



FALCON
FOUNDATION



SCHOLARSHIP IN HONOR OF

HAROLD E. TALBOTT

Harold E. Talbott

Harold E. Talbott was appointed Secretary of the Air Force by President Eisenhower January 20, 1953 and was confirmed by the Senate February 4, 1953 and sworn into office the same day.

Mr. Talbott was an officer of the Chrysler Corporation prior to his appointment and was associated with a number of aviation enterprises. During World War I he served as a major in the Air Service of the Signal Corps and during World War II was a director of aircraft production of the War Production Board.

Mr. Talbott became Vice President and General Manager of the H.S. Talbott Company of Dayton, Ohio, in charge of hydro-electric development and industrial construction. He held that position until 1920 and also served from 1914 and 1920 as Vice President and General Manager of the Dayton Metal Products Company.

Mr. Talbott's interest in aviation dates back to the early days of the Wright Brothers. In the spring of 1916, the Dayton-Wright Company (a reorganization of the Orville Wright Company) was formed by his father, Colonel Deeds and Charles Kettering, and Mr. Talbott was made President with Orville Wright as Vice-President and engineer. At the beginning of World War I, the Dayton-Wright Company took over the nearly new Delco-Light plant which had just been completed. The plant was doubled in size during the war, turned out about 400 training planes, and constructed the two-placed fighter, the DeHaviland-4, later modified to the DeHaviland-9. In October 1918 the

plant produced 38 completed planes per day. Twelve thousand people were employed there and it produced more aircraft than any other plant in the United States.

Meanwhile, in September, 1918, Mr. Talbott was commissioned a major in the Air Service of the Signal Corps. He was to be assigned with a group of officers to take charge of maintenance and repair of aircraft in France, but the Armistice came before the group left the United States.

In the late fall of 1919, the Dayton-Wright Company was merged into General Motors and Mr. Talbott spent five years with that company as President of the Dayton-Wright and of the Inland Manufacturing Company. In 1925 he moved to New York and became a director of the Chrysler Corporation.

From 1931 to 1932 Mr. Talbott was Chairman of the Board for the North American Aviation Company. In 1934 he became a director and Chairman of the Finance Committee of Electric-Autolite. He was a director of the Mead Paper Company for over 30 years, a director of the Commercial National Bank of New York for 20 years, and on various other boards.

Mr. Talbott married former Margaret Thayer of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1925. They had four children, Pauline and Margaret, and John and Harold III, who are twins.

Mr. Talbott died in March 1957.

The Falcon Foundation

It is a pleasure for the Gertrude Skelly Trust to establish scholarships in honor of Secretaries of the United States Air Force. Their outstanding civilian leadership through the years has been a key to the strength of our Nation's military posture. It is only fitting that these leaders be recognized and honored by the award, each year, of scholarships to deserving sons or daughters of career military personnel who will become the future leaders in our Air Force.

It is our privilege to establish this scholarship, in perpetuity, honoring Harold E. Falbott, Secretary of the United States Air Force (4 February 1953 to 13 August 1955).

*Sincerely,
Gertrude Skelly Trust*

Edward P. Stewart
Trustee

John L. March Jr.
Trustee



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.