

SIX DISTINGUISHED SOARING MEN NOMINATED TO HALL OF FAME

After the conclusion of the 21st National Soaring Contest, ceremonies were held at Helms Hall, Los Angeles, on Friday, August 6th, in establishing Soaring's Hall of Fame.

The original six nominees to receive this honor were: Mr. Warren E. Eaton of New York; Mr. Richard C. DuPont of Delaware; Dr. Wolfgang B. Klemperer of California; Mr. W. Hawley Bowlus of California; Mr. John Robinson of California; and Dr. Paul MacCready, Jr., of Connecticut.

This most pleasant and impressive occasion had been arranged by Mr. David Matlin, prominent Los Angeles attorney, long-time soaring enthusiast and Treasurer of the S.C.S.A., along with that Association's President, Mr. John C. Wolfe, and others. This date was also the regular monthly meeting of the members of S.C.S.A. Coming as it did at the conclusion of the 21st National, many out-of-state and out-of-town visitors found it convenient to be present. Mr. Matlin acted as Master of Ceremonies and E. J. Reeves, S.S.A. Treasurer, read the Citations as each honoree or his representative, was presented with the beautiful Helms Hall Award Plaque. Mr. Jon Carsey, Immediate Past President of S.S.A., accepted the permanent Trophy which will remain on display at Helms Hall. Mr. John J. Kassenbrock, West Coast representative of the Norwich Pharmaceutical Company,



Staff photo

SSA Immediate Past President Jon D. Carsey, accepting the permanent Soaring Hall of Fame Trophy.

received the award to Mr. Eaton on behalf of the Eaton family. Mr. Arthur B. Shultz, long associated with Richard DuPont, accepted the Citation and Plaque on behalf of the members of the DuPont family. Dr. Wolfgang B. Klemperer, Mr. John Robinson and Mr. Hawley Bowlus were

present in person to receive the honor conferred upon them, while Mr. John C. Wolfe accepted for Dr. Paul MacCready, who was in England at the time in connection with the American Team's participation in the World's Competition.

The Helms Athletic Foundation, a non-profit philanthropic institution, is designed to inspire youth and to carry on the wholesome thoughts of the Olympic movement.

Helms Athletic Foundation has taken an active part in the furtherance and encouragement of worthy athletic activities. It has striven to honor those in the field of athletics throughout the world with its awards and trophies, and who are regarded deserving of special recognition.

Helms Hall is a sports shrine, teaming continually with activity. Lodged in Helms Hall are the trophies and awards which have been won by athletes and athletic teams the world over.

The sport of Soaring in America is indeed fortunate to be established in this magnificent institution, Soaring's Hall of Fame.

In future years other nominees will be selected to join this group of six original nominees. They, too, of course, will receive the Helms Award Plaque, and their names will be inscribed on the permanent trophy that will remain in Helms Hall.

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good lift can be expected almost any time of the year, the best occurring in the spring and fall. In these periods, lifts of fifteen to twenty feet a second, in cloudless skies, are not uncommon, and the ceiling varies between 4,000 and 8,000 feet. The altitude record here is 10,750 feet, obtained in June, 1953, by Lt. Col. Mohammed Husseini.

The flat desert offers no opportunity for hill soaring, and the few mountains are almost all located in such remote sections of Egypt that no use can be made of them. The club is still looking, however, for a good site, and hopes to find a suitable spot soon. Duration flights are therefore limited pretty much to the hours of daylight, and last year's record of 10 hours 25

minutes, made by Lt. Col. Mohammed Shaker, will probably stand for some time.

Distance is also a problem here, since random flights over the vast deserts would be suicide. There are well-traveled roads through the desert from Alexandria to Cairo, and from Cairo to Suez, and these offer the best chances for cross-country soaring. Most of the Silver "C" qualification flights are made along the road to Suez during the winter months, when westerly winds are common. The only habitation along the road between Cairo and Suez is a small coffee-house half way between the two cities, and setting down beside this will qualify for the 50 kilometers, and also provide a welcome cup of strong Turkish coffee. The dis-

tance record was made last year in a flight of 205 kilometers, also by Lt. Col. Shaker, from Alexandria to Cairo and slightly beyond. However, no-one has yet cracked the 300 kilometers needed for the Golden "C."

The excellent flying conditions the year round enable the club to make the maximum use of its planes, and in 1953, 1,185 hours were flown in total, and 8,984 launches were made. Forty-two "A" licenses, twenty-four "B's," and forty "C's" have been certified. An enlarged program of flying and training is planned for the coming year, according to the director of the club, Group Captain Mohammed Hafez, which will include a summer training camp for university students, and a more efficient separation of the club into primary and advanced sections.