Memorial Services Held for George Haddaway

Memorial services were conducted for George E. Haddaway, founder of the History of Aviation Collection (HAC) and Doolittle Library, on November 7, 1998 at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, Richardson, Texas. George died on September 26, 1998 at Durango, Colorado. He was 89.

The church service was followed by a reception hosted by the Dallas Hangar of the Quiet Birdmen, a fraternity of military, commercial and private pilots. Over 300 friends and relatives attended. The family requested that memorial contributions be made to the Doolittle Library, University of Texas at Dallas, P.O. Box 830643, Richardson, TX 75083-0643.

Organization Formed to Celebrate First Wright Flights in 2003

A group of Dayton, Ohio aviation enthusiasts have formed the 2003 Century of Flight Committee to bring millions of visitors to Dayton and make it the center for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Wright brothers’ first successful powered flights. The committee is planning an air show and “an international cultural expo of food, art, and music.”

Further information may be obtained from 2003/Century of Flight, 152 W. Third St., Dayton, OH 45407.

Reception for Springweiler Kin

Susanne Springweiler Fricke and Carola Fricke, daughter and granddaughter of Max Springweiler, were greeted at a reception in their honor at the HAC on October 22nd. Susanne and her sister Barbara Springweiler Piazolo, with family friends Jerry Fink and Edie Holden, financed the printing in English of Max Springweiler’s memoirs entitled Pioneer Aviator in China after it was translated from German. Following its printing, over 1,000 copies were donated to the HAC to promote contributions to the CAT/Air America Archives Endowment Fund.

Did You Know....

- That it was Capt. Francis S. Low, a submariner on the staff of Adm. Ernest J. King, Chief of Naval Operations, who suggested the possibility that U.S. Army bombers might be launched from a Navy carrier to bomb Japan in 1942?
That the task force that launched Jimmy Doolittle’s planes for the Tokyo Raid from the Hornet was under the command of Adm. Wm. F. “Bull” Halsey on the Enterprise?

That Jimmy Doolittle never held the ranks of captain or colonel and was the only reserve officer in any of the U.S. military services ever to become a three-star and then a four-star general?

That the first Coast Guard aviators graduated from Pensacola Naval Training School in March 1917, and that Third Lieutenant Elmer Stone became Coast Guard Aviator No. 1?

That Lt. Alfred Cunningham was the first Marine aviator and was designated as Naval Aviator No. 5?

That civilian pilot Eugene Ely made the first aircraft takeoff from a ship on November 10, 1910, and the first landing on a ship two months later? That the first Navy aircraft was a Curtiss A-1 biplane and that it first flew on July 1, 1911?

That U.S. Navy airships made the first Atlantic crossing of nonrigids in June 1944?

That Jean K. Tinley, a member of the Whirly Girls, was the first woman to fly a tilt-rotor? (The flight took place in the Bell/NASA XV-15 on April 23, 1990 at Manassas, Va.)

That you can learn about Air America, the CIA airline, on the internet: http://www.airamerica.org?

Aviation Museums in the Dallas/Ft. Worth Area

Many aviation enthusiasts don’t realize that there are a number of major aviation attractions in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area, all within easy driving distance of each other. In addition to the History of Aviation Collection at the University of Texas, Dallas, 2601 N. Floyd Rd., Richardson, phone (972) 883-2570, there are the following:

- Cavanaugh Flight Museum, Addison Airport, 4572 Claire Chennault, Dallas. (972) 380-8800.
- Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Ft. Worth, (817) 782-5593.
- Silent Wings Museum, Municipal Airport, Terrell, Tx. (972) 563-0402.
- Vintage Flying Museum and Texas Air Command, 505 NW 38th St, Hangar 33s, Meacham Airport, Ft. Worth, Tx, (817) 624-1935.

Aviation/Space Writers Foundation Makes Second Grant to Doolittle Library

James R. Greenwood, president, and Philip Geddes, secretary treasurer, of the Aviation/Space Writers Foundation, announced a grant of $2,500 to the Doolittle Library. It is the second grant made by the foundation that was established by the Aviation/Space Writers Association to encourage and support historical aviation research.

Geddes, in making the announcement, said, “It gives me pleasure to say that the Foundation is well pleased with the manner in which our previous donation was used and the positive results you report on the world wide web.” The current grant will be used to purchase much-needed acid-proof materials to record and preserve recently-acquired records of Doolittle’s Tokyo Raiders and other collections.

Flying Forts Served After the War

The Eighth Air Force Historical Society, Georgia Chapter, reports that 12,731 B-17 Flying Fortresses were produced before and during WW II. Most were built by Boeing but Douglas built 3,000 and Vega (Lockheed) built 2,750. Approximately 4,750 were lost on combat missions.

Twenty B-17s were redesignated RB-17Gs and served in SAC between 1947 and 1950 before being transferred to the Navy. SAC also flew twenty-five F-9s and FB-17s, photo reconnaissance models, during that period.

Corrections From Our Readers

We reported in the September 1998 issue that Major Gervais Raoul Lufbery, World War I ace and 1998 enshrine in the National Aviation Hall of Fame, declined to use a parachute and died when he jumped from a burning plane. His date of death should have been stated as May 1918 and a reader reminds us that parachutes were not issued to any of the Allied pilots, while German and Austrian pilots had them late in the war.
B-25 Being Restored at Nimitz Museum to Doolittle Model

The Nimitz News, newsletter of the Admiral Nimitz Museum, Fredericksburg, TX, reports that work has been proceeding vigorously on a B-25 Mitchell bomber which will be part of the Doolittle Tokyo Raid exhibit. It is being converted from a "F" to a "B" model. Volunteers from Mooney Aircraft Co., Kerrville, TX and members of the Ex-Military Flyers Club of Fredericksburg are assisting in the restoration and conversion.

Bell/Boeing’s New Tilt-Rotor

The aviation world is becoming more familiar with the Bell V-22 Tilt-rotor for the military forces—the bird that combines the characteristics and advantages of the helicopter and fixed wing aircraft. Now the Bell/Boeing 609, a six- to nine-passenger commercial and corporate utility model, is scheduled to fly early this year and be available in 2001. It will also be manufactured in a search-and-rescue version and for off-shore missions.

Dallas Organized Aerial Police in 1921

It hasn’t been publicized before but Dallas has an aviation “first” to brag about. In October 1921, ten pilots were given the oath of office as auxiliary police officers and took off in Curtiss JN-4D “Jennies” from a field at Oak Cliff for a fly-by to inaugurate the first “aeroplane” branch of the Dallas police force. To prove the value of aircraft in law enforcement before a crowd of 2,000 Dallasites, five aircraft were directed to take off and catch a “pirate” or “bootlegging” plane that had been reported over the city. “Using the V-formation, the vessels rose in order and after reaching the proper altitude, assumed the correct formation and sailed out in quest of the ‘bandit’ boat,” according to Aerial Age Weekly magazine. “Then a sixth one was seen riding easily in the clouds, evidently watching for an opportunity to alight in some secluded distant field. Immediately, following signals from the earth, the five ships turned and darted in different directions, closing in from all sides upon the ‘pirate’ ship, forcing it to the ground, all six landing just on the edge of the crowd.”

Chief of the Auxiliary Police W. C. Rice was delighted with this new show of force against lawlessness. He said: “The capture of the ‘pirate’ air boat was so realistic that it encourages us to the belief that hereafter when Dallas might be threatened from the sky or the regular police require the services of airmen, our men will not only be prompt in answering the emergency call, but will be able to cope with the situation.” Mayor Sawenie Aldredge added his approval: “Now we have a class of men at our disposal that will render criminal work much more difficult to get away with. I congratulate Chief Rice and thank the men for their loyalty and willingness to aid in keeping our beautiful city free of crime.”

Sall Attends CAT Reunion

The Civil Air Transport Association (CAT) annual reunion was held in San Diego last October. At the association’s business meeting, Dr. Larry D. Sall, Associate Library Director for Special Collections, encouraged CAT veterans to send in their records, photos and memoirs to the CAT/Air America Archives. When in doubt about what to send, Sall told the group, “Send it, send it, send it!” Any material not appropriate will be returned to the sender. However, he observed, many people underestimate the historical value of their papers.

Lew Burridge, a former CAT executive, gave Sall a package of files containing extraordinary material from the siege of Taiyuan, China in 1949. This material lends an unusual view of the war in those turbulent days; he promises more of his unique records will be sent to the archives soon. Mr. Burridge joined the Advisory Board of the History of Aviation Collection at its annual meeting in October.

Day Lighter-than-Air Collection Received

Ronald Day of Atlanta left his collection of books, journals, photos, posters and other memorabilia about lighter-than-air aviation to the History of Aviation Collection. Day’s fascination with the luxury and romance of dirigible travel motivated a long-time collecting passion that led to the creation of his large personal collection. His death last fall ended his dream of flying on the new passenger dirigible being developed for sightseeing flights by the Zeppelin company in Germany.

1999 National Aviation Hall of Fame Inductees Announced

George Herbert Walker Bush, Louise Thaden, Paul H. Poberezny and Fitzhugh L. Fulton, Jr. will be inducted into the National Hall of Fame next July. More information about these Hall of Famers will be included in the next Air-Log.