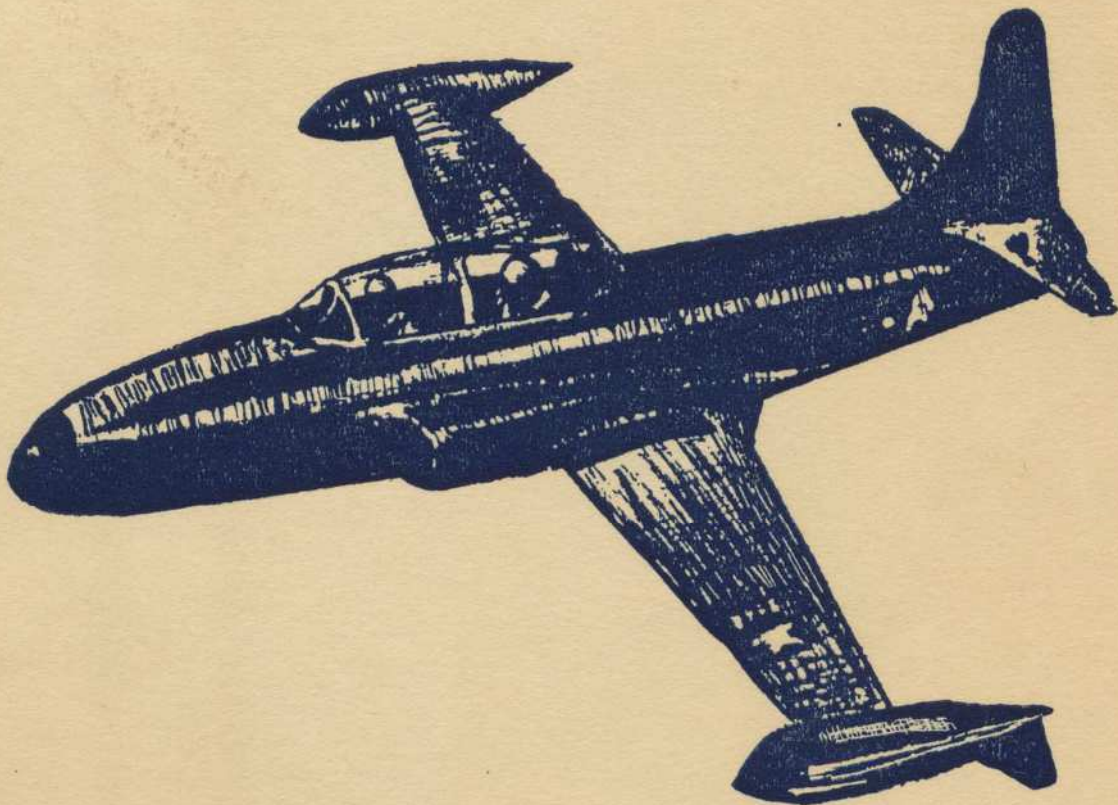


GRADUATION CEREMONY  
CLASS 53-D

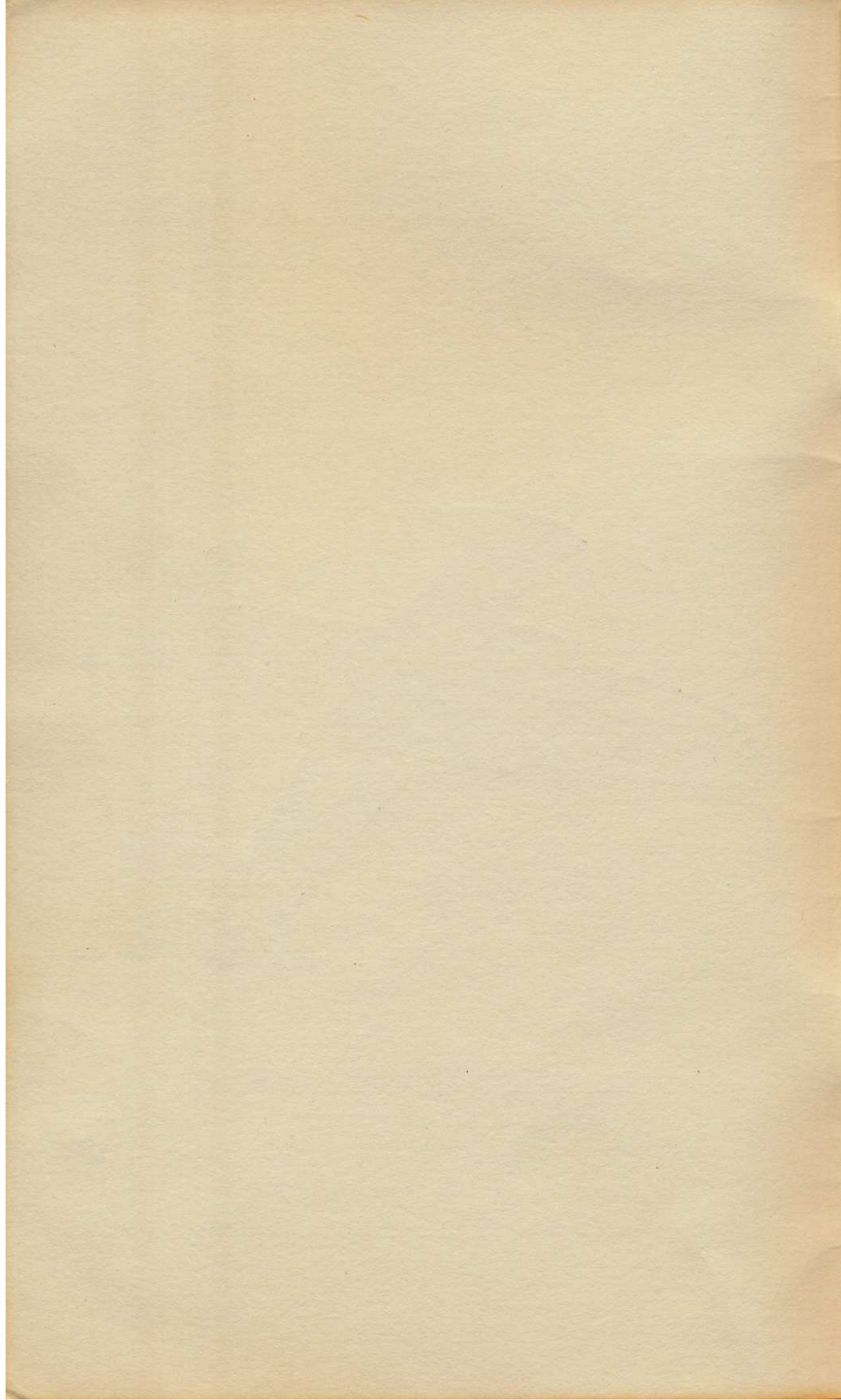


3640th PILOT TRAINING WING  
(BASIC SINGLE ENGINE)

LAREDO AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS

AIR TRAINING COMMAND

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE





GRADUATION CEREMONY  
of  
CLASS 53-D

9:00 o'clock Tuesday Morning  
June 16th  
Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-three

3640th PILOT TRAINING WING  
(BASIC SINGLE-ENGINE)

LAREDO AIR FORCE  
BASE, TEXAS

## PROGRAM

### *Invocation*

CHAPLAIN CHARLES H. GLAIZE

### *Introduction of Guest Speaker*

COLONEL WELDON M. JAMES

### *Address*

BRIGADIER GENERAL HENRY R. SPICER  
COMMANDING GENERAL  
WICHITA AIR FORCE BASE, KANSAS

### *Presentation of Wings and Diplomas*

COLONEL WELDON M. JAMES

### *Introduction of Distinguished Graduates*

MAJOR DONAT F. DAUTEUIL

### *Oath of Office*

MAJOR DONAT F. DAUTEUIL

### *Benediction*

CHAPLAIN GEORGE L. ESCH

### *The United States National Anthem*



## CLASS 53-D

### First Lieutenant

ALFRED M. DIX

### Second Lieutenant

JAMES S. MORRISON

### Aviation Cadets

CHARLES F. AGEE  
VERNON A. BALL  
JEAN P. BOUIX (Fr.)  
RICHARD H. BRUDER  
GERARD P. BUISSON (Fr.)  
ROBERT W. CORBIN  
CHARLES J. DESMEDT (Belg.)  
DARRELL W. DeWITT  
JEAN-PIERRE DULUC (Fr.)  
CHARLES T. EDMONSON  
WILLIAM L. FARABEE JR.  
AMOS C. GOOD  
BERNARD G. HEILIGENSTEIN  
HAROLD G. HOCK  
GORDON C. HOLLRAH  
VINCENT C. HUNGERFORD  
WILLIAM D. JOHNSON  
VIRGIL E. KUMMERO JR.



## CLASS 53-D

### Aviation Cadets

HENRY E. LARSEN (Den.)  
GUY J. MAGNENOT (Fr.)  
MICHEL S. MARTIN (Fr.)  
JOHN L. MEINHARDT  
DOUGLAS M. MILLER  
JOSEPH R. MULARSKI  
GERARD F. PAYARD (Fr.)  
WILLIAM H. PECK  
BORGE PEDERSEN (Den.)  
DONALD E. RASMUSSEN  
JOHN SERCEL  
CHARLES A. SPINDT  
WILLIAM G. SWANSON  
MILTON H. TURPIN  
SYBRANDUS J. VAN DER MEULEN  
(Neth)  
ANDRE VESQUE (Fr.)  
DONALD R. WILLIAMS  
ROBERT L. ZBORNAK

### First Lieutenant

JOSEPH H. MENDENHALL



## CLASS 53-D

### Aviation Cadets

HOWARD W. ALBRIGHT  
PIERRE R. BARREAU (Fr.)  
JAMES L. BENSON  
ROBERT L. BURNS  
PAUL CORRE (Fr.)  
STANLEY E. DEHNER  
JOHN W. DIETRICH JR.  
DONALD F. EGEN  
WILLIAM S. FINHOLM JR.  
ANDREW J. FRAMPTON  
EDWIN L. GORBET  
THOMAS M. GUNNELS  
JACK D. HERRITT  
HERMAN F. HOLLE  
DANIEL W. HUNTER  
MELDON A. JONES  
JAMES F. KENNEDY  
GEORGES C. LaGRANGE (Fr.)  
HAROLD D. LEVENTON  
PETER P. MAHOLIK JR.  
JERALD D. MERTENS  
FREDERICK R. MILLER  
WALTER E. NIELSEN (Den)  
LOTHAR A. OLMAN  
BOYE G. PEDERSEN (Den)  
NORMAN PELTIER



## CLASS 53-D

### Aviation Cadets

GEORGE RAYNOVICH JR.  
WILLIE R. RICHARDSON  
HENRI P. RIDACKER (Fr.)  
JEAN J. ROOZE (Belg.)  
LAURENCE E. SHARP  
JAMES R. STEVENSON  
GEORGE E. TIMS  
JAY W. VANDERTOLL  
PAUL VAN LEEUWEN (Neth.)  
JEAN-CLAUDE VILLAUME (Fr.)  
DENNIS W. WINKELS  
ROBERT H. ARENT  
MICHEL C. BARICAULT (Fr.)  
PAUL N. BAUWENS (Belg.)  
GEORGE T. BEQUET (Fr.)  
ROGER P. BOCCHINI (Fr.)  
ROBERT G. BRADLEY  
JAMES W. CLEMENT  
BENJAMIN R. DENSIESKI  
JAMES A. DOOLEY  
CHARLES F. EMMONS  
JACKIE B. FISHER  
JEAN R. FRANCOIS (Fr.)  
HARRY N. GAINER  
THOMAS H. GRIFFIN  
PAUL E. HALONEN  
WILLIAM R. HILL



## CLASS 53-D

### Aviation Cadets

RICHARD O. HOLLIDAY  
LAWRENCE W. HUCK  
GOBEL D. JAMES  
LOUIS K. KANAAR  
THORKILD KJELDSEN (Den.)  
ROGER J. LABROSSE (r.)  
ABRAHAM H. LOBKER (Neth.)  
JOSEPH S. LOTHER JR.  
JEAN-LOUIS LUMPERT (Fr.)  
EDWARD F. MAZDRA  
RONALD E. MILLARD JR.  
ROBERT G. MOORE  
RAYMOND MUNSCH (Fr.)  
OLE L. OLESEN (Den.)  
GERARD J. PICQUET-DAMESME (Fr.)  
EVERET E. PREWITT  
OSCAR A. SCHMIDT  
GALEN M. SHAW  
MICHEL M. STOFLETT (Fr.)  
DONALD H. ST. PIERRE  
RAYMOND W. VISSOTZKY  
EDWARD T. YELTON JR.  
GUY T. YOH (Fr.)

## DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES CLASS 53-D

CHARLES F. AGEE  
Charleston, West Virginia

ROBERT L. BURNS  
Evansville, Indiana

THOMAS H. GRIFFIN  
Atascosa, Texas

VINCENT C. HUNGERFORD  
Bryans Road, Maryland

WILLIAM D. JOHNSON  
Downers Grove, Illinois

CHARLES A. SPINDT  
Los Baños, California

WILLIAM G. SWANSON  
Libertyville, Illinois

DENNIS W. WINKELS  
Osage, Iowa



## AVIATION CADET OFFICERS WING STAFF

CADET COLONEL DOUGLAS M. MILLER  
Wing Commander  
Sprott, Alabama

CADET LT. COLONEL PETER P. MAHOLIK JR.  
Wing Executive Officer  
Swoyersville, Pennsylvania

CADET MAJOR HERMAN F. HOLLE  
Wing Adjutant  
Cortland, Indiana

CADET MAJOR JAMES R. STEVENSON  
Wing Training and Operations Officer  
Springdale, Arkansas

CADET MAJOR ROGER J. LABROSSE (Fr.)  
Wing Liaison Officer  
Seine, France



## AVIATION CADET OFFICERS GROUP I STAFF

CADET MAJOR CHARLES A. SPINDT  
Group Commander  
Los Banos, California

CADET MAJOR GOBEL D. JAMES  
Group Adjutant  
Fairland, Oklahoma

CADET MAJOR RICHARD O. HOLLIDAY  
Group Supply Officer  
Marion, Ohio

CADET MAJOR GUY J. MAGNENOT (Fr.)  
Group Liaison Officer  
Lyon, France

## AVIATION CADET OFFICERS GROUP II STAFF

CADET MAJOR ROBERT W. CORBIN  
Group Commander  
San Rafael, California

CADET MAJOR ROBERT L. BURNS  
Group Adjutant  
Evansville, Indiana

CADET MAJOR RONALD E. MILLARD JR.  
Group Supply Officer  
Denver, Colorado

CADET MAJOR BORGE PEDERSEN  
Group Liaison Officer  
Gentofte, Denmark



LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROBERT W. HARPER  
Commanding General  
Air Training Command

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH P. McNAUGHTON  
Vice Commanding General  
Air Training Command

MAJOR GENERAL GABRIEL P. DISOSWAY  
Commanding General  
Flying Training Air Force

COLONEL W. M. JAMES  
Commanding Officer  
Laredo Air Force Base

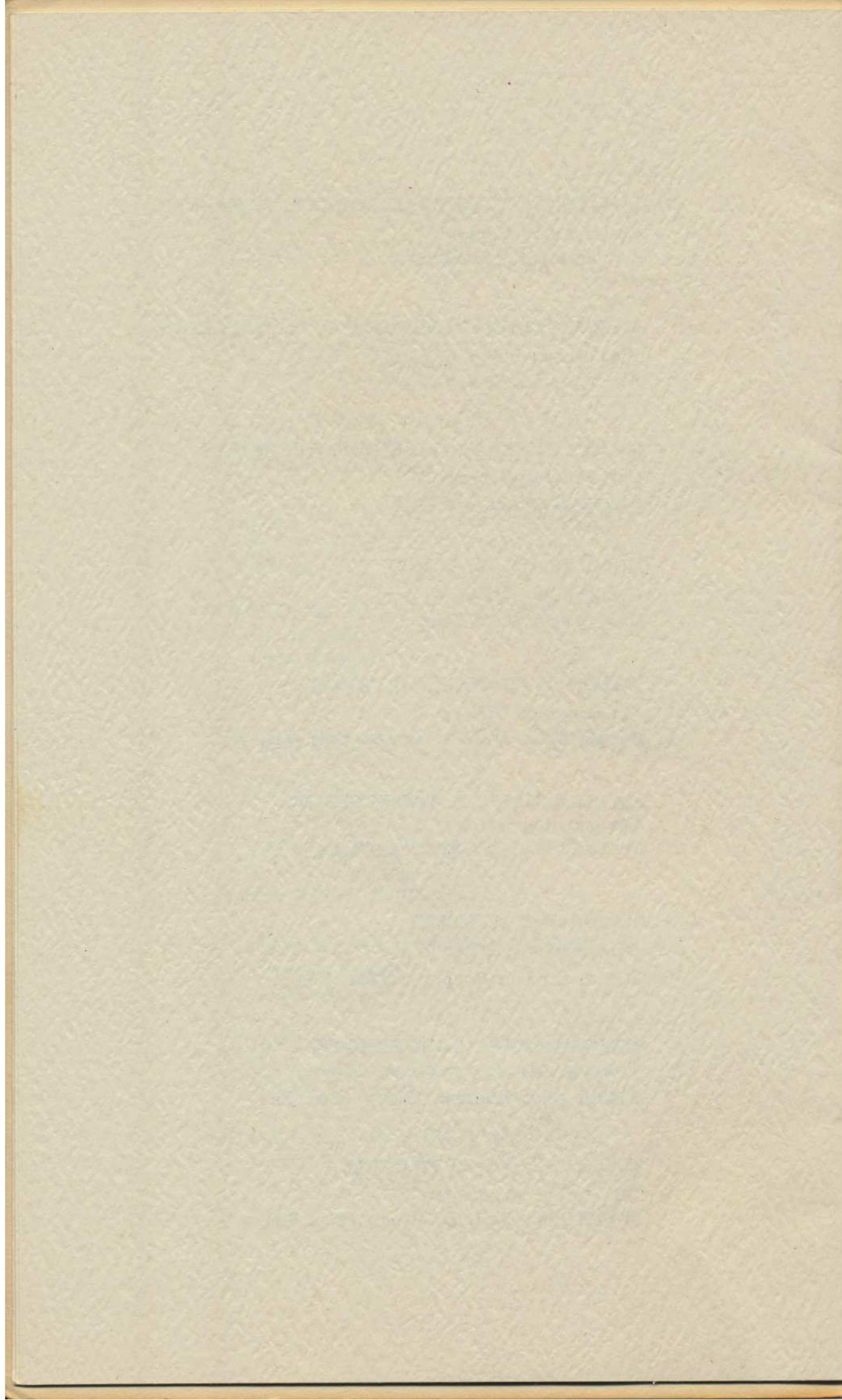
COLONEL FRANKLIN H. SCOTT  
Commanding Officer  
3640th Pilot Training Group (Bsc. SE)

MAJOR PHILLIP M. LOVELESS JR.  
Commanding Officer  
3641st Training Squadron (Flying)

MAJOR JOE H. KEITH  
Commanding Officer  
3640th Student Squadron (Bsc. SE)

MAJOR DALE N. GOODERMOTE  
Training Group Operations Officer  
3640th Pilot Training Group (Bsc. SE)

MAJOR FRANK H. TILCOCK  
Director of Academics  
3640th Pilot Training Group (Bsc. SE)





## LAREDO AIR FORCE BASE

Welcome to the Laredo Air Force Base, one of the newest pilot training schools in the Flying Training Air Force of the Air Training Command. The primary mission of the base is to train Air Force Officers who will be qualified as jet fighter pilots.

The base is located on the northeast periphery of Laredo, Texas, for which it was named, and it is rapidly becoming an integral part of the community.

The Laredo Air Force Base was first activated July 1943 as an Army Air Corps Gunnery School and remained such until it was closed in late 1945. On April 1, 1952, it was re-activated for re-habilitation with Colonel W. M. James commanding.

Colonel James is a native Texan and has had previous assignments in Texas at Randolph Field and Kelly Field. He entered the military service in 1933 and now holds the aeronautical rating of Command Pilot with more than 4,000 hours of flying time. Colonel James assisted in formulating the Panama Defense Plan and later served at Headquarters, U. S. Air Force with the Inter-American Security Board and also as a member of the Continental U. S. Defense Planning Group.

On June 27, 1952, the Laredo Air Force Base was designated as a Basic Single Engine Jet Fighter Pilot Training School. The first class of students arrived at the base on June 29, 1952, and began an intensive training program immediately thereafter.

Class 53-D will be the seventh class to graduate from this school and become a tribute to the unexcelled efforts of all personnel of the Laredo Air Force Base in their support to the over-all mission of the U. S. Air Force of providing military air leadership for our nation and her allies in defending the freedom-loving peoples of the world against aggression.

It is also the first Laredo Air Force Base graduating class which includes among its members students sent to the United States for pilot training by allied nations. Listed among Class 53-D graduates are students from France, Denmark, Netherlands and Belgium.



# GRADUATION CEREMONY CLASS 53-D

