

Speaker Terms Dallas 'Great Airport Center'

Dallas got a pat on the back as "one of our great airport centers," along with a warning that its future air development depends on its growing "into the guided missile business just as it has grown into the jet business."

Between the praise and the warning, John P. Henebry of Chicago, youthful president of the Air Force Association, painted a forbidding picture of Soviet Russia's "effort to wrest scientific and technical superiority from the Western World."

Speaking before a luncheon group of some 60-70 Dallas air-minded military and civic leaders in the City Club, Henebry told what he had learned in discussions with General Nathan F. Twining, Air Force Chief of Staff, after Twining's recent visit to Moscow.

Twining told him, the World War II and Korean War veteran said, that 20,000 persons are graduating with science degrees from the University of Moscow each year. Of these, 500 are Russian air force officers who return to their units as highly qualified engineering officers.

"We have but a few such men in our Air Force of today," asserted Henebry.

While the Soviet air force continues to grow in the number of technically trained men, the U.S. Air Force continues to lose "in droves" scientifically trained men. Although these men go to industry, industry itself remains short of scientists, he said.

Henebry disclosed further that the Soviet is graduating specialists of various sorts at a faster rate than the rest of the world put together. Three times as many engineers will graduate from Russian schools in the next five years, he asserted, as from U.S. institutions.

The Soviet advance is a well planned operation consisting of emphasis on scientific education, stringent selection of students, control of enrollment quotas in the various branches, tuition-free education plus a system of incentives.

Henebry, president of Skymotive, Inc., told of Air Force Association programs including the awarding of scientific and engineering scholarships in efforts to bolster America's position.

He called upon the great cities and smaller communities of the nation to "pick up the torch and



—Dallas News Staff Photo.

John P. Henebry . . .

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"Until communities come to grips with the problem, national programs will just skirt the edges of the solution," he asserted.

The tall, husky brigadier general in the Air Force Reserve applauded the Dallas Airpower Council and Dallas squadron of the Air Force Association for their joint efforts to increase "air age understanding" here. This, he said, has become known as the Dallas Plan—joint efforts by civic, business and military leaders. It has served as the model for similar activities in Tampa, Fla.; Tulsa, Okla.; Seattle, Wash.; and Cincinnati, Ohio, he disclosed.

As for the AFA's 1958 convention, Henebry said it will be held in either Dallas or Cleveland, Ohio. A decision by the convention site committee is expected in November.

Henebry was presented a Texas hat by Paul Cain, commander of the Dallas squadron, and a certificate making him an honorary Dallas citizen by former Mayor Woodall Rogers.