

June 23, 1953

**Vandenberg Chosen
As 'Air Man of Year'**

Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg was named "Aviation's Man of the Year" last night.

The Air Force Association awarded its H. H. (Hap.) Arnold trophy to the retired USAF chief of staff at a Statler dinner. The trophy, awarded annually to the person who has contributed most to aviation, went to him for his fight for air power.

Leaders of military and civilian aviation were on hand as the association also gave its Air Age Award to Lieut. Gen. H. Doolittle (USAF, ret.) for his "distinguished service to national security and world peace."

Other honors conferred at the banquet:

Science award for distinguished service in scientific fields—Dr. Mervin J. Kelly, president of Bell Telephone Laboratories, New York City. Kelly was chairman of a Defense Department committee which recently "brilliantly analyzed our continental air defenses."

Arts and letters award—Comic Strip Artist Milton Caniff, creator of the "Steve Canyon" comic strip, for "genius in presenting the airpower requirements to many millions of avid readers with great artistic skill, technical accuracy and dramatic impact."

Flight award—to the Third Air Rescue Group of the Military Air Transport Service, for rescuing and evacuating from battle areas in Korea about 10,000 members of the U. N. forces.

Citations of honor were presented to:

Tex and Jinx McCrary, radio and television entertainers, for contributing their talents and time to present the story of airpower to millions of Americans.

Beirne Lay, jr., motion picture writer, for his work on bombing pictures.

Brig. Gen. Bonner Fellers (ret.) for his book, "Wings for Peace," presenting defense needs.

Miles Clark, Elizabeth, N. C., president of the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Society, for leading the annual pilgrimage to the Wright brothers memorial at Kitty Hawk, N. C. each December.

Julian B. Rosenthal, New York City attorney, for five years national secretary of the Association of Navy men for the promotion of his talents and efforts to the cause of American air power."