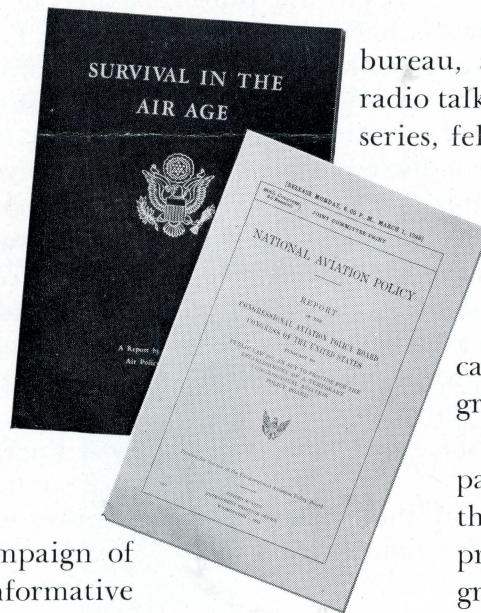
A major function of the Council is to coordinate the activities of civil air associations and to cooperate with influential national groups in order to promote air education in its various phases.

An equally important and related function is to provide the educational means—booklets, pamphlets, films, speakers, radio programs—through which public knowledge and support of air power may be advanced.

## ACTIVITIES

CURRENTLY, the National Air Council's program is focused on recommendations of the President's Air Policy Commission and the Congressional Aviation Policy Board. Both of these groups, in their admirable reports, have stated that long-range planning, procurement and development is essential to air progress. They emphasize further the urgent need for continued popular understanding and support.

In keeping with this view, the Council has initiated a five-year campaign of public education. All principal informative means are utilized—the distribution of books and pamphlets, maintenance of a speakers'



bureau, a motion picture service, radio talks and discussions, a lecture series, fellowships for special books and studies, and equally important, extensive cooperation with organizations of national influence, such as labor, educational, farm and women's groups.

Here, in the following pages, is a brief review of the National Air Council's present and projected program in behalf of aviation development, civil and military, private and commercial.



## "TIME IS RUNNING OUT"

NATIONAL security aspects of aviation have been dramatized in a graphic booklet issued recently by the Council under the title, "Time Is Running Out". This booklet sets forth the findings of the President's Commission and Congressional Board as to Air Force and Navy air requirements, the need for preeminence in research, aircraft production and air transport. A total of 17,500 copies of "Time Is Running Out" have been distributed thus far. They were sent to educators, editors, radio commentators, federal and state governmental officials, and thousands of business and civic leaders.

As a companion to this booklet, the Council produced a series of envelope-size leaflets designed for mailing by individual companies and groups to stockholders, employees, customers and the general public. They are available in mass quantities at cost, with the Council itself distributing 150,000 copies.

In both activities, the Council has had the full cooperation of the International Association of Machinists, the National Aeronautic Association, the Civil Aeronautics Administration and



many other influential groups in mailing the material to their own organization members.

## EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

IN JUNE, the Council sponsored a meeting of leading educators and industrialists for the purpose of obtaining their views on the requirements in present-day air education. This was the first of a series of such conferences planned by the Council. It was held at the Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences and conducted by S. PAUL JOHNSTON, director of the Institute.

Among numerous subjects discussed were the findings of a survey which the Council carried on for more than a year under CHARLES F. KETTERING, the aim of which was to bring about an integrated relationship between industry and the nation's colleges and universities, and to suggest a possible scholarship and fellowship program for the Council.

Nine men well known in their respective fields took part in these discussions, including: DR. LESLIE A. BRYAN, *Director*, Institute of Aeronautics, University of Illinois; FRANK W.

CALDWELL, *Director of Research*, United Aircraft Corporation; CHARLES H. COLVIN, M.E.; DR. R. P. HARRINGTON, *Head*, Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn; WILLIAM K. EBEL, *Director of Engineering*, Curtiss-Wright Corporation, Airplane Division; DR. JOHN R. MARKHAM, *Professor of Aeronautical Engineering*, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; DR. CLARK B. MILLIKAN, *Director*, Guggenheim Aeronautical Laboratory, California Institute of Technology; H. E. MEHRENS, *Chief*, Aviation Education Division, Civil Aeronautics Administration; DR. DANIEL C. SAYRE, *Chairman*, Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Princeton University.

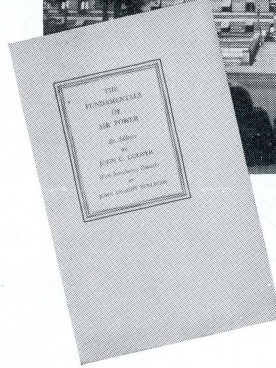
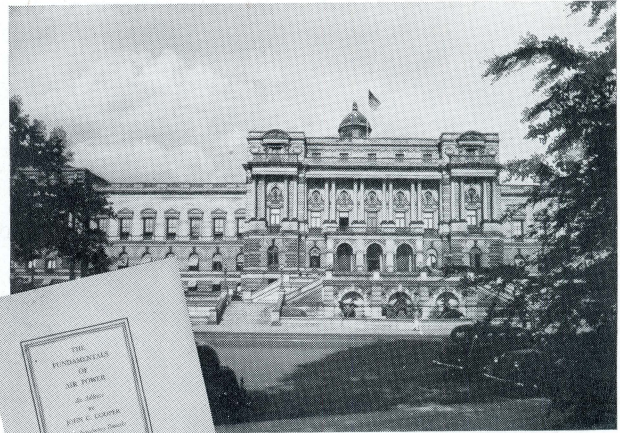
A summary report of this meeting is now being prepared. It will be made public shortly and copies will be sent to all members of the Council for their own information and that of employee or personnel directors of their organizations.



## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LECTURES

DR. JOHN C. COOPER, member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton, author of "The Right to Fly", and a recognized international air authority, delivered a lecture at the Library of Congress early in the year on the subject, "Fundamentals of Air Power". This was one of a series being sponsored jointly by the National Air Council and the Library. All lectures are subsequently printed in monograph form and widely distributed to Council members, educators, libraries and publications of many kinds.

Scheduled for a lecture in the fall is JOHN K. NORTHPROP, President, Northrop Aircraft, Inc. and President of Institute of the Aeronautical Sciences. Arrangements are under way for talks by equally prominent men in research, production, transport and other phases of aviation.



Dr. Cooper's lecture at Library of Congress (*above*) has been reprinted in several foreign languages.

## FILM SERVICE

TWENTY-FIVE 16-mm. sound films are now assembled in the Council's motion picture library. They are in constant use by flying clubs, veteran's organizations, high school and college aviation clubs, Civil Air Patrol units, Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, boys' camps and numerous other groups.

The Council plans to extend this activity in every way and eventually to produce authentic films of its own for showings both in commercial theaters and community group meetings. The demand for such films is steadily growing.

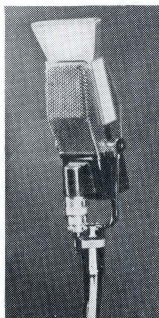
## SPEAKERS

A HIGHLIGHT of the Council's recent program has been the arrangement of talks on air policy before Chambers of Commerce in various parts of the country. Council officers and managers who have appeared before such groups include WILLIAM A. M. BURDEN, F. TRUBEE DAVISON and JOHN DWIGHT SULLIVAN. DR. GEORGE P. BAKER, vice chairman of the President's Commission, also spoke under Council sponsorship.

Maintenance of a speakers' bureau, through which the demand for capable lecturers may be met, is a permanent activity of the organization.

## RADIO PROGRAMS

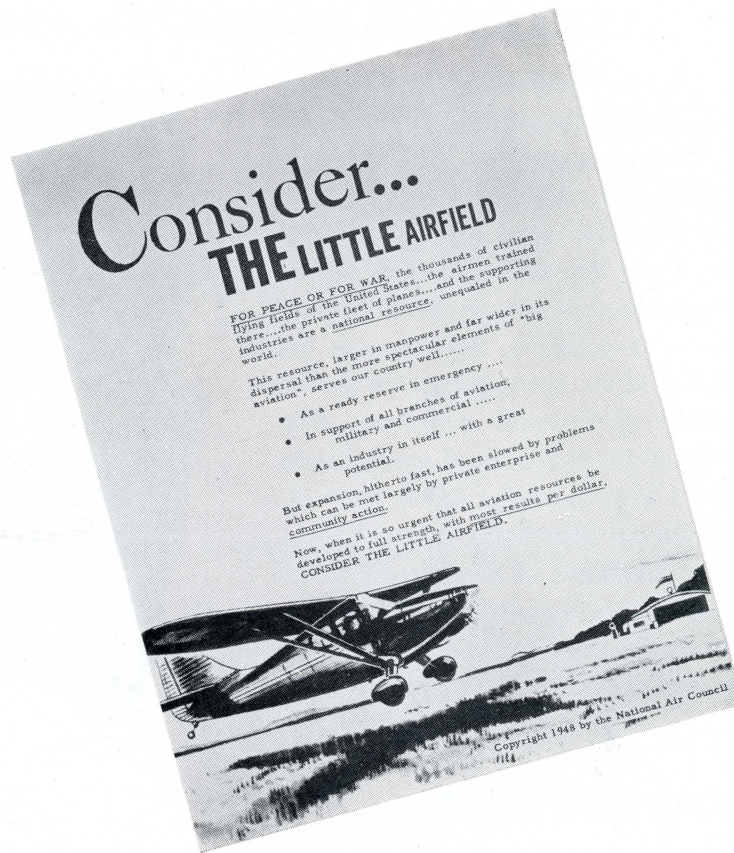
AN INTERESTING project in the Council's 1948 program has been the preparation of four recorded radio discussions of air policy matters. Well-known authorities taking part in this round-table series included Senator OWEN BREWSTER; HARVEY BROWN, President, International Association of Machinists; Representatives CARL HINSHAW, CLAIR ENGLE, and KARL STEFAN; MRS.



ROSCOE O'BYRNE, President General of the D.A.R.; JOSEPH D. KEENAN, American Federation of Labor; and FRED BAILEY, The National Grange. JOHN DWIGHT SULLIVAN, Executive Vice President of the Council, served as coordinator of the four discussions. To date, the series has been sent on request to 529 radio stations, covering all 48 states, Alaska and the District of Columbia.



(At right)  
 First page of a leaflet produced by the National Air Council as a definitive study of the potentialities of private flying and small airfield development.



## "CONSIDER THE LITTLE AIRFIELD"

ONE of the most successful of the Council's recent activities was the preparation and distribution of a pamphlet on private flying and small airfield operation. The need for a thorough and constructive treatise on this subject was quickly demonstrated. Demand for copies from many sources promptly exhausted the original supply of 10,000 and the leaflet is now in its second printing. Most of the pamphlets have been distributed through the cooperation of such groups as the NAA, National Aviation Trades Association, Aeronautical Training Society, Civil Aeronautics Administration, National Association of State Aviation Officials, Air Reserve Association, and Civil Air Patrol. Additional thousands have been purchased from the Council at cost by numerous state aviation and development commissions, independent operators, oil companies, manufacturers and others.

Data contained in this leaflet has been widely reprinted and utilized, and among the comments about it are these:

*"Exceptionally fine presentation . . . It is very timely and very good . . ."* OLIVER L. PARKS, Parks College of Aeronautical Technology.

*"Clear thinking on the little airport problem which is a daily issue with most state aviation officials,"* "NASAO News", official bulletin, National Association of State Aviation Officials.

*"The finest piece of copy ever designed to do a specific job for 'us little guys'. Says all the things we've been trying to say."* Quakertown Aeronautics Corporation.

*"Should go a long way in stimulating interest in this important phase of aviation activity."* ARTHUR A. RILEY, president, Aviation Writers Association.

*"For my money you certainly have hit the nail on the head."* WILLIAM C. LAZARUS, Florida State Aviation Supervisor.

*"Clearest insight into the problems and potentialities of private aviation on record."* Weekly publication, Tennessee Bureau of Aeronautics.



## INTERNATIONAL AIR EXPOSITION

THROUGH representation on the Mayor's Committee, the Council participated in the planning of the International Air Exposition of New York City's Golden Jubilee celebration and arranged to maintain an air information center during the event, for distribution to the public of booklets, pamphlets and other educational material. Among the organizations cooperating with the Council and furnishing to it authentic data were the Aircraft Industries Association and Air Transport Association.



New York's International Airport, as seen from the air.

## AWARDS

RECENTLY, upon the citation of the Secretary of the Air Force and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Air, and in accordance with standards adopted jointly by the Air Force and Navy, the Council instituted its annual awards for aviation research and experiment.

These will be granted each year to that member of the Air Force and Navy considered to have

done most in this vital field. Their purpose is to give recognition to past accomplishment, and furnish the stimulus for further achievement, in a vastly important phase of aviation which frequently goes unacknowledged.

As the Council's long range program develops, other awards for outstanding air achievement, civilian and military, will be made.

## WAR HISTORIES

AN AWARD of \$10,000 in writing fellowships was granted in 1946 for preparation of authentic histories of air operations and development in World War II. Three of four volumes have recently appeared. Their titles are: "Air Victory: The Men and the Machines" by HAROLD B. HINTON; "Devilbirds", a chronicle of the Marine air arm, by JOHN A. DECHANT; and "The AAF Against Japan" by VERN HAUGLAND. A fourth book, written by WILLIAM R. LAIDLAW, dealing with Air Force operations in Europe, will appear early in 1949.



Three of four volumes on air operations in World War II, prepared through writing fellowships by the National Air Council.



## FUTURE PROGRAM

THE ACTIVITIES described here will, in future, be expanded in many ways.

If sufficient funds are available, and where need exists, the Council will extend its pure educational work to the award of scholarships, fellowships or other funds for specialized study and research.

It will consistently prepare and issue timely pamphlets on specific phases of aviation and will also conduct long-range studies of fundamental factors of air power.

It will take part in such public air celebrations

as conform to the Council's aims and purposes.

It will explore the possibilities for air education through the medium of television.

It will make available continually to writers, radio commentators, teachers and others factual and editorial material of current interest.

It will, further, issue a bulletin for its members and organizations affiliated with the Council. This will be a non-competitive periodical, dealing with the best in aviation writing, study, comment and research, from both American and foreign sources.



## SUMMARY

The Council's program, as now instituted, will require strong leadership and direction. Equally important, it will require the support of an influential, enthusiastic membership. For information concerning membership in the Council, for a list of its officers, managers and governors, and for a further statement as to its aims, you are invited to read the opposite page of this leaflet.



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## Statement of Policy

The major policy objectives of the Council are:

- (1) To promote wide and continued interest in, and study of, the influence of aviation in world affairs;
- (2) To develop public comprehension of the important role of United States aviation in establishing and preserving world peace;
- (3) To foster a broad understanding of the importance to national security of adequate United States Air Power;
- (4) To emphasize and stimulate progress in all fields of importance to the maintenance of the air power requisite for the nation's security and its part in the preservation of world peace; and
- (5) To encourage research, experimental and developmental activities in fields of importance to both civil and military aviation of the United States.

## Membership in The National Air Council

*Classes of  
Membership*

*Annual Dues*

<b>National . . . . .</b>	<b>Fifty dollars.</b>
<b>Contributor . . . . .</b>	<b>One hundred dollars.</b>
<b>Patron . . . . .</b>	<b>Two hundred fifty dollars.</b>

The Council is a non-profit, non-partisan educational organization. All contributions to it are deductible for tax purposes.

Those interested in knowing more about its aims and activities may obtain this information by writing to the headquarters of the organization. Copies of the Constitution and By-laws of the Council will be furnished on request.

### Officers

CHARLES E. WILSON, *Chairman of the Board*  
F. TRUBEE DAVISON, *President*

JOHN DWIGHT SULLIVAN, *Executive Vice President*  
CHARLES D. FRAZER, *Executive Secretary*

### Board of Managers

LAWRENCE D. BELL  
E. R. BOOTS  
WILLIAM A. M. BURDEN

PHILIP A. CARROLL  
F. TRUBEE DAVISON  
CHARLES S. JONES

L. WELCH POGUE  
JOHN DWIGHT SULLIVAN  
CHARLES E. WILSON

### Board of Governors

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EVERETT R. COOK  
GARDNER COWLES  
DONALD D. DAVIS  
OLIVER P. ECHOLS  
CLARK GABLE

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W. ALTON JONES  
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WAYNE W. PARRISH  
E. V. RICKENBACKER  
SUMNER SEWALL  
CLYDE M. VANDEBURG  
ALBERT J. WEATHERHEAD, JR.

### Affiliated Organizations

AIRCRAFT INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL AERONAUTIC ASSOCIATION



