Man's Flight

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Knowledge

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NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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(L to R) Gen. and

Mrs. Stan Beck, Gen.

and Mrs. John

Dallager, Gen. and Mrs. Brad Hosmer,

Gen. A. P. Clark

SUMMER 2004

FRIENDS BEGIN ACADEMY'S 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



On April 1, The Friends, in cooperation with the Association of Graduates, officially began the celebration of the Air Force Academy's 50th anniversary with a reception for over 200 people and the initial screening of the long awaited DVD, "Expect Great Things." The evening was the culmination of over two years of hard work by The Friends, the Association of Graduates, and Word One, Inc. It began with hors d'oeuvres in Doolittle Hall, followed by a viewing of "Expect Great Things." Brig. Gen. Phil Caine, USAF (Ret) was the master of ceremonies and Lt. Gen. Brad Hosmer, USAF (Ret) introduced the film in his usual eloquent manner. For the next hour, the audience sat enthralled with portrayals of key events in the Academy's history. The film also included interviews with many of those who were instrumental in building the institution as well as with graduates who shared their experiences at the Academy, and their views of what being a graduate of this great institution has meant to them. The film and those responsible for its production received a standing ovation at the completion of the evening. Certainly it was a night to remember and a fitting beginning to the celebration of the Academy's anniversary.

Hand in hand with "Expect Great Things," is another Friends' project that promises to be of even more significance as the years go by. In producing this historic DVD, Word One conducted over 35 video interviews with individuals who The Friends, the AOG, and Word One thought played key roles in the Academy's history. In addition to including portions of the interviews in the DVD, The Friends has had all the interviews transcribed and they will be included in a beautiful bound volume that will be placed in the Academy Library later this year. Individual copies of the most extensive interviews have already been placed in the Academy Library. The interviews are important because they will ensure that the events of the first 50 years will live on as told by some of the men and women who made the Academy what it is today.

This newsletter contains a flyer detailing how to purchase "Expect Great Things" on either DVD or VHS tape. There is certainly no other production that covers the first 50 years of the Academy's history with such insight and depth. It promises to be an enduring visual record of the Academy's first halfcentury.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Friends' gala, held April 1 and celebrating the anniversary of the signing by President Eisenhower of the Executive Order establishing the United States Air Force Academy, was a splendid affair. Our DVD "Expect Great Things," presents a realistic account of the Academy's first 50 years and is the only history covering this entire period in any medium. General Caine did a super job as master of ceremonies and General Hosmer's opening remarks were most appropriate and well received. The Friends have indeed started this historic year with a flourish.

We all deeply regretted Duane Reed's retirement in early January. Over the more than thirty years of his service, Duane has come to be recognized as one of the best sources of institutional memory at the Academy because most of its military faculty and staff rotate frequently, taking their knowledge of the Academy with them. Duane, as the Academy's archivist, will be hard to replace. Fortunately he is remaining in the area and has been elected to serve on The Friends' Board of Directors.

The Friends are producing a compendium volume of oral history interviews as another tribute to the fifty years of brilliant service to the nation by our Academy. Only five copies will be produced; they will be held by the Academy Library's Special Collections Branch and by the Association of Graduates. Since each volume will be assembled of the highest quality material, they should

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DUANE REED RETIRES

As many of you know, Duane Reed retired as the Chief, Special Collections Branch and Academy Archivist on January 3, 2004. Certainly there have been few people in the history of the Academy who have had as great a longterm impact on the institution as has Mr. Reed. Duane came to the Academy in 1973 after five years as Assistant State Archivist and State Archivist for Nebraska. He is a native of Marion, Kansas, and earned his BA in History from Washburn University in 1964. That same year he married Lucinda and they have two lovely daughters, Jeremy and Rachel. During his long tenure as the Academy Archivist and Chief of the Special Collections Branch, Duane was responsible for acquiring a number of unique and important manuscript collections including: The Women Air Service Pilots (WASP); The Eagle Squadrons; The Former Prisoners of War, Stalag Luft III; and The Southeast Asia Prisoners of War. These and a number of lesser but still significant



Gen. A. P. Clark and Mr. Duane Reed

collections that he obtained have made the Academy Library an internationally recognized repository of materials on the history of American military aviation. Additionally, he was also responsible for producing countless displays for the use of both cadets and Academy visitors as well as briefing hundreds on the scope and content of the Special Collections Branch and the Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection. He taught historical research classes to hundreds of cadets over the years and made an indelible impression on them with his enthusiasm for history, the Academy, and the Air Force. Along with these achievements, Duane provided unequalled service to The Friends. Not only was he a regular attendee at all the meetings of the Executive Committee, he was an essential member of the team that produced such Friends' projects as The Genesis of Flight, Falconry at the Air Force Academy, and the "Expect Great Things" DVD. He also was indispensable to the production of the numerous Friends' exhibits such as the Eagle Squadrons, the Southeast Asia Prisoner of War Experience, the World War II POW Experience - Stalag Luft III, and the History of the Air Force Academy. Certainly Duane Reed will be missed by his many friends and by scholars throughout the United States. We are indeed fortunate to have him continuing his service to The Friends and the Library as a member of the Friends' Board of Directors and Executive Committee



Gen. Brad Hosmer, Class of '59, chats with the daughter of General Harmon, Mrs. Eula Harmon Hoff



The Friends' Board of Directors and advisors

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from page 1)

hold up especially well and be available for research and for browsing by those who in the distant future may wish to know about the Air Force Academy's remarkable first fifty years.

Following Duane Reed's retirement, Marie Nelson served exceptionally well as liaison between The Friends and the Special Collections Branch of the Library during the period that she was Acting Director of Special Collections in addition to her other duties. She faithfully attended the meetings of our Executive Committee and shared with us essential information of Library matters. We all enjoyed working with her and wish her well.

We were delighted to learn that at the Founders' Day Banquet, Lt. Gen. John W. Rosa, the Academy's current Superintendent, officially designated the Academy's first Superintendent, Lt. Gen. Hubert R. Harmon, "The Father of the Air Force Academy." Now we need to get a statue of General Harmon erected in front of the hall that bears his name!

May I close by pointing out that never have The Friends been in greater need of your financial support to enhance the stature and prestige of the Air Force Academy and its fine Library.

FRIENDS' 2004 ANNUAL BOARD MEETING



Gen. A. P. Clark (center) presents oral history interviews to Dr. Ed Scott (L) and Col. Jim Shaw (R).

The Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library held its annual meeting on May 11, 2004. The first order of business was the presentation by General Clark to Col. Jim Shaw, USAF (Ret), President and CEO of the Association of Graduates, of bound copies of the oral history interviews conducted in conjunction with the DVD, "Expect Great Things." The Association of Graduates financed the production. General Clark and Colonel Shaw then presented copies to Dr. Ed. Scott, Director of the McDermott Library. Secretary Phil Caine briefly reviewed The Friends' activities during the past year. This was followed by the election of two new members to the Board of Directors; Maj. Gen. John R. Dallager, USAF (Ret), former Academy Superintendent, and Mr. Duane Reed, former Archivist and Director of the Clark Special Collections Branch of the McDermott Library. Mr. Reed was also elected to serve as a member of the Executive Committee. The election of officers. reelection of those members of the Board whose term expires in 2004, and election of the Executive Committee followed. Treasurer Jock Schwank gave the financial report. Several items of new business were considered. A number of changes to the current bylaws were proposed and unanimously passed. The Board was briefed on the pending update of the Academy history panels that were produced several years ago and then discussed several possible new projects that may be undertaken in the future. Col. Hans Mueh, Vice-Dean of the Faculty, talked about the importance of The Friends to the Academy mission; Col. Dick Rauschkolb briefed on current activities and challenges faced by the Association of Graduates; and Dr. Ed Scott gave the Board a brief summary of issues pertaining to the Library. The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be in May 2005.

FRIENDS ELECT TWO NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library, Maj. Gen. John Dallager, USAF (Ret) and Mr. Duane Reed were unanimously elected to fill the two vacancies on the Board.

General Dallager retired from the Air Force in the summer of 2003 after more than 34 years of distinguished service to the Air Force and the United States. He graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1969 and proceeded immediately to pilot training. Over the next years he flew the F-4 in Vietnam; was a test pilot at Eglin AFB; served tours at the Pentagon and in West Germany; and flew the A-10 at Davis-Monthan AFB, logging over 3,000 hours of flying time. General Dallager commanded two fighter wings and the 13th Air Force in Guam. He was also Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Logistics at SHAPE Headquarters.

His final assignment was as Superintendent of the Air Force Academy. He has a Masters Degree from Troy State University, and is a graduate of both the Air Command and Staff College and the U.S. Army War College. He and his wife, Jane, live in Colorado Springs.

Duane Reed retired from the Civil Service at the end of 2003 after more than 30 years of distinguished service. A summary of his career and his unequalled contributions to both the Air Force Academy and thousands of cadets are detailed elsewhere in this newsletter. Needless to say, the Academy and the Library are richer for his years of service; he will be sorely missed by countless people throughout the nation. The Friends are fortunate to have him as a member of both the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee.



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EVASION EXPERIENCES OF AMERICAN AIRCREWS IN WORLD WAR II PROJECT

This project's goal is to produce and distribute a DVD conveying escape-and-evasion (E&E) experiences of American airmen during World War II. Much of the content will come from materials donated by Ralph K. Patton to the Clark Special Collections Branch of the McDermott Library. Featuring events, documents, and artifacts from WWII, the DVD will emphasize human elements of the E&E experience.

The interactive DVD will widen access to the Library's E & E archival collection, making it available electronically to scholars and the general public. It will present the materials in a manner that will deepen appreciation for the human challenges of E & E. By permitting cadets to test themselves vicariously against these challenges, the DVD will promote serious, informed discussion of the character traits needed to deal with such challenges and thereby benefit the E & E training program at the Academy.

The project began in 2003 with a review of Air Force and Army E & E training materials and reports as well as firsthand narratives of evaders and those who assisted them. The review resulted in identification of experiences common to evaders, questions to be asked in subsequent oral history interviews, and the development of the script for the DVD. Evasion-related still images were also scanned—374 from the Ralph Patton Collection and 181 from other holdings. In addition, 23 videos from the Patton Collection were reviewed to identify appropriate footage to accompany the script.

Interviews were conducted with six evaders and two members of the underground who helped downed aircrew. Ralph Patton, a B-17 pilot, impersonated a mute traveling salesman during his evasion through France. After the war, he founded the Air Forces Escape and Evasion Society. Paul Kenney, a B-17 bombardier, evaded for 81 days before being turned over to the Gestapo by a collaborator. Alfred Lea, a B-17 navigator, bailed out over Poland, joined Polish resistance fighters, and fought alongside them. Robert Sweatt, a B-24 gunner, suffered a severe injury during the explosion of his plane. Edward Miller, a B-24 pilot, bailed out over occupied France, landed near a radio station, and spent five weeks by himself before being taken in by the underground. Marguerite Brouard-Fraser, who belonged to the underground, was a teenager when her father was taken to a concentration camp. She and her mother remained in Paris and helped seventeen Allied airmen evade. Clayton David, a B-17 pilot, was interrogated thoroughly by the underground and spent time in several safe houses in Holland, Belgium, and France. Yvonne Daley-Brusselmans and her mother were underground workers in Belgium, helping 132 Allied airmen evade.

It is anticipated that the DVD will be completed in the Fall of 2004.

50th ANNIVERSARY ORAL HISTORY COMPENDIUM VOLUME

The Board of Directors of The Friends recognized the need to produce a single volume containing the forty transcripts of the oral history interviews of individuals who have made historically significant contributions to the Academy recently completed by Word One, Inc. The interview project constituted a major contribution of The Friends and the Association of Graduates in commemoration of the Air Force Academy's 50th anniversary. The volume will be a privately printed, limited edition of the highest quality that will be deposited in the Clark Special Collections Branch of the McDermott Library and in the library of the Association of Graduates in Doolittle Hall. This important project is scheduled for completion in October 2004.

THE FRIENDS' WEB SITE IS UP AND RUNNING

Visit us online and see the latest on The Friends and the Academy Library.

www.friends.usafalibrary.com

(Please note: We can no longer be contacted by telephone.)