

## NAA CONVENTION

The 1960 Convention of the National Aeronautic Association was held at Indio, Calif., from Nov. 14-16. NAA is the U.S. representative of FAI which has delegated its soaring franchise to SSA. At the convention, the NAA Directors voted to approve an SSA-NAA agreement which will make SSA a Division of NAA as soon as the Directors of SSA ratify the agreement. SSA has been an Affiliate of NAA.

SSA representatives at Indio were Dr. Harner Selvidge, president, Mrs. Selvidge, Lloyd M. Licher, Executive Secretary, and Paul A. Schweizer. Other soaring people present to receive awards at the closing banquet were Capt. Ralph S. Barnaby, USN (Ret.), Elder Statesman of Aviation award, and Richard E. Schreder, certificates for his 3 world soaring speed records.

Miss Jacqueline Cochran, NAA president, presided over the general sessions and was ably assisted by Ralph W. Whitener, NAA's new Executive Director. Reports were given by NAA officers, the officers of all NAA Divisions and Affiliates and on the outcome of NAA's 1960

National Air Rally. Numerous by-laws changes were approved, including a new membership and dues structure. Member dues were raised to \$10/yr., Associate member dues will be \$5/yr. (restricted to members of NAA Divisions, such as SSA; carries full Member privileges), dues for members of NAA Chapters will be \$5/yr., Division dues are \$250/yr. and Affiliate dues \$150. All memberships will become due on Dec. 17th each year.

The second day's program featured numerous well-known speakers in a "space-age symposium" and an aviation clinic on weather, FAA and flying safety.

Off hours entertainment included a barbecue at the Cochran-Odlum Ranch, a Fred Waring concert, a dinner and sky-diving movies at the Eldorado Country Club and a tour of Coachella Valley.

The program at the closing banquet was MC'd by Jimmie Doolittle. Dr. Edward Teller, famed scientist, was the featured speaker. Among other presentations was a certificate of honorary membership in SSA, the first, to Jacqueline Cochran for her help to the Society over the years.

## XM-1 TAILLESS

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sponse to the controls. Satisfied so far we decided to see how the new CG hooks worked. On this next tow control again was firm and responsive. The take-off was very smooth with no corrective force of any kind necessary. The kiteing and yawing affect had completely disappeared and the ship had become as stable as any sailplane I had ever flown. Each succeeding tow took me a little bit higher and became routine and uneventful. As yet I had not tried the flaps for fear of how the stability of the craft would be affected. However I soon found myself at 50 feet and was forced to use them in order that I would not overshoot the runway. Dropping full flaps they behaved exactly as they were designed to. From this time on all take-offs and landings were made with full flaps, resulting in shorter take-offs and slower landing speeds. I might add that the flaps produce no buffeting whatsoever and are quite effective.

The XM-1 without a doubt was now ready for its first high flight around the field. Now using a 450 foot tow line the take-off was made with full flaps, requiring a 100 foot run into the 5 mph head wind. I climbed cautiously at first but near the top of the climb the wheel was all the way back. Going up, no lateral or directional control was required and the a.s.i. indicated 55 mph all the way. Release was made at 350' and was very smooth, there being no tendency to pitch up. While going around the field at 70 mph, indicated air speed, the longitudinal feel of the aircraft reminded me very much of the Piper Tri-Pacer. Wheeling around on final I lowered the flaps and set her down feeling very satisfied and pleased. It is a feeling which makes every second of the thousands of hours of work designing and building seem well worth while.

Unfortunately, winter crept in early with its wet weather and put an end to the test flights. But they will continue in the future and I am looking forward to many pleasant hours of soaring in the XM-1.



Dr. Harner Selvidge, SSA President, presents Jackie Cochran with her SSA Honorary Membership certificate at the NAA Convention banquet. Seated are Dr. Edward Teller, left, speaker of the evening, and Jimmie Doolittle, master of ceremonies.

Photo: Lloyd M. Licher

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