Pentagon air expert to present Jalonick Lecture

George E. Haddaway college internship established by CFT

Dr. Richard P. Hallion will present the 2006 George Jalonick III and Dorothy Cockrell Jalonick Memorial Distinguished Lecture at McDermott Library on July 8, 2006. His topic will be “Herald of Victory: Battlefield Air Attack in The Second World War.” The free 4 p.m. presentation will be followed by a reception in the Special Collections Dept., 3rd Floor.

He is Senior Adviser for Air and Space Issues, Directorate for Security, Counter-intelligence, and Special Programs Oversight, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. He is responsible for analysis and insight regarding the conceptualization, evolution, and utilization of sensitive national technological programs and related subject areas.

He graduated from the University of Maryland, and subsequently from the Federal Executive Institute, and the National Security Studies Program for Senior Executives at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He has worked for a number of governmental and private organizations, and has been a visiting professor at the U.S. Army War College and the National Air and Space Museum of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Hallion is the author and editor of numerous books, articles, and essays relating to aerospace technology and military operations, and he teaches and lectures widely.

The Jalonick Lecture Series was established to inform and enlighten the public about the history of flight by bringing aviation notables to the Dallas community. The series was endowed in their memory by the late George Jalonick IV and friends of the Jalonick family.

Dr. Richard P. Hallion

The Communities Foundation of Texas (CFT) announced the establishment of the George E. Haddaway Internship for university students who have demonstrated an interest in aviation and are pursuing an undergraduate or advanced degree at an accredited university. The internship must be conducted by a non-profit institution such as a museum, library or archive related to aviation and the means by which this history has been and is currently presented to the public.

Internship amounts shall be a minimum of $2,500 per term per student. The amount and duration shall reflect an hourly compensation rate that the non-profit institution assures CFT is reason-

Below: Patrizia Nava meets John Glenn.

Above: Dean of Libraries Larry Sall and Susie Brown of the UTD Callier Center.

At right: Paul Oelkrug poses with astronaut Glenn.

Frontiers of Flight Gala

Members of McDermott Library’s Special Collections Department attended the annual Frontiers of Flight Fund Raising Dinner and Gala at the museum during May that honored Senator and pioneer Astronaut John Glenn. He received the George Haddaway Medal for Achievement in Aviation. The modern museum, located at Dallas Love Field, is dedicated to preserving and expanding McDermott Library’s History of Aviation Collection as well as its own collection. Dean of Libraries Larry D. Sall, Ph.D., serves on the museum’s board of directors. Chairman of the board is U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison.
Aschoff Series in Ferko Collection offers surprises

Patrizia Nava, Library Assistant II of Special Collections, primarily works with the Ed Ferko Collection of the George Williams Jr. World War I Aviation Library. Her task is to describe the collection which contains many materials in German, on the item level so that staff, has a notion of the collection’s content and, in turn, can better assist patrons, researchers, and scholars to effectively use the material.

During her work, Nava came across several folders with correspondence written in the Old German Script Sütterlin. After further research, she found the corpus of about 370 letters from German soldier Walther Aschoff to his parents during 1915-1917. Nava initially transliterated the letters from Sütterlin to modern Roman Script, then she translated them from the German language to English.

The text primarily covers trench warfare, personal experiences of war and its atrocities, aviation, training as an observer and bomber crew member, sorties, aerial combat, air-raids, personal political comments, xenophobic remarks about the enemy and North Africans serving in the French army, casualties, personal reason for participation in war and decision to join the flying forces as well as comments about parent’s and other family member’s situation and contents of parcels being sent with his demands of nourishment and clothing.

While working with another project - processing the WWII Series of the Ed Ferko Collection - Nava found photographs, postcards, more correspondence, memorabilia, tour guides, and other documents belonging to the Aschoff papers. A book was found in the HAC Library - Londonflüge 1917. Der Kampf des ersten Englandgeschwaders. Aus dem Fliegerdagebuch von Walter Aschoff - written by Aschoff.

The Walther Aschoff Series is arranged in five subseries, which are composed of about 400 photographs and postcards from 1911-1940, correspondence from Aschoff to his parents from 1915-1937, correspondence from individuals to the Aschoff Family from 1887-1938, and correspondence from individuals to Walther Aschoff from 1910-1938, memorabilia, tour guides, documents, and the book.

During the Third Reich until about 1940, Aschoff served as an Oberleutnant in the Reichsluftfahrtministerium and later in the rank of an Oberst and commanding officer of the Flughafenbereichs Kommando 22/XI in Brüssel until 1943. The 22/XI was a part of Luftgau Kommando VI that was disbanded on April 2, 1945.

After that his trail fades until additional material is found.


by Paul A. Oelkrug, C.A.
Senior Curator

Where in the world is Amelia Earhart? Or, I guess, the correct question should be, “What in the world happened to Amelia Earhart?” Ever since she and her navigator, Fred Noonan, mysteriously disappeared during an attempted around-the-world flight in 1937, many have pondered this question.

The official story is that Earhart and Noonan were off course, missed their intended refueling stop at Howland Island, ran out of fuel, and perished in the Pacific Ocean. However, there are those that claim that they were actually on a secret mission for the United States government to gather information on the Japanese military buildup in the Pacific as a prelude to war. From this point many theories emerge; some creditable while others border on the absurd, such as one claiming that she was actually Tokyo Rose.

The Joseph Gervais Papers reflect a nearly lifelong quest by Mr. Gervais to answer the Earhart question. He contends that she was shot down by the Japanese and taken prisoner, spending the war in Japan as a “guest” of the Japanese Government. After the war she returned to the United States under an assumed name, remarried, and lived out the rest of her life as Irene Bolam. The documents and photographs in this collection are the result of the years of research Gervais spent looking for the answer to the Earhart question. Included as well are others’ theories, one stating that she and Noonan were executed by the Japanese on the island of Saipan. What do you think? Maybe the first question, “Where in the world is Amelia Earhart?,” is the correct question after all.
Distinguished aviation historian William M. Leary dies early this year

William M. Leary, Ph.D., 71, who came to McDermott Library last August to present the 2005 Jalonick Memorial Lecture on his specialty, Air America, died on Feb. 24 in Georgia.

Dr. Leary had profound influence on UTD’s Special Collections Dept. that became the official archive of Civil Air Transport and Air America. The department is also the site of the only memorial dedicated to the fallen employees of the clandestine CIA venture in Southeast Asia.

His presentation, “Last Flights: Air America and the Collapse of South Vietnam,” drew a capacity audience.

A distinguished history professor, emeritus, at the University of Georgia, Dr. Leary was stricken with cancer shortly after his Jalonick presentation. He served as the Charles A. Lindbergh Professor of Aerospace History at the National Air and Space Museum, Washington D.C. during 1996-97.

Doolittle Raiders to meet in San Antonio during 2007

The Doolittle Tokyo Raiders held the 64th anniversary reunion of their famous World War II mission at the National Museum of the United States Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in April. Eight of the 16 survivors were able to attend. Among the guests who honored the Raiders was Air Force Chief of Staff T. Michael Mosely.

The highlight of the occasion was the transfer of the 80 silver goblets from the Air Force Academy to the museum for permanent retention and display. The goblets, a unique tribute to the men who participated in the April 18, 1942 retaliatory attack on Japan, had been presented in 1959 by the grateful citizens of Tucson, Arizona. They were on display at the Air Force Academy between reunions and have been brought to subsequent meetings by two outstanding cadets as guards and a faculty member from the History Department.

The Raiders decided to accept an invitation to hold their next reunion in San Antonio, Texas in April 2007.

2006 Air America Association Reunion in Washington D.C.

Members of the Air America Association will hold their annual reunion from June 1-3 in Washington D.C. The gathering will consist of informal meet and greet sessions, a general business meeting, and a banquet.

For more information please consult the Air America Association webpage http://www.air-america.org/ The History of Aviation Collection is the official repository of the Air America Archive and the Civil Air Transport/Air America Memorial Plaque.

Haddaway Internship established by Communities Foundation of Texas

Selection criteria for U.S. citizens or documented legal residents are a demonstrated interest in aviation, scholastic achievement, extracurricular and/or community involvement and acceptance into an internship program. Preference may be granted to applicants who intend to pursue an internship in the Dallas/Fort Worth area or elsewhere in Texas. Students recipients will be chosen by the Haddaway Scholarship Committee, subject to the ultimate approval of the CFT Trustees.

Selections will be based on adherence to the following:

- Successful completion of two years of college (52 hours) or expected completion by the end of the current semester, or current enrolment at graduate level of an accredited university in the U.S. and its possessions.
- Grade point average of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
- Demonstrated interest in aviation such as past or present membership in an aviation program at college level, possession of a current aircraft pilot license, Boy/Girl Scouts aviation programs, Civil Air Patrol or similar groups with aviation programs.
- A letter from the non-profit organization affirming acceptance of the student as an intern and indicating the terms of the internship.

Information and applications may be obtained from the Communities Foundation of Texas, 4400 Caruth Haven Lane, Dallas TX 75225.