NEWSLETTER REVIVED

In 1979, the History of Aviation Collection (HAC) published the first edition of UTD Air Log, a biannual publication. With this issue, it is being reactivated in order to bring its donors and supporters up to date on the activities and collections of the HAC and the Doolittle Military Aviation Library.

LIBRARY ACQUIRES DOOLITTLE PILOT LOG BOOKS

The Doolittle Library, dedicated by General James H. "Jimmy" Doolittle himself in 1985, has acquired more records and memorabilia from his estate. In addition to hundreds of his letters, there is a large collection of correspondence to and from Mrs. Doolittle which gives researchers an insight into her active life on the home front during World War II. Many photographs have been obtained as well as motion picture films, diaries, military records and the Air Force uniform Jimmy wore when he was presented with his fourth star by President Reagan. Perhaps the most valuable of the recent acquisitions are Jimmy's pilot log books which are now on microfilm, and his personal 300-volume library.

A portion of the Special Collections section of the McDermott Library has been set aside to display items representing the general's active life as a pilot, aeronautical engineer, scientist and advisor to government and industry. His desk and chair are also on display, along with a metal bust sculpture that was commissioned by George Haddaway.

FIRST BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED BY HAC

The first book published by the History of Aviation Collection will soon be released. Entitled Henry Clay: Sopwith Camel Ace and written by Marvin Skelton and George H. Williams, it is the life story of a Fort Worth native who became an ace during World War I.

A member of the 148th Aero Squadron and later commander of the 41st Aero Squadron, Clay shot down eight German planes while flying his British-made Sopwith Camel.

The book is based on his letters, log books and diaries that were presented to the Collection in 1979.

The library now contains one of the largest collections of World War I materials in the country.

VOLUNTEERS

The History of Aviation Collection and the Doolittle Library could not function without volunteers who contribute their time and effort to cataloging the many aviation books, magazine, film, video and personal history acquisitions that are received daily. In addition, they answer questions from students, visitors and researchers about their respective ar-
eas of interest and expertise. At this time there are eleven volunteers who spend at least one day a week at the McDermott Library under the leadership of Robert Kopitzke, former curator.

KOPITZKE HAS VARIED BACKGROUND

Robert “Bob” Kopitzke, former HAC curator, was one of the thousands of boys who saw Charles A. Lindbergh in the 1930s and became interested in aviation. He attended a tech school that had a program “heavy” on aviation. After graduation he joined the Navy Reserves and was assigned to a fighter squadron in Hawaii during the Korean War. Returning to civilian life, he earned his A&P, private and commercial pilot licenses.

After experience as a mechanic at a Fixed Base Operation, he became an instructor and manager of a flying school in Lockport, Ill. Meanwhile, he earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education, and later flew as a co-pilot for a corporation before becoming an instructor of flight crews at the American Airlines Flight Academy for nearly 20 years.

In 1980, Bob came to the History of Aviation Collection as a volunteer for six years, then was curator for more than two years before going to Love Field to set up the Frontiers of Flight Museum. After two-and-a-half years there, he returned to the HAC as a volunteer.

MEET THE NEW VOLUNTEERS

The History of Aviation Collection is pleased to welcome our newest volunteers. Lothar “Nick” Maier, Air Force retired, and Adrian Reedy, retired Delta Airlines pilot, recently joined our small, enthusiastic group. A resident of Plano, Texas, Nick is married and has a grown son. While on active duty, he flew eleven types of aircraft, including one of the oldest and slowest in the inventory—the C-47 Gooney Bird—to the fastest of them all—the SR-71 Blackbird.

Adrian’s long career as an airline pilot adds more expertise to the roster of devoted volunteers. He is a resident of Richardson, Texas.

Other volunteers and their special interests are:

Milton Bludworth
Air America

C. V. Glines
Doolittle Collection, WW II aviation

William K. Jones
Berlin Airlift, engines, CBI

Robert Kopitzke
Airlines, aircraft, US Navy thru Korea

Lothar “Nick” Maier
SR-71, B-52, jet aircraft, WW II

Jack McCracken
World War I aircraft performance

G. C. “Cam” McGill
Navigation, airfield & terminal planning

Lawrence S. Porter
Inventory of collections

Adrian Reedy
Airlines and aircraft

Kenneth J. Rice
World War I and II aviation

George H. Williams
World War I aviation

Charles France McCoy
French Military Aviation 1919-1940

Gay Barstow
Archivist

DOOLITTLE ADVISORY COUNCIL ANNOUNCED

The General James H. Doolittle Library Advisory Council, co-chaired by former Senator Barry Goldwater and Col. John P. Doolittle, has formally announced the members who have agreed to serve. They are:

John R. Alison
A. Scott Crossfield
Eugene P. Deatrick
Robert F. Galer
C. V. Glines, Curator
James R. Greenwood
George E. Haddaway
Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison
Rep. Sam Johnson
Robert Kopitzke
Olin Lancaster
John L. Lawler
Jerome Lederer
Donald S. Lopez
William R. Needham
Elizabeth Pfister
Donald L. Rodewald
Larry D. Sall, Sect’y/Treas.
Johnson M. Taylor
Louise Timken
George H. Williams
Robert R. Williams
SOME DOOLITTLEISMS

The diaries, log books and letters of General Jimmy Doolittle that were acquired recently reveal much about his personality and personal philosophy. One terse diary entry made while he was demonstrating aircraft in Europe during the 1930s noted: “Raced locomotive to crossing. Won.”

Another item found in the corresponding file concerned his eldest son, James, Jr. who sent a telegram to his Dad. It said, “Arrested for speeding. Need a parent badly.” Doolittle’s reply wire said, “Suggest you behave as though you were an orphan.”

Concerned about his “flabby” memory when trying to recall details of his early life, he commented: “The human mind is a very complicated thing. When one thinks over and over about a certain event in which he participated, he inclines to change it an infinitesimal amount each time—always in his own favor. After a long period of time he may change it 180 degrees and never realize he has done so.”

From time to time, the newsletter will publish other “Doolittleisms” that will give readers an insight into this famous aviator’s life and activities.

ROSCOE TURNER BIOGRAPHY PUBLISHED

The Smithsonian Institution Press has just released Roscoe Turner: Aviation’s Master Showman, the life story of the famous racing pilot of the 1930s. It was written by C. V. Glines, who joined the staff in February as curator for the Doolittle Library. Turner was the only three-time winner of the prestigious Thompson Trophy. Jimmy Doolittle and Turner were the only pilots ever to win both the Bendix and Thompson Trophies.

GOEBBELS DIARY REVEALS DOUBTS ABOUT WINNING WAR

The Diary of Joseph Goebbels, Hitler’s Minister of Propaganda, one of many books in the Arnold A. Jaffe Holocaust Collection of the Special Collections branch of UTD’s McDermott Library reveals his doubts about winning against the Allies during World War II. His entry for November 7, 1943 reads: “The night passed comparatively quietly. We only had a few nuisance attacks which were not of a dangerous character. However, the enemy threatens us with an intensive continuation of the air offensive, and I believe also that he will carry out this threat, if he possesses the means to do so. We lost 30 fighters alone in yesterday’s daylight attack. This is enormous and can not be sustained in the long run. The Americans are flying with fighter escort on their daylight attacks. This fighter escort is equipped first class, and our fighters are not up to their level. It is particularly depressing the way the enemy leads us around by the nose in the air war and springs on us every month a new problem which takes us weeks and sometimes months to catch up to. When you allow the enemy to get a big lead in an area of the war, then it is extremely difficult to catch up with him again. We must pay a heavy price for the missed opportunities of the past years in the air war. That should have been foreseen. For the moment that cannot be made up, and we can only hope for the future.”

CAPTAIN EDWIN C. MUSICK COLLECTION

One of the famous aviators whose materials are available for research is Capt. Edwin C. Musick, former chief pilot for Pan American Airways. He pioneered most of the commercial air routes over the Pacific and made the first trans-Pacific flight in a Martin China Clipper from San Francisco to Honolulu, Midway Wake, Guam, and Manila in 1935.

The Musick collection consists of photographs, philatelic materials, oil painting, a scrapbook, and articles by him in Pan Am newsletters. Some of Capt. Musick’s memorabilia is featured in a display at the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Dallas Love Field.

Capt. Edwin C. Musick

ACCESSION POLICY STATEMENT ISSUED

In order to answer frequently-asked questions about what materials are desired for inclusion in the HAC/Doolittle Library, the Special
Collections Department of UTD has published a policy statement. Items acceptable for donation include hard and soft cover books, magazines, still photos, motion picture films, oral tapes, videos, memoirs, aircraft manuals, scrap books, paintings, and correspondence files that are deemed to have relevance to the history of aviation. The guidelines are as follows:

a. All materials must be directly germane to the history of aviation, must be non-fiction, and storable in space allotted by UTD. All materials submitted by donors become the property of the University of Texas at Dallas and will be made available without restriction or exclusion to researchers and scholars. They will not be accepted with a proviso that they must be returned to a donor or a donor’s beneficiaries at some future date.

b. Items donated may be sold, traded or discarded by UTD if they are duplicates of materials already on hand, or are deemed unsuitable for retention because of condition or subject matter.

c. Appraisals of donated materials by qualified appraisers may be sought at the donor's expense upon written request. Staff and volunteers of the HAC/Doolittle Library are prohibited from appraising any collections for tax deduction purposes.

d. Reproduction of donated materials, including motion picture film, videos and photographs will be permitted by researchers. However, the original materials may not leave the library premises for copying without express written permission of the Associate Director, Special Collections, UTD. All reproduction costs will be borne by the requestor.

e. Small memorabilia such as awards, trophies or aircraft models obtained from donors may be retained for display purposes; large three-dimensional items may be offered to the Frontiers of Flight Museum at Love Field Dallas, sold or traded.

f. All donors are required to sign an agreement signifying an understanding of the policies stated above.

Potential donors with items that meet the criteria above are encouraged to contact the Associate Director for Special Collections, UTD to obtain a complete copy of the Accession Policy Statement and a Donor Agreement form.

INCOME DERIVED FROM SALE OF DUPLICATE BOOKS

Once a year, a list of duplicate books is published and sent to book dealers and collectors. The funds generated are available for the purchase of newly published books on aviation subjects.

DOOLITTLE RAIDERS MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO START ENDOWMENT FUND

As a tribute to their leader, the directors of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders organization have informed the staff and volunteers of the HAC/Doolittle Library that they have approved a sum of $10,000 as a contribution. The money will be used to establish the Doolittle Endowment Fund which will be administered by the trustees of UTD. There are 34 survivors of the original 80 who flew on that historic mission of April 18, 1942.

DOOLITTLE SQUADRON GROWING

Those who contribute $100 or more to the Doolittle Library are designated members of the Doolittle Squadron and receive a unique certificate of membership. As of this month, there are 204 squadron members. Membership will be closed when the 500th member is enlisted. Contributions are tax-deductible.

MAGAZINE FEATURES LIBRARY

The November 1995 issue of Aviation History magazine contains a feature article by C. V. Glines on the History of Aviation Collection and the Doolittle Library. The article details the origin of the collections, their purpose and plans for the future.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS HONORED

Nationally known as a World War I aviation history specialist, George H. Williams received a plaque on October 13 from the staff, volunteers and friends honoring his long service and dedication to collecting and preserving the history of World War I in the air.

The Williams collection of diaries, memoirs, correspondence, books, articles and photographs is considered one of the most extensive in the United States. He donated his entire accumulation of materials to the HAC/Doolittle Library in July 1995.

Williams is chairman of the HAC Advisory Board, president emeritus of the League of World War I Aviation Historians and member of the Doolittle Library Advisory Board.