

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1939.

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

I should like to take this occasion to congratulate the officers and members of the Soaring Society of America, Inc. on rounding out ten years of excellent accomplishment in the science and art of motorless flight.

Soaring, originally conceived as merely a sport, is now generally considered by those interested in aviation as a most valuable phase in the training of pilots in the operation of airplanes. It may well be considered that a corps of experienced glider pilots forms a valuable aviation asset to our nation.

From the first flights of a few minutes' duration soaring pilots have made records of many hours sustained flight. This increased performance has been attained not only due to the increased skill of the pilots, but also to the improved design and construction of sailplanes and gliders. These modern aircraft are now equipped with flight instruments so that the pilot may gain experience in flying at night and under conditions of poor visibility.

The development and continuation of interest in motorless flight are especially important in the development of air mindedness in the youth of the country.

I wish to extend my hearty good wishes to all soaring pilots participating in the Decennial Celebration. May all of them turn in performances greater than any they have enjoyed in the past.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Arthur L. Lawrence,  
Chairman of Contest Board,  
The Soaring Society of America, Inc.,  
Box 385, Glen Head,  
Long Island, N. Y.

