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The 48th Annual

Wright Memorial Dinner

Revitalizing General Aviation 12/15/95 18:48 FAThis document is from the collections at the Dole Archives, University of Kansas http://dolearchives.ku.edu

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12/15/95 11:47am

WRIGHT BROTHERS MEMORIAL DINNER 1995

- 6:10 Board Picture in Banquet Room (with & w/o Russ Meyer)
- 6:30 Reception Begins
- 7:15 Music Begins; Lights Flashed; Marshallers Lead Guests into Dining Room
- 7:20 Line Up of Head Table Guests; FJ Proceeds to Podium
- 7:27 PM "GOOD EVENING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. I AM FRANK JENSEN OF THE HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL, PRESIDENT OF THE AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON. IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE TO BE HERE TONIGHT TO CELEBRATE THE AWARD OF THE WRIGHT TROPHY TO RUSSEL W. MEYER, JR., WHO SO HIGHLY DESERVES THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD."

(Note: As FJ Calls a Name, that Person Proceeds onto the dais, walks to their seat, and Remains Standing.)

"IT IS MY DISTINCT PLEASURE TO NOW INTRODUCE THE MOST DISTINGUISHED HEAD TABLE FOR THIS EVENING'S AWARDS DINNER."

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7:30

STAN MACKEWICZ PRESIDENT PROFESSIONAL AVIATION MAINTENANCE ASSOCIATION

- BARRY KRASNER PRESIDENT NATIONAL AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS ASSOCIATION
- JOYCE WELLS
 PRESIDENT
 THE NINETY-NINES, INC.
- NORMAN SHERLOCK
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 NATIONAL BUSINESS TRAVEL ASSOCIATION
- EDWARD DRISCOLL PRESIDENT NATIONAL AIR CARRIER ASSOCIATION

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- MONTE MITCHELL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AIRCRAFT ELECTRONICS ASSOCIATION
- ADMIRAL BRENT BENNITT DIRECTOR, AIR WARFARE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
- GENERAL BONALD FOGLEMAN CHEEF OF STAPE, U.S. AIB FOBCE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
- GLENN RIZNER
 VICE PRESIDENT, OPERATIONS
 HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL
 AND CHAIRMAN OF THE 1995 WRIGHT MEMORIAL DINNER
- THOMAS MARLOW
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
 HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL
- THE HONORABLE DON FUQUA PRESIDENT AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION
- DAVID BURNER
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
 GENERAL AVIATION MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
- ALLAN LANE
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
 NATIONAL BUSINESS AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION
 - THE HONORABLE NANCY LANDON KASSEBAUM (R-KANSAS) CHAIR, COMMITTEE ON LABOR & HUMAN RESOURCES UNITED STATES SENATE

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- THE HONORABLE BOB DOLE (R-KANSAS) MAJORITY LEADER UNITED STATES SENATE
- RUSSELL MEYER, JR.
 CHAIRMAN & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
 CESSNA AIRCRAFT COMPANY
 AND RECIPIENT OF THE 1995 WRIGHT BROTHERS TROPHY

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	- Lelicoptar AS Soc. Internetione
0	FLJ FRANK JENSEN = President of Aero Club of Washington
0	PODIUM
0	ADMIRAL WESLEY McDONALD CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD NATIONAL AERONAUTIC ASSOCIATION
0	THE HONORABLE DANIEL GLICKMAN SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
0	THE HONORABLE JAMES OBERSTAR (D-MINNESOTA) RANKING MINORITY MEMBER, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION & INFRASTRUCTURE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
0	THE HONORABLE DAVID HINSON ADMINISTRATOR FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
0	CAPTAIN RANDOLPH BABBITT PRESIDENT AIR LINES PILOTS ASSOCIATION
0	PHIL BOYER PRESIDENT AIRCRAFT OWNERS & PILOTS ASSOCIATION
o	GEORGE HOWARD PRESIDENT AIRPORTS COUNCIL INTERNATIONAL - NORTH AMERICA
0	ROBERT HOFFMANN ACTING DIRECTOR NATIONAL AIR & SPACE MUSEUM
0	JACK COLE PRESIDENT & CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NATIONAL AERONAUTIC ASSOCIATION
0	GABRIEL HARTL PRESIDENT AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL ASSOCIATION

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- GARY ADAMS PRESIDENT NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS •
- CORT DUROCHER EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF AERONAUTICS & ASTRONAUTICS
- DR. GWENDOLYN MAYO
 CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
 NATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION
- RONALD STEINERT
 PRESIDENT
 AIRPORT CONSULTANTS COUNCIL
- MATTHEW HUFF, III
 PRESIDENT
 NATIONAL AIRCRAFT RESALE ASSOCIATION
- STEVEN RICH CHAPLAIN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

"PLEASE JOIN ME IN WELCOMING THE HEAD TABLE."

- 7:45 "EVERYONE PLEASE STAND FOR THE PRESENTATION OF COLORS."
- 7:45 Presentation of Colors and National Anthem
- 7:50 "AND NOW THE INVOCATION BY CHAPLAIN STEVEN R. RICH, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE"
- 8:00 "THANK YOU. PLEASE BE SEATED, AND ENJOY YOUR DINNER."
- 9:00 After Dessert has been Served to the Head Table)

BEFORE TURNING OUR FULL ATTENTION TO THE WRIGHT MEMORIAL AWARD, I WOULD LIKE TO JUST BRIEFLY MENTION THAT A NEW AVIATION ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN INCORPORATED IN WASHINGTON D.C., AND THAT IS THE AERO CLUB FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON, D.C.

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THIS FOUNDATION IS RECOGNIZED BY THE IRS AS A 501(C)3 NONPROFIT, TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION, AND HAS, AS ITS GOAL THE ADVANCEMENT OF AVIATION EDUCATION.

RACHEL TRINDER, OF ZUCKERT, SCOUTT AND RASENBERGER, CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGAL COMMITTEE OF THE AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON, DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB IN SETTING UP THE FOUNDATION AS A LEGAL ENTITY.

WOULD RACHEL TRINDER PLEASE STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED.

THANK YOU.

THE FOUNDATION HAS ALREADY RECEIVED SOME STARTUP DONATIONS, INCLUDING:

UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION AND PRATT & WHITNEY CANADA

HELICOPTER ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

ZUCKERT, SCOUTT AND RASENBERGER

AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON'S BOARD

THE CEO OF THE AERO CLUB FOUNDATION OF WASHINGTON IS HERE TONIGHT. WOULD JULIE RENAU, OF THE AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION, PLEASE STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED?

THANK YOU.

"IT IS MY PLEASURE TO THANK THE PRINCIPAL SPONSORS OF THIS EVENING'S WRIGHT MEMORIAL DINNER:

"GOLD SPONSORS ARE:

AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION

ALLIED SIGNAL AEROSPACE

HONEYWELL

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12/15/95 11:47am

SHORT BROTHERS (USA), INC.

WILLIAMS INTERNATIONAL

"BRONZE SPONSORS ARE:

AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

AVIATION INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TRW

UNISON

"I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK SIGNATURE FLIGHT SUPPORT FOR PROVIDING THE MARSHALS, WHO LED US INTO THE DINING ROOM WITH THEIR RAMP LIGHTS, AND THE CESSNA TEAM WHICH WORKED WITH US FOLLOWING MR. MEYER'S SELECTION."

"THE DINNER COMMITTEE DID A PARTICULARLY OUTSTANDING JOB THIS YEAR, AND I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THEM TO STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED.

"AND NOW WOULD THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON PLEASE STAND?

LET'S GIVE THEM ALL A ROUND OF APPLAUSE.

"IT IS NOW MY PRIVILEGE TO INTRODUCE A GOOD FRIEND OF MR. MEYER, AND SOMEONE WHO IS WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED AMONG AVIATION PROFESSIONALS EVERYWHERE, SENATOR ROBERT DOLE, MAJORITY LEADER OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE"

Senator Dole's Comments.

Introduction of Video by: Senator Dole

9:30

"NOW I ASK ADMIRAL WESLEY McDONALD, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS ASSOCIATION, TO JOIN ME AT THE PODIUM."

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McDonald invites Mr. Meyer to the Podium

9:33

Russell Meyer Acceptance Remarks.

Lead applause for Mr. Meyer.

10:00

"I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN THIS TRULY GREAT AVIATION EVENT. THE OFFICIAL PART OF THE EVENING IS OVER. THERE WILL BE DANCING FROM NOW UNTIL MIDNIGHT, AND YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO STAY AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GREAT MUSIC, AND AN EXCELLENT DANCE FLOOR."

"ON BEHALF OF THE AERO CLUB OF WASHINGTON, I WISH YOU ALL THE VERY BEST OF NEW YEARS, AND SAFE FLYING."

THANK YOU. THESE DAYS, WHEN I SPEAK TO AN AUDIENCE THIS SIZE, I'M ALWAYS ASKING FOR MONEY. BUT **THAT'S NOT THE CASE TONIGHT--ALTHOUGH IF ANYONE IS SO** COMPELLED, WE HAVE A TABLE SET **UP OUTSIDE THE DOOR.** LIKE YOU, I'M NOT HERE TONIGHT TO TALK POLITICS. I'M HERE TO PAY TRIBUTE TO A FELLOW KANSAN AND A GOOD FRIEND.

MUCH HAS CHANGED IN THE NINETY-TWO YEARS SINCE HISTORY WAS MADE AT KITTY-HAWK, BUT A FEW THINGS HAVE REMAINED THE SAME.

ONE IS THAT STROM THURMOND IS STILL IN THE SENATE.

AND ANOTHER IS THAT THE PROGRESS OF AVIATION HAS MOVED EVER FORWARD AND EVER UPWARD. AND FOR MORE THAN THREE DECADES, RUSS MEYER HAS BEEN

STANDING AT THE CENTER OF MUCH OF THAT PROGRESS.

THE NEARLY 150 KANSANS WHO TRAVELLED HERE THIS EVENING KNOW THAT OUR STATE MOTTO IS "TO THE STARS THROUGH DIFFICULTIES."

PERHAPS IT'S FITTING THAT A STATE WITH THAT MOTTO WOULD BECOME THE AVIATION CAPITAL OF THE WORLD.

AND EVER SINCE RUSS ARRIVED AT CESSNA IN 1974, THAT COMPANY HAS

WEATHERED THE DIFFICULTIES AND REACHED FOR THE STARS.

THOSE GATHERED HERE TONIGHT KNOW THE RECORD OF RUSS AND THE RECORD OF CESSNA.

YOU KNOW OF THEIR JOINT COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES OF FLIGHT THAT THE WRIGHT BROTHERS FIRST HARNESSED--THE PRINCIPLES OF INVENTION, EXPLORATION, ORIGINALITY AND INNOVATION.

YOU KNOW OF THE LEADERSHIP **RUSS GAVE TO THE AVIATION INDUSTRY DURING HIS SERVICE ON** THE NATIONAL COMMISSION TO **ENSURE A STRONG AND COMPETITIVE AIRLINE INDUSTRY, THE AVIATION** SAFETY COMMISSION, AND IN HIS THREE TERMS AS CHAIRMAN OF G.A.M.A.

YOU KNOW OF THE COUNTLESS HOURS HE DEVOTED TO ACHIEVING PASSAGE OF THE LANDMARK GENERAL

AVIATION REVITALIZATION ACT. I THINK ANY SENATOR WOULD TELL YOU THAT LEGISLATION WOULD NOT HAVE PASSED IF IT WEREN'T FOR RUSS MEYER.

BUT WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW ARE THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS THAT RUSS HAS MADE TO WICHITA AND TO MANY OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS.

WHETHER IT'S ORGANIZING CESSNA OWNERS TO ENSURE THAT 1,500

COURAGEOUS AMERICANS COULD TRAVEL AT NO COST TO THE SPECIAL **OLYMPICS, OR SPEARHEADING THE EFFORT THAT TURNED A DESERTED** SUPERMARKET IN THE HEART OF WICHITA'S HIGHEST CRIME DISTRICT **INTO A MODERN JOB TRAINING** FACILITY, RUSS MEYER IS WORKING TO ENSURE THAT ALL AMERICANS CAN FLY AS FAR AND AS HIGH AS THEIR SPIRIT AND TALENTS WILL TAKE THEM.

AND SOMEHOW RUSS HAS MANAGED TO DO ALL THIS DESPITE THE FACT HAT HE'S BEEN SADDLED WITH AN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE FROM YALE, AND A LAW DEGREE FROM HARVARD.

NOW, I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST HARVARD LAW SCHOOL. MY WIFE WENT THERE.

BUT I'VE DISCOVERED OVER THE YEARS THAT MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, THOSE WHO WENT TO HARVARD LAW

SCHOOL LOOK AT THINGS A LITTLE **DIFFERENTLY THAN THOSE,** SAY, THAT WENT TO WASHBURN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW. **BUT RUSS MADE IT THROUGH WITH** HIS COMMON SENSE INTACT. AND FOR YEARS, WE'VE WORKED SIDE BY SIDE TO INJECT SOME OF THAT **COMMON SENSE INTO A LEGAL** SYSTEM THAT NEARLY DESTROYED **AMERICA'S GENERAL AVIATION** INDUSTRY.

FROM FLYING FIGHTER JETS TO SERVING AS CEO OF THE WORLD'S LEADING CIVIL AVIATION COMPANY, **RUSS MEYER HAS DONE ALMOST EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE IN** THE WORLD OF AVIATION--EXCEPT FOR ONE THING. AND THAT'S TO PILOT AIR FORCE ONE. AND WITH A LITTLE LUCK, RUSS, I HOPE TO GIVE YOU THAT OPPORTUNITY.

BEFORE I CONCLUDE, I ALSO WANT TO RECOGNIZE RUSS'S WIFE, HELEN,

AND THEIR FIVE CHILDREN--ALL OF WHOM JOIN US THIS EVENING. HELEN SHARES RUSS'S COMMITMENT TO MAKING KANSAS A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, AND SHE HAS DEVOTED **COUNTLESS HOURS TO CAUSES SUCH** AS THE WICHITA SYMPHONY, THE **CENTER FOR THE ARTS, AND THE** WICHITA MUSIC THEATER.

AND I KNOW ALL OF YOU JOIN ME IN CONGRATULATING RUSS AND HELEN'S DAUGHTER, ELIZABETH--A

FORMER SENATE EMPLOYEE--WHO IS **EXPECTING A BABY--RUSS AND HELEN'S FIRST GRANDCHILD--THIS** MARCH. ELIZABETH, I KNOW I CAN **TRUST YOU TO MAKE SURE THAT THE BABY IS A REGISTERED REPUBLICAN.** ALONG WITH HONORING RUSS. THERE'S ANOTHER REASON I CAME HERE THIS EVENING. AND THAT'S TO LET HOLLYWOOD KNOW THAT I FINALLY FOUND A MOVIE I LIKE. IT'S A **VERY BRIEF MOVIE HIGHLIGHTING**

RUSS'S CAREER AND

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND I INVITE YOU TO JOIN ME IN WATCHING IT'S WORLD PREMIERE.

VIDEO IS SHOWN