

Books For Sale

Tales of The Himalayas (\$14.95*)

Born to Fly The Hump (\$12.95*)

by Carl Frey Constein

9 Reading Drive #227

Wernersville, PA 19565

Pennsylvania residents add 6% sales tax

* Add \$2.00 S&H

Top Stick

by Hal Jacobs

14545 Drayton Hall Way

San Diego, CA 92128

(858) 485-9422

jakes43k@aol.com

The Price of Glory: Flying The Hump

by Buck Saunders

348 Alves Ln.

New Braunfels, TX

awbucksanders@axs4u.net

Burma Report

As previously reported **Mr. Clayton Kuhles**, of Prescott, AZ, has developed a rather expensive interest in going to Burma and northeast India in search of aircraft lost in the Hump operation of World War II. He went, at his own expense, in 2003 and 2004, to search the far reaches of the India/Burma border for potential accident sites that he has been able to obtain. In 2003, in searches that went above the 14,000MSL level, he was able to locate 3 accident sites.

One of these sites turned out to be that of a C-87. There were human remains at this site. He attempted to bring some of these remains back to the States for identification but they were taken from him by Burmese Military Intelligence while going through customs at Putao (near Ft. Hertz). However, he was assured that the remains would be sent to the U.S. through appropriate channels.

Good news. The Burmese (Myanmar) word was good. The remains were forwarded as promised. Clayton inspected the remains while visiting the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC) office at Hickam Field, Hawaii, in June of this year. He found them all accounted for.

The Myanmar officials deserve our sincere appreciation for their good will and cooperation in getting the remains from the C-87 back to the U. S. where they can be identified and families notified if possible. We are very disappointed that there was not more recognition accorded to the Myanmar government at the time these remains were returned to us as promised. I feel that all members of the Hump Pilots Association want Burmese officials there to know how much we appreciate their willingness to help in the search for our missing comrades who still remain on the Hump even at this late date. So let us say to them – thank you very much for understanding our need to recover as many of our missing as possible, as soon as possible, and for any further support you can give us in this effort.

More good news. Knowing how limited JPAC is in their ability to search for MIA in Burma, the primary purpose of Clayton's visit the trip to JPAC in June was to meet with officials there to pursue an effort, with HPA support, to become a hired civilian contractor for them to search for MIA aircraft in the northern Burma/India area. The meeting went very well and they requested that he submit a proposal to them to see if anything can be worked out. One problem here is that this would be a departure from standard practice in searching for MIAs. However, this status would certainly ensure serious searches in Burma while not otherwise interfering with their world-wide search for MIA from other wars. We recommend their adoption of this practice very strongly.

Regardless of the outcome of his proposal to JPAC Clayton is already planning to return to his searches this fall in northwest Burma and northeast India. He has received reliable information on the possible location of six additional accident sites, and with good reason to believe the sites have never been documented.

Clayton is not without strong support for his efforts beyond the HPA. The Myanmar Ambassador to the U. S., the honorable Linn Myaing, has expressed enthusiasm and support for his recovery efforts and has stated he will so express this support to U. S. officials. He also has the support of the U. S. Ambassador to Myanmar and the U. S. Air Attaché in Rangoon. So it can be seen that his efforts have very high level support. This is a great expression of confidence for what he is doing. We wish him the very best in his searches this fall.