

NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

P.O. Box 188

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SPRING EXHIBIT

The Friends sponsored a major library exhibit on the history of the Air Force Academy. The exhibit was displayed on the Library's third floor from 1 April - July 1998. Staff and volunteer effort, including extensive support by Dr. Elliott Converse and Brig. Gen Philip Caine, was devoted to creating the exhibit. Lt. Gen.



Lt. General and Mrs. Bradley C. Hosmer view the Academy exhibit with pangs of nostalgia. As a member of the Class of 1959, Hosmer wore a white uniform like the one in the case which was designed by Cecil B. DeMille.

Bradley C. Hosmer, the first graduate to serve as the Superintendent of the Academy, opened the exhibit on 17 April with a presentation on the history of the Academy and the significance of the exhibit. Distinguished visitors at the opening included the Acting Secretary of the Air Force, F. Whitten Peters; Superintendent of the USAF Academy, Lt. Gen. Tad Oelstrom; members of the original staff of the Academy; and members of the USAFA Class of 1959. The

exhibit was featured in an article in the Academy Spirit and received local television coverage from station KRDO. Work has begun with the Office of Public Affairs to place segments of the exhibit on the Internet. The Association of Graduates has requested the reproduction of a part of the exhibit for display at Doolittle Hall and for use as a traveling exhibit by various chapters of the AOG throughout the U.S.



The audience listened with rapt attention while General Hosmer related some of his Academy experiences over the past 40 years.

The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Tuesday, December 8 at 9:30 a.m. in the AOG Conference Room in Doolittle Hall.



Lt. General A. P. Clark presents Lt. General Tad Oelstrom with a copy of Brig. General Philip D. Caine's book entitled Aircraft Down: Evading Capture in WWII Europe. The Superintendent was the guest speaker at the May 7 Annual Luncheon of The Friends held at the Academy Officers' Club.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Since our last *Newsletter* in March, our work in support of the Director of Academy Libraries and his staff has proceeded rapidly. The manuscript for the Gimbel Catalogue is now in the hands of the publisher. Editing and proofing of galleys will probably continue through the end of the year. Our annual luncheon in May was well attended and our speaker was our Superintendent, Lt. General Tad Oelstrom. Contributions made by our Friends membership have been faithful and generous and for this we are very grateful.

The work of our loyal and hard-working executive committee has made my task a very enjoyable experience and I should add that our relations with the Library Director, Dr. Scott, makes us feel that we are valuable members of his team. Clearly, the high point of this year's program was the Spring exhibit. It has generated wide interest and is being introduced onto the Academy's Internet.

FOGLEMAN COLLECTION

At the request of The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library, General Ronald R. Fogleman has donated a comprehensive documentary collection of his official records and personal papers to the Academy Library. The Collection, which will chronicle General Fogleman's military career from his activities as a member of the Academy's Class of 1963 through his service as the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, will be a significant archival resource for cadet and scholarly research. On 3 September, the Academy Archivist, Mr. Duane Reed, arranged for the shipment of the first segment of the papers from the General's residence to the Special Collections Branch of the Library. The Collection will be closed for research until the records have been described, arranged, and an archival finding aid prepared by the staff of the Special Collections Branch.



Superintendent Lt. General Oelstrom engages Acting Secretary of the Air Force, F. Whitten Peters in an animated discussion at the exhibit.

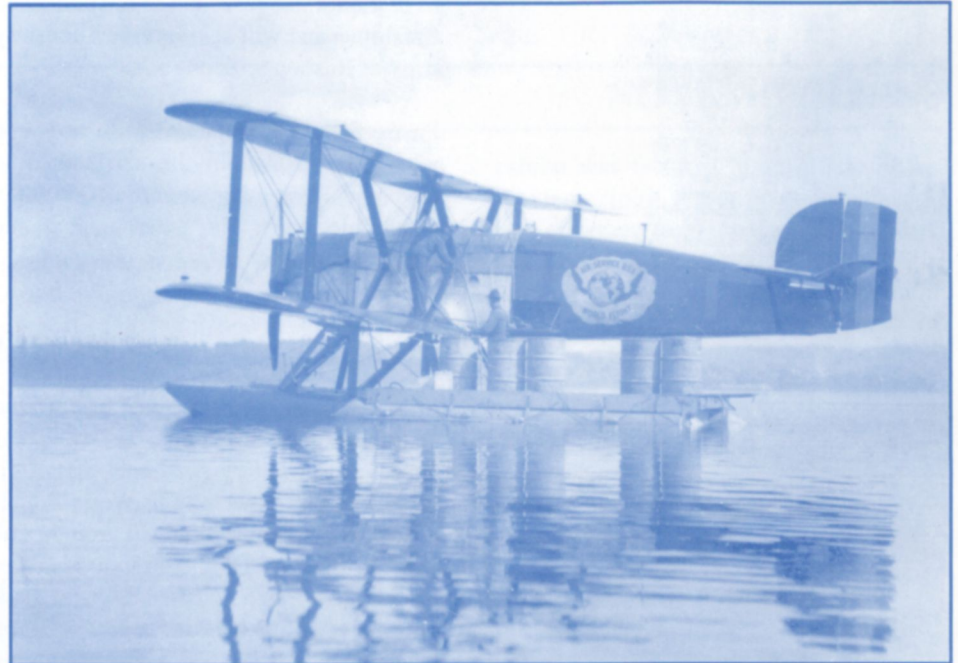
GIMBEL CATALOGUE UPDATE

In the last edition of the *Newsletter*, we reported on the progress of the Gimbel Catalogue and included a tentative timetable for completion of the project. As with all complex endeavors, the schedule has slipped a bit. We are told that this is normal in the book publishing business so it is not a matter of concern. We found that there was some additional editing that had to be done before we could proceed beyond the first draft of the page proofs and that has taken a considerable amount of time. That task has now been completed and, by the time you read this update, we expect to have the next page proofs in our hands. The book will not be ready to ship by the end of this year, but we are hoping that next summer is a reasonable target. We are all learning a lot about the publishing business as we go along and remain convinced that the final product will be an extraordinary volume.

Last April we also mentioned our hope that the Smithsonian Institution's Traveling Exhibit Service (SITES) would be interested in the Gimbel Collection for possible use in their series of exhibits leading up to the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers flight. We are in contact with the Smithsonian and they are presently evaluating the possible use of the Collection in this regard. The University of Washington Press plans to display a prototype of the Gimbel Catalogue at the October International Book Fair in Frankfurt, Germany.

GENERAL WADE PAPERS

A comprehensive collection of photographs, official reports, personal correspondence, diaries, maps and printed matter, which graphically depicts the "Round the World Flight of 1924" has been received from the estate of Mr. Cole Morrow. Mr. Morrow, friend and confidant of Major General Leigh Wade, gathered the material in support of his extensive effort to produce a biography of General Wade and the General's experience as a member of the crew of the "Round the World Flight." The Collection was donated to The Friends by Mrs. Christine Lubs and Mrs. Phyllis Kramer, co-conservators of the Morrow estate. The material will be housed within the Academy Library's Special Collections Branch where it will be made available for cadet and scholarly research.



Refueling - "The Seattle" (H1) at Seattle

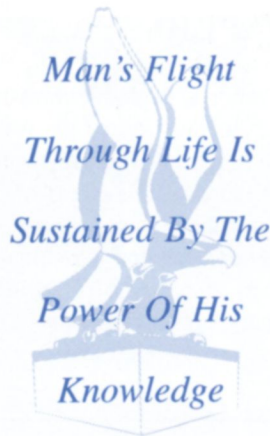
On September 28, 1924, two U. S. Army planes landed in Seattle, Washington, after completing the first round-the-world flight in 175 days.

EXCERPTS FROM GENERAL HOSMER'S TALK

"The Academy is fundamentally different from other military organizations because here the core task—to develop superb Air Force officers—has not changed over the past 40 years. I believe a superb officer would be recognizable—and an effective leader—in any historic period. Officership and leadership remain the same so long as people and units are pulled together, and pulled up, by the same qualities in their leaders."

"The Cadet Wing is so much bigger the difference is more than quantity. When we moved to this site in the summer of 1958, the Cadet Wing was around 700. The new class entering here, the Class of '62, brought the entire Cadet Wing up to about 1100. In recent years, single new classes have entered as many as 1604 new cadets. In those early years, we knew all our classmates. The class was the center of loyalty. Today, squadron loyalties are, of necessity, dominant; class loyalties emerge only later."

"Forty years ago our elders were hopeful that someday the Academy would become a national institution. They invested top talent from across the Air Force to achieve it. Speaking as one who returned to the Academy after a 32-year gap, it took some months to sort out what had changed from what had not changed in that time. I believe the hope of our founders has been achieved. The Academy is an institution, because the most important aspects of the Academy, those that mold superb officers, have become permanent."



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SPECIAL APPEAL

The Board of Directors are continuing to appeal to all of our loyal supporters to consider making a special donation over and above their yearly one to help bring the Catalogue project to a successful conclusion. The Friends will share the cost of publishing with the University of Washington Press. Any contribution will be very helpful. Those who contribute \$500.00 or more by January 1, 1999 will have their name recorded in the published Catalogue and will also receive a courtesy copy of this magnificent book.

Please fill out the attached form and send your check today in the self-addressed envelope. Remember, your donation is tax deductible under the Internal Revenue Service regulations.

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 airman prisoner of war experience in all wars.

Most of all, we need your continued financial support. *If you have already made a contribution in 1998, we sincerely thank you. If you have not made a 1998 contribution, please fill out the attached form and send your check today in the self-addressed envelope.*

MEMORIAL PROGRAM

Since mid-1992, The Friends has offered an attractive memorial program which has appealed to military personnel and civilians alike and especially to World War II Army Air Force veterans. Through The Friends they now can honor individuals or crews by having a certificate for the honoree placed in a handsome Honor Book on display in the Air Force Academy Library. This feature has an appeal to those who wish to remember military dependents or close associates. The Memorial Program also has a broad appeal to those who wish to remember non-military personnel. Another part of the program allows a donor to purchase books in which a book plate is inserted bearing the name of an intended honoree. Individuals may be honored in this way.

A donation of \$50 or more will purchase either type of memorial. Donations made without specific request for books or certificates will be used to meet essential Library needs that federal disbursements do not cover. All donations will help the

Air Force Academy Library become even greater.

Below is an example of a certificate prepared for several honorees. When several donors, for a total of \$50 or more contribute to the same memorial, their names are placed on the back of the certificate. Additional information about the honoree submitted by the donor and not appearing on the certificate is permanently filed in the Special Collections Branch of the Library and is available for review.

