

SPRING 2004

14th US Army Air Forces personnel who died in the battle. The Chinese citizens would also like to contact descendants of these people to let them know that their sacrifices have not been forgotten. More information about this project can be obtained from John Adragna via e-mail at jpal4_3@iuno.com or telephone (636) 227-1024 or John Easterbrook via e-mail at johneast@earthlink.net or telephone (408) 996-1913.

Work is underway by a B-24 Memorial Committee, in cooperation with the San Diego Veterans Memorial Center & Museum and the City of San Diego, CA, to place a Memorial Sculpture of a B-24 in San Diego's Balboa Park where it will be available to the general public. The project is scheduled for completion in Spring 2005. This will be a bronzed model with an 18-foot wingspan, a duplicate of the B-24 now located at the U. S. Air Force Academy. It will be the center piece of the new Veterans Memorial Gardens in Balboa Park. The Committee is seeking the support of our members and our Association in the completion of the project. This project should be of interest to our members who flew the B-24s and the C-87s in the CBI. They are asking for donations from \$25 to \$500. Those interested in this project may call telephone (760) 788-3624 or e-mail to b24club@sbcglobal.net.

One final project of interest. The Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress is collecting audio and videotaped oral histories and documentary material, such as letters, diaries, maps, photos and home movies, from civilian and military men and women of all services For more information call Veterans History Project telephone (888) 371-5848 or visit <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/>

Works Completed

A memorial to the Flying Tigers of World War II has been erected in northern Thailand. Around 150 people, including former Flying Tigers, gathered on November 11, 2003, in the city of Chiang Mai, about 360 miles north of Bangkok, for the unveiling of a shoulder-high black obelisk at the Foreign Cemetery, also known as Ban Den. Also attending the ceremony were former members of the Free Thai Movement and

World War II veterans from France, Britain and the United States. The ceremony was scheduled to coincide with Veterans Day.

Members in Action

One HPA member who particularly interested in the Burma searches of Clayton Kuhles is Past President and Past Board Chairman **Warren Thornley**. Warren went to the same high school in Chicago as did Clayton although they did not attend there at the same time. Warren initially met him through a high school function where they found they had a common interest in wanting to find some of our missing downed aircraft in Burma.

Due to poor health Warren has not been active in the HPA for a number of years. But his interest in HPA affairs is still there. He has helped and encouraged Clayton in his Burma searches in whatever ways he can. When he found that remains from an accident site, collected by Clayton on his last search, had been taken from him by the Burmese before leaving Burma in December he immediately contacted members of Congress and the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command at Hickam AFB, HI to ensure that every effort was being made to reclaim these remains as soon as possible. He stressed that time was very important in this matter due to the advanced ages of some members of these crewmembers' families.

In addition Warren is active in helping HPA family members and friends find information about crews members who flew the Hump. He has been successful doing this in a number of cases. He has found this to be a very satisfying endeavor. Thanks Warren for getting involved.

As indicated in the last newsletter our Reunion Golf Chairman **Bill Kelso** has taken it upon himself to develop a slide presentation on Flying the Hump. This project is now well underway. Following is a report from him on his progress dated March 12th.

"Have completed about 90% of the photos and charts to be reproduced as 35mm slides. Estimate completion about 17 March 2004. Received a good estimate to provide the original set of slides. Ten days required to have the first set back to me. Believe I can then restructure my current words to better fit the