

Bronze C-46 Dedication

We are now fast approaching the final stage of the project to place a bronzed 1/6 model of the Curtiss C-46 Commando at the U. S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. The days of fund raising to support the placement is over. The opportunity for donors to get their names placed on the bronzed donors plaque has passed. The model will be dedicated and officially turned over to the Academy during a formal ceremony set for 10:00 AM on September 9th during our Denver Reunion.

This project was initially pushed by HPA member Earl Dean Baird, ATC – Chabau, Calcutta, a resident of Canon City, CO. Dean is a member of the Groups Memorial Inc. of the Army Air Forces which is the organization that has participated in the placement of all the other World War II model aircraft now located at the Academy.

This dedication ceremony will last approximately 40 minutes. It will take place in the shadow of the Academy Chapel. There will be a Cadet Color Guard and a military band participating. The C-46 will be dedicated and formally turned over to the Academy as a gift from the Groups Memorial Inc. of the Army Air Forces.

At last count we have 213 members, wives and friends signed up to attend the dedication. Most of the travel to the ceremony will be by bus. But some members and some other interested parties have asked about entry to the Academy grounds if they arrive there by other means. We have been advised that the North Gate is the gate used by the general public for entering the Academy grounds and is normally open. That gate is available off I-25. At the present time there is no problem getting in to visit the administrative area where the ceremony will take place. However, this could be subject to change if the alert status there is increased. We hope this does not occur.

We in the HPA have worked hard over the past several years in support of this project. We wish to thank the Groups Memorial, Inc., of the Army Air Forces for being willing to take this project on and for seeing it through. It will be great to see our C-46 in the Honor Court.

Museum of Aviation Foundation HPA Board Member Report

by George H. "Jake" Saylor

A luncheon meeting of the Museum of Aviation Foundation Board was held on June 9, 2004. A number of distinguished guests were present including several officers who had recently served in Iraq, including the guest speaker Colonel Dale Foster, incoming Chief of the Civilian Personnel Flight at Robins AFB. Also among the distinguished guests was Brigadier General Bob Scott, National Chairman of the Museum of Aviation Foundation and Brigadier General Michael Collings, Commander, Warner Robins ALC.

Mr. Tom McMichael, Chairman of the Board, recognized representatives from three car dealerships who have donated 5 new cars for an upcoming annual auction and raffle. Mr. McMichael also encouraged those present to purchase raffle tickets toward helping reach a goal of 2,000 ticket sales.

There was no business conducted at this meeting. Following lunch Colonel Foster gave a brief report on "Reflections on a Year in Iraq". Following the report General Collings thanked the speaker for his presentation and stated that "The will of the people will determine the course of our nation".

The meeting was then adjourned.

How To Make A Donation To The Museum

Donations in memory of someone should be made payable to CBIHPA and on the memo line: In Memory of (person's name) and mailed to:

CBI Hump Pilots Association
720 S. Tyler St., Suite B132
Amarillo, Texas 79101

HPA will record and then send their check in the same amount to Warner Robins who will return an acknowledgment to the donor.

For income tax purposes, donations made to the HPA are deductible, to the extent permitted by law.