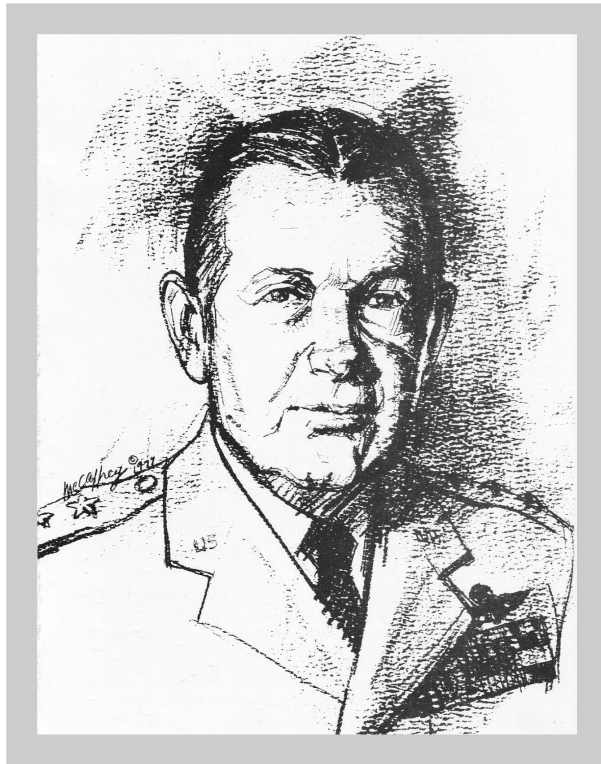




FALCON
FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

**LIEUTENANT GENERAL
LAURENCE C. CRAIGIE**

U.S. AIR FORCE

Lieutenant General Laurence C. Craigie

Laurence Cardee Craigie became the first pilot of The Armed Forces to fly a jet-propelled plane. This remarkable feat happened in October 1942 at Muroc Dry Lake, California, when he soloed the Bell XP-59A. At that time, he was a Colonel. Ten years later, following many achievements in both staff and command positions, he reached the rank of Lieutenant General, USAF.

General Craigie graduated from West Point in 1923 and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in The Air Service. Upon graduation from Brooks and Kelly Fields, Texas, he became a military pilot and later served as an instructor at both bases.

As a Captain, he graduated from the Air Corps Engineering School and became Chief of the Training & Transport Engineering Unit. Later he became Assistant Chief of the Engineering Section.

He graduated from the Army Industrial College and was assigned as Assistant Executive of the Experimental Engineering Section at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. In 1940 Craigie reached the rank of Major. He next graduated from The Air Corps Tactical School at Maxwell Field. He became Chief of the Aircraft Projects Branch at Wright-Patterson, moving up to Lieutenant Colonel in 1941, and Colonel in 1942.

He commanded the Boston Air Defense Wing in 1943 and later the New York Fighter Wing. He became Brigadier General and was assigned to Mitchell Field. Craigie commanded the 8th Fighter Wing.

During the war he went to North Africa as Commander of a fighter wing. He returned to Wright-Patterson in 1944 as Deputy Chief of the

Air Technical Service's Engineering Division. The Air Force needed a medium-range day fighter that could double as dive bomber and escort fighter. The plane would require swept wings. Craigie approved the design of the first USAF operational fighter with swept wings. He became Chief of the Division and was promoted to Major General in 1946.

Craigie became Chief of the Research & Engineering Division at Headquarters AAF in 1947. He was appointed Director of Research & Development under the DCS for Materiel and returned to Wright-Patterson as Commandant of the USAF Institute of Technology.

He became Vice Commander of the Far East Air Forces in Tokyo in 1950. Craigie was a member of the United Nations Armistice Negotiations Team in Korea. He returned to Headquarters USAF in 1951 as DCS for Development. He was promoted to Lieutenant General in 1952 and assumed command of the Allied Air Force in Southern Europe in Italy in 1954. He retired in 1955.

Following his retirement and his remarkable career of advancement of aeronautics through command, supervision and personal participation in engineering and development of new aircraft and systems, General Craigie has held responsible positions in industry and aerospace associations, including:

Vice Pres., Engineering, Hydro Aire, Inc.

Corporate Vice President, American Machine and Foundry

Director, Air Force Requirements, Lockheed Corporation

Lieutenant General Laurence C. Craigie

Director, The Flying Tiger Line, Inc. Director, Hungry Tiger Restaurants, Inc .

National Vice President, Institute of Aeronautical Sciences (elected a Fellow in 1957)

National Vice President, President & Chairman, The American Ordnance Association (later American Defense Preparedness Assoc.)

Honorary Fellow, Society of Experimental Test Pilots Vice President & Director, the Falcon Foundation

In summary, General Craigie, following a distinguished military career in the Air Force, has further distinguished himself in industry through his contributions to the advancement of aeronautics and astronautics.

His awards and decorations include: Distinguished Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal, American Defense Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, EuropeAfrica-Middle East Theater Medal with bronze campaign stars, Korean Service Medal with bronze campaign stars, French Legion of Honor.

Dear General Montgomery:

It is an honor and privilege to sponsor through the Falcon Foundation this annual scholarship in honor of Lt. Gen. Laurence C. Craigie. As an aviator, aeronautical engineer, and a command and staff officer – in both peace and war – General Craigie has distinguished himself as an outstanding American and patriot. Following his military service he gained further distinction in industry through contributions to the advancement of aeronautics and astronautics. Through this scholarship I am pleased to assist young people who are motivated to enter the Air Force Academy.

Sincerely,



Don C. Ross



The Falcon Foundation is a 501(c)(3), non-profit foundation. Its purpose is to provide scholarships to College or Preparatory Schools for motivated young people seeking admission to USAFA and a career in the Air Force.

Although it is a separate organization, the Falcon Foundation works closely with USAFA.