

FLYING TIGER HISTORICAL ORGANIZATION

a NON PROFIT 501 (c) 3 ORGANIZATION

EIN # 26-1492466



14th AAF



CBI



HONORING THE PAST
FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE



AVG



CATF

January 31, 2015

Volume 5: Issue 1

Flying Tiger Heritage Park Museum Dedication

On March 28, 2015 the Flying Tiger Heritage Park museum will be dedicated in Guilin, China. Several members of the FTHO board and their wives will be in attendance and we are in hopes that a surviving Flying Tiger will be able to attend the event along with other significant dignitaries. In anticipation of the museum opening two crates of artifacts, donated to the museum by the FTHO, were shipped and have arrived into the hands of the Lingui County officials. Our next newsletter will have details and pictures of the dedication.



Hump Flight Re-creation

Plans are steadily moving along on this project. We have located a DC3/C47 in Australia which we are in the process of acquiring. As of now we plan to fly the aircraft from Imphal, India to Kunming, China and then on to Guilin. The flight will be in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the ending of hostilities in Asia and China. Weather is a big factor so no date can be nailed down but we plan to try for August 15 to September 2, 2015. A documentary is planned. The CBI and CNAC pilots' importance to China's survival in WWII cannot be over emphasized. Their flying was much more hazardous, with more Hump pilots losing their lives than bomber and fighter pilots combined. The bombers and fighters relied on the transport aircraft to bring in their supply of fuel, bombs, oxygen, bullets and everything else they needed to fight the war. We have a saying "the fighter pilots get all the glory, the transport pilots do all the work". Pictured below is what the interior should look like.



Canvas seats along the side is the standard military configuration.

**A PRELUDE TO KWEILIN, OFTEN REFERRED TO AS:
"THE TURNING POINT OF THE WAR"**

It was a sunny day in Kunming, 475 air-miles SSW of Kweilin. General Chennault sat in his office when the mail was delivered – within was a copy of the “CBI Roundup” printed in Delhi, India for Aug. 23rd, 1944... After attending to signing orders, he casually picked it up; read the front page with little interest, and as he turned to P. 2, a photograph across the way caused him to rip out the lower RH portion of page one, revealing photos he knew were not supposed to be published. A flash of anger and rage gripped him... months before he’d agreed to provide photos of the B-25s that were now his main weapons of the 308th bomb group with the stipulation that a few showing the Kweilin bases from the air be considered “classified” – yet here, for

GIs and Japs alike to see, they were. Especially damaging would be that which revealed the landmarks of Yang Tang & Ehr Tang airfields as the B-25's home base.

[illegible]

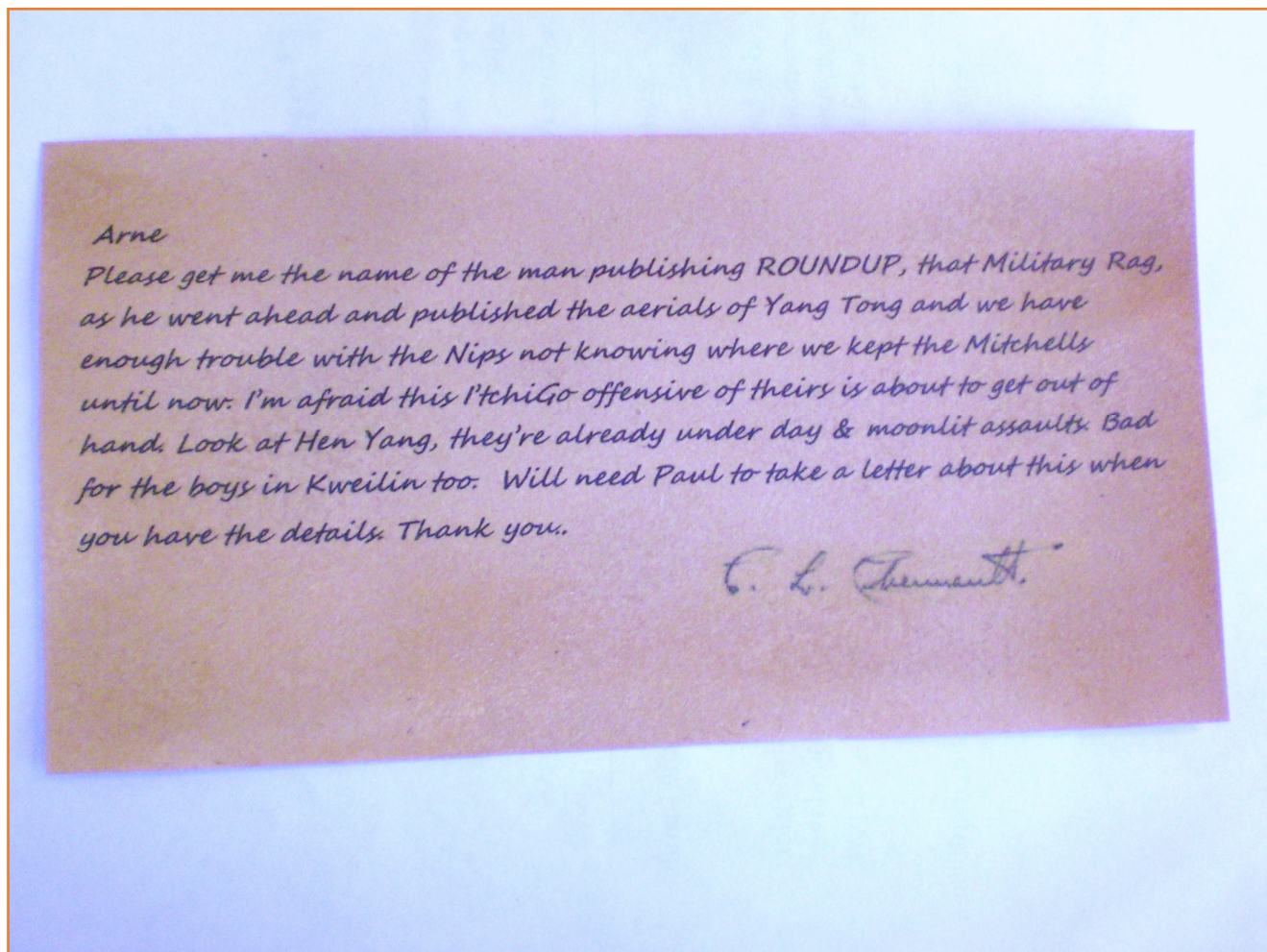
Gen. Chennault and his aide, Arnegard on a better day – March 10th, 1943 – the day the 14th Air Force was born.



Chennault knew immediately, Japanese Intel had seen them

Yang Tang & Ehr Tang were the main 'home' of the 14th Air Force's "secret weapon" the B-25, ably commanded then by Brig. Gen. Clinton "Casey" Vincent. Once the topography of the Kweilin airfields was visible (lower of 2 photos on P.3) the Japanese bombers would concentrate on destroying them and bombing the airfield and its 550 structures... one of which was Vincent's headquarters. The command cave would thus become crowded and the air-crews would seek shelter in the adjoining service caves...

While all of this raced through Chennault's mind, he took pen in hand and dashed off a note to his aide, Arnegard; clipped it to the newspaper, shaking his head in some dis-belief of his own stupidity for trusting the 'military rag's editors...



We have to ask ourselves, as I'm sure 'Casey' Vincent did, would this have changed the war? Would the Japanese army have been able to link up the North railroads with those of Indo-China, as they eventually did? Would Kweilin have been over- run with its million refugees fleeing southward by rail; by Li river sampans, and on foot toward uncertain destinations? Might the city have remained the capital of Kwangsi to this day? Would Yang Tang have been abandoned and demolished by explosions & fire?



Colonel Casey Vincent with Milton Caniff. Milton Caniff was an American cartoonist famous for the "Terry and the Pirates" and "Steve Canyon" comic strips which was based on Colonel Casey Vincent. Photo taken in 1943.



Colonel Casey Vincent points to Kweilin



Gen. Chennault with worried look - after loss of eastern air bases

All I know is - we at FTHO might not have a blown-out cave to restore, nor a beautiful new museum and Heritage park at the site. It was a small mistake, but as is said: grains of sand in the Sahara are stirred by a butterfly's wings and the result in summer is often an Atlantic Hurricane!

WORLD WAR 11 BIO OF STANLEY SCHWARTZ

BORN AUGUST 1, 1922 In New York

I joined the A.A.C (Army Air Corp. IN 1941, and was sent to Miami Beach for training. Then I was sent to Scott Field, Belleville, Ill. for Radio Operator School for 8 weeks. After that, I was sent to Tillery Field, Oklahoma for Aerial Gunner training for 4 weeks. Then on to Barksdale Field to 12th Tactical Air Combat Squadron as a top turret gunner. In Nov. 1941 I was sent overseas and wound up in Bombay on Dec. 8th, 1941. I stayed in India for 2 months. I was then sent to Kunming for 1 day and onto Kweilin. We were attached to the 23rd. Fighter Group under Casey Vincent. There were 12 gunners with me, but no bombers in sight. I believe it was June 1942 when the B25's arrived from India. They made their first bomb mission on Shanghai. The bombers had hours, not missions. Our job was to look for Japanese shipping, battleships and subs and to fly along the Yangtze River where there were Japanese strongholds and to bomb and strafe them.

I completed my contract with Uncle Sam in February or March of 1943, but there were no replacements for us, unless you had a million dollar wound or death. I got home July 19th, 1943, 3 days before my 21st. birthday. Then I was sent to Chanute Field in Champagne, Ill. In Oct. 1944, I requested to be sent back overseas. I left in Nov. 1944 and wound up in Kunming until the war ended. Our job at that time was the same. But we basically owned the skies then and we just had to be aware of Ack Ack fire. At this time, the 12th Bomb Squad was melded into the 1st. and 2nd Bomb Squads.

I came home in Nov. 1945 and was honorably discharged on Jan. 9th, 1946.

I sincerely believe in what JFK said, 'ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country'.



B25s at Kweilin

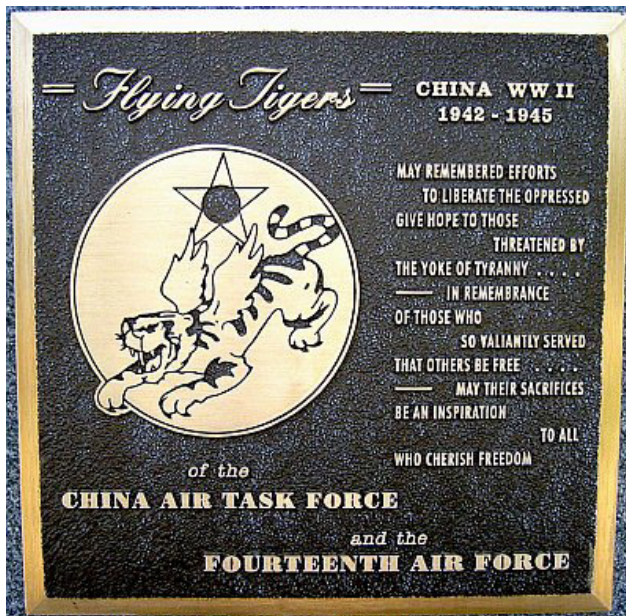


China Air Task Force (CATF)

(forerunner to the 14th Air Force, July 1942 - March 1943)



Plaque located at Air Force Academy Cemetery



Source: [China Air Task Force: Replaced the American Volunteer Group](#)

(Excerpt from Aviation History magazine, by Mr. William B. Allmon)
At midnight on July 4, 1942, the American Volunteer Group (AVG), better known as the Flying Tigers, ceased to exist. They were replaced by the China Air Task Force (CATF), a group that was, in the words of Tiger founder and leader Brigadier General Claire Lee Chennault, "patched together in the midst of combat from whatever happened to be available in China during the gloomy summer of

1942."

Chennault was called to Chungking, China, on March 29, 1942, for a conference to decide the fate of the AVG. Present at the conference were Chiang Kai-shek; his wife, Madame Chiang; Lt. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, commander of U.S. forces in China; and (Colonel Clayton A.) Bissell, who had arrived in early March.

Stilwell and Bissell made it clear to both Chennault and Chiang that unless the AVG became part of the U.S. Army, its supplies would be cut off. "Unless the AVG fought in Army uniforms they were to be denied the privilege of fighting at all," Chennault wrote. He agreed to return to active duty but, as he later wrote, "I made it clear to Stilwell that my men would have to speak for themselves."

Chiang Kai-shek finally agreed to let the AVG be inducted into the USAAF, after Stilwell promised to replace it with a complete fighter group that Chennault would command. Stilwell and Bissell wanted the AVG dissolved by April 30, 1942.

Chennault, wanting to keep the Flying Tigers going as long as possible, proposed the group disband on July 4, when the AVG's contracts with the Nationalist Chinese government expired. Stilwell and Bissell accepted. "And so it was agreed," Chennault recalled, "with smiles and handshaking from all but me."

Chennault returned to active duty in the USAAF on April 15, 1942. He was promoted eight days later, on April 23, from colonel to brigadier general. Chennault was told that he would have to be satisfied to command a "China Air Task Force" of fighters and bombers. Its mission was to defend the air supply route over the Himalayan Mountains between India and China--called the "Hump" and to provide air support.

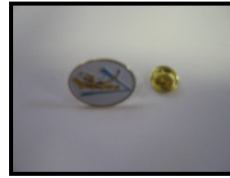
Items Available for Donation to FTHO



Blod Chit
Leather
\$40.00



Patch \$3.00



Tie Tac \$3.00



Leather Patches
Different Squadrons
\$20- \$30.00

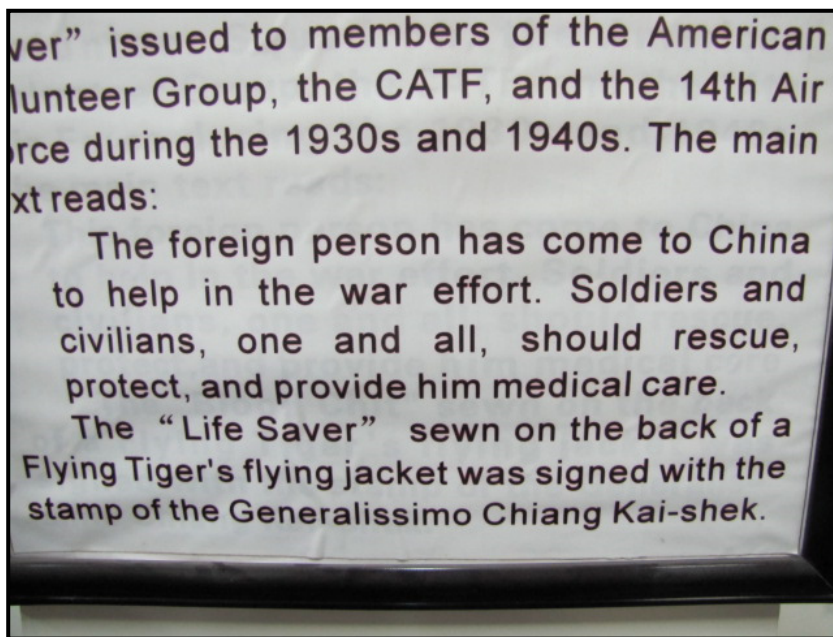


Hat \$10.00



Back "T" Shirt \$15.00 Front

To make purchases, E-mail your request to: larryjobe1@gmail.com. You can access our PayPal account on the web site which will allow you to use your bank account or credit card. Notify us at the E-mail address above when you have completed your PayPal transaction and we will mail the merchandise.



What does Blood Chit say?

The picture of the blood chit and its interpretation was taken at the Flying Tiger Museum in Chongqing. Many Flying Tigers owe their lives to this item which was used extensively in China.

Flying Tiger Historical Organization Board of Directors

Chairman of the Board

Major General James T. Whitehead, Jr.
United States Air Force (Ret.)

President
Larry Jobe, President, Travel Aire

Treasurer
Patti Jobe, Accounts Manager,
Bookkeeper

Secretary
David Thuillez, Sr., Project Manager,
Colombo Construction Company, Inc.

Vice President
K. C. Ma, President, Asia Holiday
Travel, Inc.

Directors

Joe Y. Eng, Author & Speaker
United States Army (Ret.)

Phil VanZandt, Historian, Retired

Advisory Board Members

Louis Barbich, CPA, MBA

Alan Mutke, President, Alan Mutke &
Assoc., Int'l.

Michael Bianco, Chairman & CEO,
American Cap. Mkt's.

John Sanders, Screen Writer,
Historian

Mel McGowan, Business Owner & Executive

Dr. Pedro Chan, Collector/Donor,
Flying Tiger Items

Clay Lacy, CEO/Founder -- Clay Lacy Aviation

Darrell Scott, China Liaison

Rob Custer, Retired County Officer/Pilot

Thomas K. Jue, CPA

Victor Tong, 唐滔, Webplus Ventures 网佳创投

Charles Michael, Retired Account
Executive

Patrick Bergin, CFO, Tel-Tec Security Systems

Judge Michael Ward, Administrative
Lawyer and our
Newsletter Editor

Honorary Board Members

Cynthia Chennault, Daughter of General Chennault

Capt. Moon Fun Chin, CNAC,
Pioneered Hump Route

Nell Calloway, Granddaughter of General Chennault

Brig. Gen. James P. Hendrickson,
USAF (Ret.)

Paul Crawford – Bob ("Tic-Toc") Ingersoll – Hank Snow, 14th AAF Flying Tigers
Jonna Doolittle Hoppes, Granddaughter of General Jimmy Doolittle

The Flying Tiger Historical Organization Newsletter is published quarterly by the FTHO -

21133 Jimmerrall Lane – Groveland, CA - 95321 (209) 962-5501

www.FlyingTigerHistoricalOrganization.com larryjobe1@gmail.com

- Every effort is made to present factual and accurate information. However there are always some disagreements in areas of history.

- If you wish to be removed from our E-mail list, please reply to this E-mailed Newsletter and type "unsubscribe" in the subject line.