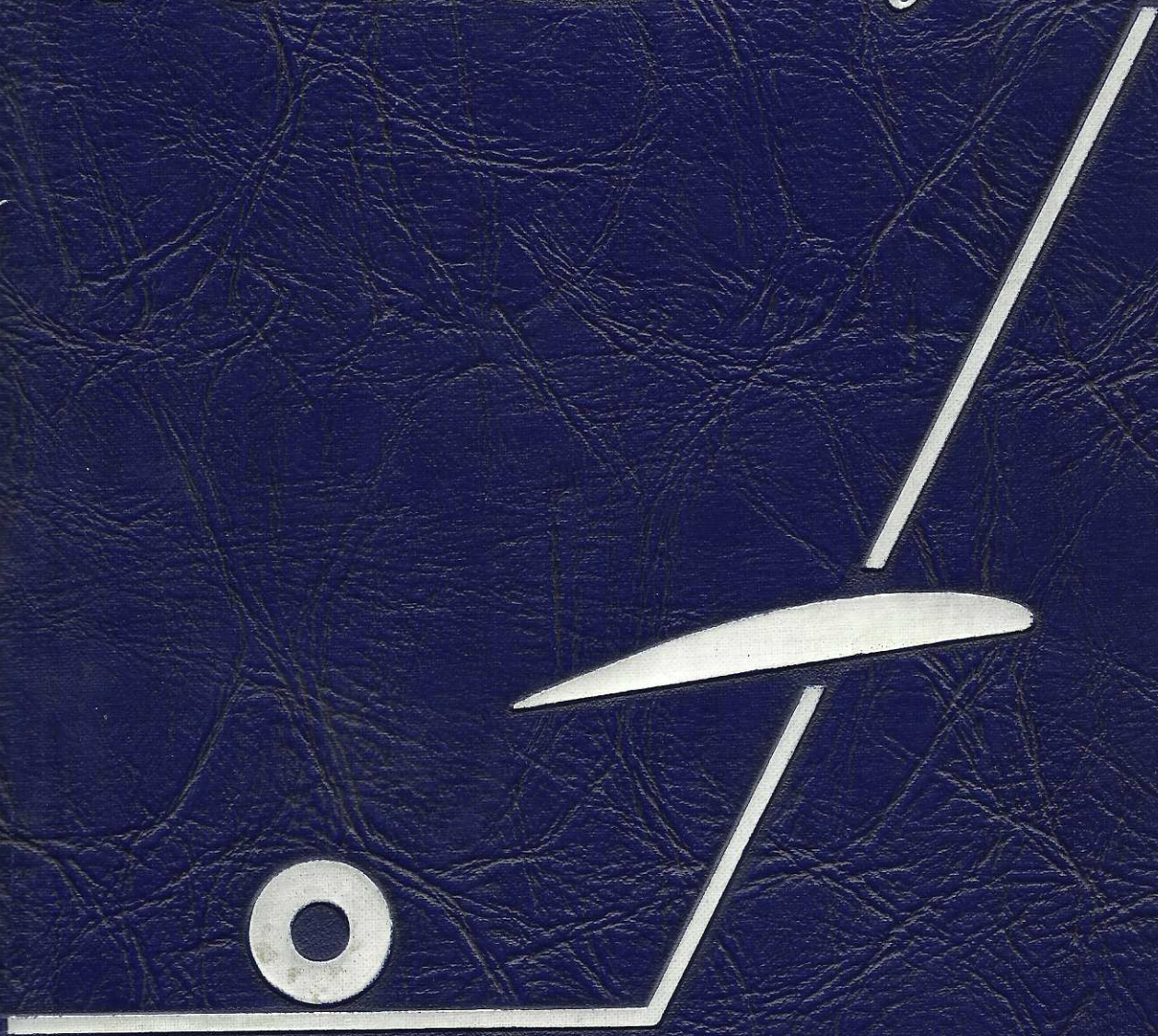


TOUCH *and* GO



MARANA

54-G



President

HAL S. DARR
Darr Aero Tech.

DARR AERO TECH., INC.
MARANA AIR BASE
MARANA, ARIZONA

I consider it a great privilege to have a part in the training of Air Force Pilots, and I want to congratulate your class on the excellent record you have made here at Marana and on your completion and graduation from the Primary phase of your pilot training.

Marana has had a varied and interesting history. Because of the unexcelled flying weather and climate in this area, the Base was activated early in 1942 as a training facility for pilot training. In three years it grew to be the largest basic flying school in the world and graduated over 10,000 students before inactivation in 1945.

This Corporation was chosen to help in the expansion of the Air Forces in 1951 and to build and activate a Civilian Contract Pilot Training School on the old Marana site. With the exception of the runways and hangar and a very few buildings, the desert had taken over. Restoration began 1 August 1951, and the present barracks, Dining Hall, Administration and Ground School Buildings, Chapel, Theatre, Cadet Club, Base Operations and the four Flight Ready Rooms sprang into being.

On October 2, 1951, the first group of cadets returned to Marana, and we were again in the pilot training business. Your Class, 54-G, is the thirteenth class to complete its training here. Our flying and academic standards have been set at a high level and you all have reached this level of proficiency.

Congratulations, good luck, and best wishes for continued success in your future training and service.

H. S. Darr

H. S. Darr
President