



*Man's Flight
Through Life Is
Sustained By The
Power Of His
Knowledge*

NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library
P.O. Box 188
U.S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840-0188

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THE FRIEND'S EAGLE SQUADRONS EXHIBIT OF MARCH 17, 1995

On Friday evening, March 17, 1995, The Friends hosted their first exhibit from the many collections we have helped the Academy acquire. The occasion also marked the first of a series of future exhibits and presentations. Working with the Special Collections Branch and Mr. Duane Reed, twelve display cases were filled with photos, flight log books, memoirs, books and artifacts from the Eagle Squadrons' Collection for public display. Brigadier General Phil Caine, USAF (Ret), spoke on the display theme "Service Above Self: The World War II RAF Eagle Squadrons." Over 180 people, including some 50 cadets, attended the opening. The display will remain on the third floor level of the Library, near the terrazzo entrance, until May 15, 1995.

From the outbreak of World War II until after Pearl Harbor, several hundred young Americans went to Canada and Britain to train as pilots for the Royal Air Force. They joined three RAF squadrons and distinguished themselves in aerial combat. In September, 1942, the squadrons were transferred to the U.S. Army Air Force forming the 4th Fighter Group stationed at Debden, England.

Former Eagle and fighter ace, Colonel Reade Tilley, USAF (Ret) was one of three Eagles who attended the opening of the exhibit.



Lieutenant General Paul E. Stein will be the speaker at the Annual luncheon meeting on Friday, May 5. General Stein is the second graduate of the Academy to become Superintendent. He graduated in the Class of 1966 and began active duty as an assistant football coach. During his career, he has served in a variety of staff positions including Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel and Chief of Staff, Tactical Air Command and has commanded Keesler Technical training Center, Biloxi, Mississippi. Prior to being assigned to the Academy, General Stein was Director of Legislative Liaison in Washington, DC.



General Stein is married to the former Carol Manning of Paul, Idaho. They have a daughter, Christine and two sons, John and James.

The May 5 luncheon will be held at the Academy Officers Club Sunrise Room. Social hour will begin at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at 12:15. Guests are welcome. Cost will be \$10.00 per person. Please complete the enclosed card and send your check in the enclosed self-addressed envelope.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As a result of a gracious offer of space on the 5th floor by the Director of Libraries, The Friends will move in April. This opportunity will provide more useful and comfortable space for The Friends. It will be a welcome development as we will be able again to use our fine office furniture which has been in storage for several years. We hope to retain the same telephone number and there will be no change in address or in our close working relationship with the Library staff.

With a grant from the Anna Keeslin Ackerman Trust, The Friends acquired a new computer system for our offices. The system, which replaces our outdated equipment, includes a Hewlett-Packard 486 computer, an HP 4 Plus laser printer and the latest software. We are confident that both the quality and efficiency of our correspondence, record keeping and overall administration will be considerably improved, thanks to this enhanced computer system.

DISBURSEMENTS TO THE LIBRARY

(Jan. 1 to Mar. 31, 1994)

General Book Fund . . .	\$ 500.00
Memorial Funds . . .	\$ 1,500.00
Other Projects	\$ 7,884.00
Total	\$9,884.00

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

The Memorial Program continues to grow. There are now 135 certificates in three volumes of the Honor Book. We expect an influx of donations from a reunion in May of the Stalag Luft III Ex-POWs. This reunion will celebrate the 50th anniversary of their liberation.

GENERAL O'DONNELL PAPERS

Terrence and Patrick O'Donnell have donated segments of the papers of their father, General Emmitt "Rosie" O'Donnell, to The Friends for inclusion within the Special Collections Branch of the Library. General O'Donnell was the first to lead a squadron of B-17s to the Pacific shortly before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He commanded a B-29 Wing at the end of World War II and commanded the Far East Air Forces Bomber Command during the Korean War. Subsequently, General O'Donnell commanded the 15th Air Force at March AFB, served as the Air Force Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and retired as the Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Air Forces in 1963.

Because of the significance and quantity of the O'Donnell papers, an archives tutorial was developed to describe and arrange the papers in coordination with the Academy's Department of History. Under the direction of Archivist Duane Reed, CIC John Clune, an American History major, is preparing an inventory or manuscript record to the papers. Upon completion of the semester-long project, the papers will be microfilmed and made available for cadet and other scholarly research.



CIC John Clune working on the O'Donnell papers.

UPDATE CATALOGUE PROJECT

Steady progress has been made on our long-range major project to publish a book catalogue of the Gimbel Collection. Four nationally known experts in the several most important categories of the Collection have made commitments to assist us in this endeavor. Professor Clive Hart of Essex University in the United Kingdom has agreed to work with the early books on the pre-history of flight. Professor Hart is the author of a number of books including The Prehistory of Flight. Professor Paul Maravelas, who has been associated with the University of Minnesota and is nationally recognized as an expert on the history of ballooning, has agreed to handle the rich collection of balloon prints. Mr. Edward Rochette, former President of the American Numismatic Association, and author whose syndicated column on numismatics appears in hundreds of newspapers, has agreed to select and describe the historical medallions in the Collection. Professor Holly Pittman, Curator of Glyptic Art at the University of Pennsylvania, has expressed interest in evaluating the ancient seals. We are still seeking a commitment from one other nationally known specialist in early aerospace history. As announced in an earlier Newsletter The Executive Committee set as a goal that all of the expenses of bringing the manuscript up to the publication-ready stage be underwritten from The Friends resources.

VIDEO PRESENTATION

The video presentation of the scope and content of the Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection has been completed. The production of the film has been a cooperative effort among the Library, the Academy's Directorate of Educational Visuals, and The Friends. The film script called for numerous scenes showing cadet interaction with the Collection and several hundred items were researched and photographed in conjunction with this professional production. The film will be used in support of cadet education and in conjunction with the many briefings which are given to visitors to the Library.

THE FRIENDS OF THE AIR FORCE ACADEMY LIBRARY: FRIENDS IN DEED!

Lt. Col. James Hopkins
Duane Reed

During these years of government draw-downs and budget cutbacks, it is extremely difficult to fund all of the Academy Library's needed expenditures through appropriated congressional funding. Fortunately, The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library have provided needed services through gifts, donations, and continuing support. Here are some of their accomplishments and, achievements since they were founded in 1987:

- over 1,300 individual memberships;
- over \$20,000 in donations to the library for books;
- over \$50,000 in grants obtained from several Colorado foundations for preservation and conservation projects in the Library's Gimbel collection of aeronautical history;
- gifts to faculty departments which meet special requirements.

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library is a tax-exempt, charitable foundation established for the purpose of enhancing the Academy Library as an educational, research, scientific, and cultural institution. The Friends enable us to acquire materials, to pursue projects, to create publications, and to implement services beyond those made possible by funds allocated by the Air Force.

The Board of Directors of The Friends includes four former Superintendents of the Academy, two former Directors of the Academy Libraries, and a number of distinguished Air Force officers and community leaders. There are also three advisors—one each representing the Academy Faculty, the Association of Graduates, and the Director of Academy Libraries. Ongoing projects of the Friends are administered by members of the Executive Committee pictured below.

The Friends organization supports the overall mission of the Air Force Academy. The Academy is dedicated to producing graduates motivated and well-qualified to serve a career of leadership in the United States Air Force. The Academy provides a four-year curriculum comprised of academic instruction and military, ethical, and physical training.

The Academy Library provides a significant contribution to this superb overall educational experience. Its holdings include

multi-disciplinary collections usually found in a quality undergraduate institution as well as in-depth materials in the fields of Aeronautics, Astronautics, and Military Science. Such materials include the papers of distinguished leaders in the history of aviation and the Air Force and are housed in the Library's Special Collections Branch. Among these are the papers of Generals Arnold, Twining and Kuter. Also located here are the historical collections of Stalag Luft III Former Prisoners of War, the Women Airforce Service Pilots, the Eagle Squadron Association, and the LaFayette Flying Corps Association. The Library also houses the Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautics History Collection. This famous aeronautical collection contains over 20,000 items which depict man's early efforts to achieve flight. Artifacts date from 2700 BC and aeronautical materials include documents, books, prints, and medallions. This collection has become a significant resource for research by cadets and scholars.

The Friends' organization continuously enriches our library, helping us keep pace through the collections they obtain, the donations they make, and the rich Air Force heritage they preserve. Memberships in The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library begins with the cadet annual memberships for \$5 through supporting memberships at the \$50 level. Funds raised through memberships are supplemented by deferred donations such as wills, trusts, and insurance. The Friends also seek gifts of rare books and documents, films, electronic media, personal papers, photographs, and diaries dealing with aeronautical and air power themes.

The Friends offer an attractive program which has a special appeal for persons who wish to establish a memorial to an individual, a crew member, crew, or a military organization. For a donation of \$50 or more, a memorialization in the form of a handsome certificate is placed in The Friends' Honor Book. The certificate can honor an individual or a group (a bomber crew or a fighter group, for example). The Book is an attractive custom-made book which is kept in a prominent location in the Special Collections Branch of the Library. Honor Book citation originals are 8 1/2" x 11" on parchment

like paper. All the printing is custom done. The citation sheet is enclosed in a mylar envelope for protection so that it can be viewed from each side.

As an alternate memorialization, for a donation of \$50 or more, books may be requested for the library with an attractive bookplate naming the individual or group being honored.

The Academy Library, by law, is prohibited from soliciting money or materials from any donor who has not contacted us first. The Friends, however, may solicit, and have in fact brought several collections of note to the library. Included in these are such important collections as the records of the Air Force Escape and Evasion Society, the Women Airforce Service Pilots, the Eagle Squadrons of World War II, and the Doolittle Raiders' archives.

Currently, the Friends have undertaken the monumental task of producing a printed, annotated bibliography illustrating selected holdings of the Gimbel Collection to aid scholarly research. This effort will meet a long-standing requirement to publicize the unique holdings of the collection. The project will be funded through private means and foundation grants.

The Friends have also recently decided to fund a requirement for an 18-disc CD ROM player for titles in the Library's Government Documents collection. This generous gift helps keep our library technologically current and is another example of the Friends' commitment to our library's continued excellence.

Webster defines a friend as one that seeks the society or welfare of another whom he holds in affection, respect or esteem. The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library aptly meet this definition as they continue to make dreams come true at the Academy Library.

Lt. Col. James Hopkins is the Director of Academy Libraries at the Air Force Academy Library. Duane Reed is the Chief of Special Collections at the Air Force Academy Library.

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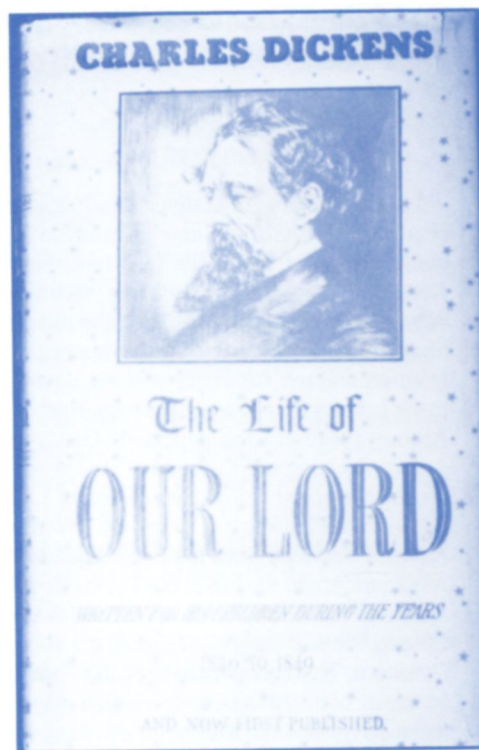
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Mrs. Gordon Ebbe presented The Friends with a rare book. During the years 1846 to 1849, Charles Dickens wrote The Life of Our Lord for his own children. For eighty-five years the manuscript was guarded as a family secret. It was published in 1934 by Simon and Schuster after the last direct Dickens heir had died. This first-edition book will be housed in the Special Collections Branch of the Air Force Academy Library.

A Friendly Reminder

Please search your personal libraries and papers and notify us of materials you may wish to donate.

We need your continued gifts of rare books, books dealing with military aviation and unit histories as well as documentary materials and collections of personal papers dealing with airpower themes and air leaders.

We also need your assistance in expanding the Academy Library's holdings on the American prisoners of war experience in all wars.

Please consider participating in our Memorial Program. Check the attached for details.

Most of all, we need your continued financial support. If you have already made a contribution in 1995, we sincerely thank you. If you have not made a 1995 contribution, please fill out the attached form and send your check today in the self-addressed envelope.