

## Welcome by Mr. Bernald S. Smith

*President of The Soaring Society of America*

Honored Guests and Members of the OSTIV Congress,

This is the first opportunity that we have to play host to this event and as President of The Soaring Society of America I bid you welcome.

The history of OSTIV is most impressive. These Congresses afford the opportunity for engineers, designers and meteorologists to come together to present the results of their studies and discuss many problems of mutual interest. Over the years we have seen how their efforts have advanced the art of soaring

and the wonderful improvements in the performance of our sailplanes. We hope your stay here will be pleasant, your Technical and Meteorological Sessions most productive, and that you may leave with a feeling of real accomplishment.

## Remarks of Congressman Richard C. White, Texas

*(Read by Dr. Norman L. McNeil, President of the Sul Ross State University)*

I regret very much that commitments relating to my service in congress have made it impossible for me to accept your kind invitation to be present on this historic occasion.

We are honored, here in my district, to be the hosts to the World's foremost performers in the Art and Science of utilizing the forces of nature to further the science of flight. In the fields of gliding and soaring, the great scientific principles of flight were developed. It may well be said that the first footsteps on the moon, last year, had their birth in the bold dreams of men gliding through the skies on wings contoured to take advantage air currents.

Your Organization, holding its Twelfth Congress here today, has been responsible for preserving for posterity the great principles of flight developed in soaring meets such as we are holding in the big bend country this month. By your awards, and your publication of scientific papers, you are encouraging news discoveries and the practical use of discoveries already made. Your presentation of the OSTIV Plaque and the Klemperer Award at this meeting will contribute still further to the great store of scientific knowledge about man and his relationship to the atmosphere that surrounds our earth. It is in the fields of science and sport – which are being

combined here this month – that nations have made some of their foremost strides in international co-operation and understanding. In our clear southwestern skies, and in your conferences on the ground below, I am sure we shall witness the building of some new bridges for still greater co-operation and understanding in the future. I wish for your Organization continued success in your great and important work, and a happy and successful meeting that will contribute much to the great volume of knowledge you have already helped to develop and assemble.