

# NEWSLETTER

## The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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### LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALBERT P. CLARK: LEADER AND COLLEAGUE



*Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark*

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library lost a remarkable leader and colleague on March 8, 2010, with the passing of Lieutenant General Albert P. Clark.

#### **Donating a Personal Collection**

General Clark's interest in and devotion to the Academy's McDermott Library became evident during his tenure as Superintendent from August 1, 1970 through July 31, 1974. In 1973, he donated his personal collection of thirty-two firearms that had been issued to the U.S. military from the American Revolution to the war in Vietnam. This magnificent collection is permanently displayed along the Library's spiral staircase.

#### **Building the Stalag Luft III Collection**

Following his retirement from active duty in 1974, General Clark continued his interest in the Library. His initial volunteer work was developing and shaping the rich history of Stalag Luft III, the German prisoner-of-war camp made famous by the "Great Escape" of World War II and where he had been a prisoner from 1942 to 1945. The Stalag Luft III Collection began with a scrapbook, which he donated along with a many other archival materials. This collection has become the centerpiece of the prisoner-of-war holdings of the Special Collections Branch, and ranks among the finest in the world.

#### **Establishing The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library**

In February 1987, General Clark worked with the Director of Academy Libraries and the Superintendent, Lieutenant General Winfield W. Scott, to establish The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library. The Friends' organization was chartered as a tax-exempt charitable foundation dedicated to enhancing the quality of the Library.

Serving first as the secretary and later as the president of The Friends, General Clark led the organization in a myriad of projects. Under his leadership, The Friends' membership increased to over 1,000 and the organization provided over \$500,000 in gifts and services to the Library.

#### **Acquiring Collections that Trace the History of American Airpower**

One of General Clark's especially valuable services was to work closely with prospective donors. These efforts led to the acquisition of a number of historically significant collections of organizational records and personal papers tracing the evolution of American air power. Among them are the personal papers and records of members of the Eagle Squadron Association, the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders, the Women Airforce Service Pilots, and the Prisoners of War, Stalag Luft III Association. In coordination with the Air Force Academy Falcon Foundation, The Friends helped acquire the "Hap" Arnold-Murray Green Collection, which chronicles the life and military career of General of the Air Force H. H. Arnold. The Friends also supported the Library's acquisition of a major archive of materials related to the experience of American prisoners of war in Southeast Asia.

#### **Preserving and Publishing: The Colonel Richard Gimbel Collection**

In 1989, General Clark led The Friends to begin an archival conservation project to ensure preservation of the rich holdings of the Academy's Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection, the preeminent collection in the world dealing with the prehistory of flight.

In 1994, The Friends began work on an annotated bibliography of selected holdings in the Gimbel Collection. General Clark wrote the prospectus for this project, and invited internationally recognized experts to prepare annotations for the items to be included in the bibliography. Then he led the effort to raise \$250,000 to publish a catalogue of the collection

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## LIEUTENANT GENERAL ALBERT P. CLARK: LEADER AND COLLEAGUE

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through the University of Washington Press. The resulting publication, *The Genesis of Flight: The Aeronautical History Collection of Colonel Richard Gimbel*, appeared in October 2000 and received glowing reviews from scholars of the history of aeronautics worldwide.

### Remembering Aeronautical Leaders

At General Clark's suggestion, in 1992 The Friends began sponsoring a program to memorialize people, whether civilian or military, and organizations that have served the nation, the Air Force, or the Academy. Through General Clark's initiative, over 1,000 individuals and

organizations are now remembered in perpetuity with Honor Certificates.

### Appreciating an Aeronautical Birthright

The goal that motivated General Clark in his contributions to the Library was clear to all who knew him: he wanted cadets to appreciate the rich heritage of flight that was their birthright. To help cadets connect with their heritage, he not only promoted the acquisition, preservation, and publication of valuable aeronautical collections, but he also gave his time directly to cadets. He made himself available for interviews with cadets who wanted to learn firsthand about flying, fighting, and prevailing in

adversity.

### A Lasting Memorial: Lieutenant General Albert P. Clark Special Collections Branch

For more than thirty years the Library benefited from General Clark's devotion and leadership. He spent countless hours in the Special Collections Branch-building the Stalag Luft III collection, hosting potential donors of other collections, editing *The Genesis of Flight*, and working directly with cadets. Special Collections, where he did so much to strengthen the heritage of flight, is now named in his honor, a lasting memorial to a remarkable leader and colleague.

## ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AND LUNCHEON

On Tuesday, May 11, 2010, The Friends will hold its annual Board of Directors' meeting and luncheon. The Board meeting will begin at 9:30 at the Academy Falcon Club (formerly the Officers' Club). The luncheon will also be held at the Falcon Club with a social hour beginning at 11:30 and lunch at noon. We are very fortunate to have as our luncheon speaker Lt. Gen. Michael C. Gould, the Academy's Superintendent. General Gould graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1976. During his career, he served in a wide variety of command and staff positions. He has commanded an air operations group, an air refueling wing, an air mobility wing, the Cheyenne

Mountain Operations Center, and both the 3rd and 2nd Air Forces. His staff assignments have included three tours at Headquarters U.S. Air Force, senior Air Force aide to the President, and military assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force. Immediately before becoming Superintendent in 2009, General Gould was the Director of Operations and Plans for U. S. Transportation Command. It is always an honor to have the Superintendent speak. Please take this opportunity to hear directly from him about the Academy, present and future.

We will also be honoring the memory of the late Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark who passed away on 8 March. General Clark was one of the founders

of The Friends, serving as secretary and then as president for over twenty years. His dedication, example, and leadership were directly responsible for The Friends becoming one of the premier organizations of its type in the country. He left a remarkable legacy. Please join us in honoring his long and distinguished service to The Friends.

We hope you will all plan to attend this especially significant luncheon. It is always a great place to meet new people, renew old acquaintances, and learn more about The Friends' activities during the past year and what is in store for the future. Reservation forms are included with this newsletter. See you on May 11!

## BIOGRAPHY OF LT. GEN. HUBERT R. HARMON RECEIVES RAVE REVIEWS

Phillip Meilinger's biography *Hubert R. Harmon: Airman, Officer, Father of the Air Force Academy*, commissioned by The Friends and published in 2009, has received favorable comments from members of the Academy community and praise from airpower historians. In the prestigious *Journal of Military History*, Kristal Alfonson writes: "Dr. Phillip Meilinger's biography of Lieutenant General Harmon concludes with the statement 'Hubert Harmon was indeed the Father of the

Air Force Academy, the ideal man for the job.' An apt description of the man whose influence can still be felt at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) going beyond the building named for him, Harmon's continuing presence at the USAFA can be felt in the institution's vision, culture, and academic curriculum." General Harmon's life and career was also the subject of Academy's Harmon Memorial Lecture. Presented in Arnold Hall on March 2, 2010 by Dr. Meilinger, Class of 1970 and a former

member of the Academy's History Department, the lecture was well received by cadets, faculty and staff. *Hubert R. Harmon* is a benchmark publication that significantly augments the institutional history of the Academy. It is available for purchase from Fulcrum Publishing, 4690 Table Mountain Drive, Suite 100, Golden CO 80403; 303-277-1623; [www.fulcrumbooks.com](http://www.fulcrumbooks.com).

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## FRIENDS PRESERVE ACADEMY HISTORY AS SEEN BY ITS LEADERS

What began in 2002 as a Friends' program to capture views of key individuals from the formative years of the Academy has grown to a major collection of thirty-four in-depth interviews preserved in hard cover and on interactive DVDs.

Participants have included eight Superintendents, five Deans of Faculty, four Commandants, a Director of Athletics, the first Commander of the Academy Prep School, the architect who designed the Academy, and key staff members from each of the Academy's mission areas.

The collection's most recent additions are interviews with Lt. Gen. Tad Oelstrom, Lt. Gen. Ervin Rokke, Maj. Gen. John R. Dallager, and Brig. Gen. Erlind Royer.

General Oelstrom, Class of 1965, was the Academy's fourteenth Superintendent. Before becoming Superintendent, he flew 240 combat missions in F-4Es in Southeast Asia. As Superintendent, he led successful efforts to mend the Academy's deteriorating infrastructure, securing about \$40 million to modernize the original cadet dormitory, \$8 million to renovate the cadet chapel, and \$20 million to upgrade the academic building as well as build a new Family Support Center. He also initiated the Exemplar Program in which each cadet class chooses an

honorary mentor or exemplar to study and follow.

General Rokke, Class of 1962, was the Academy's fifth Dean of Faculty. The first graduate to become Dean and the first to go on to other Air Force assignments afterwards, General Rokke led the first major update of the Academy's academic curriculum in twenty-five years. This effort maintained a solid foundation in humanities and social sciences while also accommodating rapid changes in engineering and basic sciences. In later assignments General Rokke served as a Defense Attaché and as President of the National Defense University.

General Dallager, Class of 1969, was the Academy's fifteenth Superintendent. Before taking over at the Academy, he flew more than 600 combat hours in fighters over Southeast Asia, Southwest Asia, and Bosnia, and commanded the 13th Air Force in the Pacific. While Superintendent, he worked to strengthen the Cadet Honor Code and to overcome problems with sexual abuse and drugs within the cadet wing. General Dallager also dealt with the challenge of force protection at the Academy after the attacks of September 11, 2001.

General Royer was the Academy's sixth Dean of Faculty. While head of the Survivability Section in the

Command and Control Branch at SHAPE and before becoming Dean, he developed the policy for electromagnetic pulse protection for the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe and a command and control plan for NATO. He also directed installation of the first Academy-wide computer network and the installation of microcomputers throughout the cadet dorms. As Professor and Head of the USAFA Department of Electrical Engineering he directed the installation of the first Academy-wide computer network. As Dean, he worked with academic departments to integrate computers throughout the curriculum, and with the Commandant and the Director of Athletics on measures to increase cadet pride in being at the Academy.

These recent additions, along with the earlier interviews, comprise a vital collection of lasting value to the Academy. The timeliness and urgency of this Friends' project are apparent in the fact that no fewer than eight of the participants have passed away since giving their interviews. Thanks to the Friends, the insights, wisdom gained, and lessons learned by those eight will continue to inform generations of Superintendents, Deans, Commandants, and others in the Academy community as they deal with challenges of the future.

## NAMES ADDED TO THE FRIENDS' MEMORIAL WALL WEBSITE

Several years ago The Friends created on its website an interactive database of information about Air Force Academy graduates killed as a result of hostile action during a state of military conflict. The project's continuing goal is to assemble all the available material dealing with the adult lives of the graduates whose names are now or will be inscribed on the Academy's Graduate Memorial Wall. This project reflects The Friends' commitment to being the premier Academy organization for recording and preserving the institution's heritage.

In 2009 the following graduates died as a result of hostile action; their names and information about

them have been added to The Friends' website:

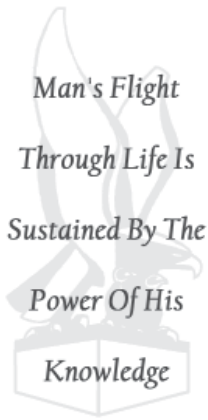
- 1st Lt Rosyln L. Schulte, Class of 2006, was killed by a roadside bomb outside of Kabul, Afghanistan, on May 20, 2009. She was an Air Force intelligence officer working with the Afghan National Army. She is the first female graduate to be killed by the enemy in combat.

- Capt Mark R. McDowell, Class of 2005, was an F-15E pilot who went down after flying for several hours in support of ground troops in the Ghanzi Province, Afghanistan. He died on July 17, 2009.

- 1st Lt Joseph D. Helton, Class of 2007, was an Air Force

Security Forces officer working with Iraqi forces. He was killed on September 28, 2009, while on patrol in Balad, Iraq, when an IED exploded near his vehicle.

Currently the names of 174 graduates have been selected to be listed on the Memorial Wall. That listing, along with extensive background on each individual, can be accessed by visiting The Friends' website at [www.friends.usafalibrary.com](http://www.friends.usafalibrary.com) and following the Memorial Wall link. We encourage you to enjoy the fruits of this historic project. The Friends believe it will have impact for decades to come - indeed as long as the Academy exists.



## UPDATE FROM THE MCDERMOTT LIBRARY

Dr. Ed Scott, Director of the Academy's McDermott Library, and Steve Maffeo, Assistant Director, are on committees to review proposals from architectural and engineering firms designing Library renovation and expansion.

Because the Special Collections Branch provides cadets, faculty, and outside researchers with significant primary source materials, you might be interested in some examples of their use. During the fall semester, cadets drew upon the following sources: the *1688 Royal Commentaries of Peru*, a Spanish translation of an Incan book for a paper on the Spanish conquest of Peru and Mexico; the account of a World War II airman who was captured in Yugoslavia and rescued in a daring Allied air operation and multi-lingual escape chits from US operations in Bosnia during the 1990s for a paper on the history of Serbia; the Eagle Squadron collection for a paper which analyzed the motives of its pilots; and materials from the Stalag Luft III collection and the Class of 1965 oral history project with Vietnam POWs for papers on the prisoner-of-war experience; The Special Collections Branch also supported the Academy curriculum by posting records (for the first time) on the cadet shared drive— construction photographs for a Civil Engineering course.

Faculty and other official researchers also made extensive use of the primary sources deposited in Special Collections. They included a history professor who was translating French accounts of the siege of Venice in 1849 and the siege of Paris in 1870 because both involved balloons; participants in this year's Military History Symposium on the history of USAFA; the Dean's office for files concerning mandatory breakfast and religion; the Chapel staff for copies of photographs for an exhibit commemorating the anniversary of the building's groundbreaking; and retired Air Force Col. Jack Anthony for photographs of the early communities that lived on the Academy site.

Thanks to the efforts of Karen Millis, use by outside researchers has also increased, particularly for telephone and email requests. Scholars in the history of communications have used materials on George Squier because of his work with early telegraphs, while a publisher was most grateful to get a Jacobs Collection photograph for her children's book about Ellis Island. Generally, the documents requested are scanned and e-mailed to the researcher, but in February a French author hired a local researcher to make digital copies of Eagle Squadron logbooks and aircraft photos because they were so extensive. Other visitors included Dr. Mimi Kim, whose book on early ballooning will be published shortly; Ted Young, affiliated with the Boeing Museum in Seattle, who copied many WWII aircraft photographs taken by Mark Brown; and Bob Dempster who used the Lee Wade Papers to build his "Seattle" replica for an around-the world flight.

## LET US HEAR FROM YOU

Over the years The Friends has worked on programs and projects suggested or requested by the staff and faculty of the Air Force Academy or by the Director of the McDermott Library. Additional programs were originated by the Directors of The Friends.

Now we would like to hear from you, our patrons. If you have suggestions for additional projects that we may be able to do, or if you have questions or comments, please let us know. Contact us at [friends@usafalibrary.com](mailto:friends@usafalibrary.com) or at P.O. Box 188, U. S. Air Force Academy, CO 80840-0188.

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