





Volume 10 Number 7 Ed Reynolds Publisher Established May 2014 Email Wings News at Ed\_ReynoldsJr@msn.com July 1, 2023 Ed Reynolds Editor

# **Gordon Howard Museum Tour**



Photo by Larry Kushner

# On June 8, 2023, A group from Wings Over Wendy's toured the Gordon Howard Museum in Burbank.

Click on link to see a video of the tour:

(Continued page 2)

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Attending the event were: Lee Ambers, Ron Boggess, Max Carlisle, Barry Chapman, Bob Donovan, Bob Eisenhart, Nancy Eisenhart, Bill Garland, David Greenberg, Andy Kopetzky, Victor Korechoff, Penny Korechoff, Larry Kushner, Kurt Rademacher, Ed Reynolds, Michael Sugar, David Timmerman, Maurice Vasquez, and Karen Velarde.

Mac Carlisle produced a video of the tour. See the link



Following the tour, the group had lunch at the Pinocchio Restaurant in Burbank.



Officer's & Airmen's Association



#### **Condor Squadron Annual Fund Raiser**

On June 17, 2023, a group of Wings Over Wendy's

members attended the Condor Squadron Annual Fund Raiser, Dinner, Dance & Auction in the Condor Squadron facility at the Van Nuys Airport. Ron and Diane Ross sponsored a table for ten Wings Over Wendy's members. Additional members purchased tickets. The Wings Over Wendy's attendees participated in the fundraising auctions. Anne Marie Radel won the heads and tails game; other members won silent action items and contributed to the auction.

Attending the event were: Lee Auger, Cherie Auger, Max Carlisle, Michael Castro, Bob Donovan, Bob Eisenhart, David Greenberg, Peter Helm, Andy Kopetzky, Larry Kushner, Anne Marie Radel, Ed Reynolds, and Karen Velarde.

> <u>June 2023</u> <u>Meetings</u> <u>June 5, 2023</u>



Photo by Larry Kushner

#### Auburn Owner Steve Randall

On June 5, 2023, Steve Randall, the owner of the yellow Auburn antique convertible in the Memorial Day parade scheduled to carry Barney Leone, explained to the group what caused the car not to start. Barney was one of the Parade Marshalls and was number two in line at the parade's start. Steve's car failed to start due to an ignition problem, and Barney was transferred to the Wings Over Wendy's truck. Steve explained the problem and the fix and apologized to Wings Over Wendy's for not driving Barney in a solo vehicle. Steve is a Board Member of the West Hills Neighborhood Council and informed the group that they are eligible to vote in the Board Election because we meet in West Hills.



Photo by Larry Kushner

#### **Ed Reynolds Receives** the City of Los Angeles **Certificate of** Recognition

On behalf of Councilmember Bob Blumenfield, Bill Ratner presented Ed Reynolds a City of Los Angeles Certificate of Recognition for dedication and leadership in a unique organization composed of service members, supporters, and enthusiasts interested in military history and flight.



# Chris Rushing,

## **Condor Squadron**

On June 5, 2023, President Condor Squadron Chris Rushing conducted the featured presentation.

He told us about the Squadron's formation to honor those that served through flight. They own six airplanes plus two privately owned ones.



Photo by Larry Kushner

The six they own and one of the two privately owned. Chris next discussed the Reno Air Races with a statement from the National Championship Air Races Association:

"After nearly 60 years of air racing in northern Nevada, 2023 will be the last National Championship Air Races at the Reno-Stead Airport. While we knew this day might come, we had hoped it wouldn't come so soon. Citing the region's significant growth amongst other concerns, the Reno Tahoe Airport Authority has decided to sunset the event."



**Rob Sandberg** (Continued page 4)

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Accompanying Chris was Rob Sandberg, one of the aircraft owners in the Condor Squadron, Head of Flight Operations, T-6 Flight Instructor, and pilot of the T-6 Pace plane at the Reno Races.

After informing the group that the last races at Stead Field would be in September, Ethel Margolin told him that was when she turns 101. Chris invited her to have her birthday party at his pit at the Air Races. That would be an interesting event!

Chris then talked about the founding of the Squadron in 1962 by Richard "Dick" Sykes and Walter Morrison. Dick and Clay Lacey flew the first Condor Squadron mission o July 4, 1962, and in 1969, the facility was built on the west side of the airport with direct access to the west taxiway.

We then saw the video KTLA Condors Pearl Harbor 2012 in which Chris explained that every year the Squadron has a bombing competition dropping bags of flour "bombs" on a target to simulate the December 7 bombing of Pearl Harbor. The purpose is to honor the men and women that survived that day.

The next video was about the WASP in the 2013 Rose Bowl Parade and a celebration at the Condor Squadron facility. The last video was Wolfe Air Condor which describes the training of a T-6 pilot to fly the Condor Squadron.

Chris then opened up to answer questions from the audience.

Rob Sandberg told us about his crash on the westbound 101 near Liberty Canyon. He was not injured, but the airplane caught fire. They salvaged a wing, and it is hung in the Squadron's bar.



Photo by Larry Kushner Ed Reynolds presents Chris Rushing with a Certificate of Appreciation and Wings Over Wendy's Bumper Stickers.

# June 12, 2023



Memoirs of an OSS Operative in WWII China

#### Susan Haigh Memoirs of an OSS Operative in WWII China

On June 12, 2023, the featured presenter, Susan Haigh, talked about her father's memoirs as an OSS Operative in WWII China. Susan is active in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) chapters in Pasadena and La Canada for 7 years. She developed this presentation as a member of the state society's speakers bureau to give it all over Southern CA.

Her DAR work has focused on veterans for the last four years. Susan served as the district rep to VA Loma Linda's VA Voluntary Services board for 3 years, focusing on veteran women and homeless veterans issues. She now works on Project Patriot, active military programs for the Camp Pendleton USO and with Operation Gratitude.

Susan started the presentation by discussing the background of her Father, who wrote his memoirs in chapters.

Chapter 1 Fraternity to Foochow – 1944. Her father had lost a kidney in his youth. As a Colorado College student, he repeatedly applied for a commission in the Military Branches and was rejected as 4-F. But, in April 1944, he was accepted into the War Department Military Intelligence Division Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

As a civilian, he was trained to be a spy and gather intelligence in occupied countries.

(Continued page 5)



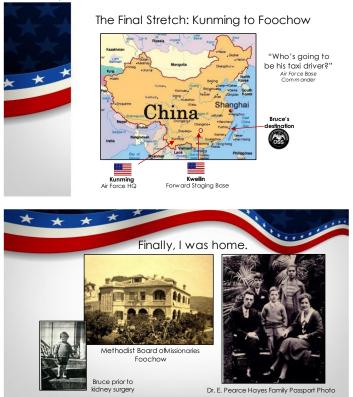
Susan described the OSS, which her father had joined as a civilian. She listed some of the famous civilian members of the OSS:



She described her father's training at "The Farm" in Langley, VA, especially using a Fairbairm-Sykes fighting knife, how to grip it, and where to stab an enemy.



Susan described that her father was selected to join the OSS because of his background of growing up in China and his knowledge of a Chinese language dialect. Following his OSS training, he was sent to his boyhood home in China. By 1944 the Burma Road was no longer available, and he had to fly into China "over the hump" into the US Army Air Force HQ in Kunming. From there, he flew to a Forward Staging Base in Kweilin and on to (Fuzhou) Foochow,



Susan described the family background in Foochow, showing pictures of their home.

She then discussed the three missions her father was assigned and his reaction to the feasibility of executing the missions.

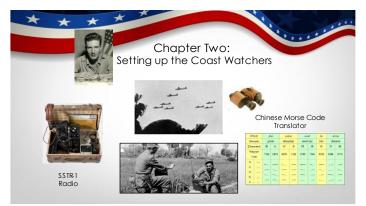
#### Mission #1:



Note the Japanese had not been able to control the Southeast Coast and the Straight of Formosa. (Taiwan)

Mission #2: Rescue downed Air Force flyers and return them to Kweilin.

Mission #3: Clear the occupied territory for a landing by MacArthur. (Continued page 6)



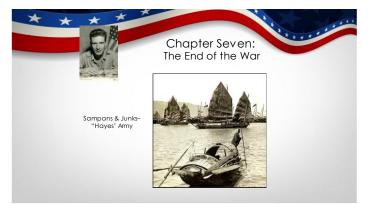
Susan then described her father's actions in setting up Coast Watchers.



Surprising to the WOW group was the knowledge that Pirates were still active during the war. At one point, they decided to "Capture" Susan's father and sell him to the Japanese. When the Pirates discussed how much they should sell Susan's father for, he cussed at them in their unique delict. They were so surprised that he knew their language and the cus words they decided to let him go.



The next adventure Susan described was her father was tasked to find a Japanese Ki-84 "Frank" fighter that had crashed in his area and report back to the US Army a description of the equipment on the aircraft. While working on the wreckage, a munition exploded, severely injuring his hand. He got a childhood friend in the area that had received medical training to repair the wound. He was sent to Kunming for additional treatment and would be returned to the US, but an OSS Colnenl intervened to have him return to his Coastal Watch duties.



Reading from her father's memoir, he described his successes near the end of the war, capturing islands and coastal villages, learning about the atomic bombs, the Japanese surrender, and his return to the States by ship.



Since he was a civilian employee of the OSS, he was not eligible for G.I. benefits and was told never to talk about his OSS service or his experiences in the war for years.

It was a fascinating presentation.



Photo by Larry Kushner Bob Eienhart and Ed Reynolds present Susan Haigh a Certificate of Appreciation and Wings Over Wendy's Bumper Stickers.

## June 19, 2023



#### The Cold War: Seven Minutes to Midnight

On June 19, 2023, the ECRCHS could not find support staff to open the Auditorium on the Juneteenth holiday, so the physical meeting was not held, and only a Zoom meeting was conducted.

The featured presentation was the video "The Cold War: Seven Minutes to Midnight." It was a 55-minute documentary exploring the Cold War's history between the United States and the Soviet Union.

The end of the Second World War was met with riotous jubilation at the victory over the Axis powers. With the establishment of the United Nations, there was the dream of a new world order of freedom, prosperity, and peace. Even the advent of the Atom Bomb, the decisive weapon that ended the war, was celebrated for it was believed it was so powerful it would render warfare obsolete.

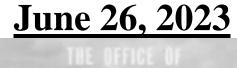
Even before the guns fell silent, concerned whispers were being shared in the halls of power regarding the capitalist Allies of the West and the communists in the East who hitherto had been united against Fascism. With there no longer being a common enemy to unite them, age-old rivalries and fears began to re-emerge.

The Western Allies of America, Britain, Canada, and France had not forgotten that the Soviet leader Stalin had worked with the Nazis to carve up Eastern Europe before Germany invaded Poland in 1939. They were also concerned about Stalin's refusal to surrender his grip on territories in eastern Europe, which the Red Army had liberated, and his land grab in Asia during his last-minute intervention in the Pacific theatre against Japan.

Stalin himself, as paranoid as ever, was convinced that the Western allies deliberately delayed the D-Day landings to bleed the Soviet Union of its people to weaken the vast country. The fact that American soldiers had fought in the Russian Civil War against the Communists in 1919 only helped fuel his belief that after Napoleon and Hitler, the next leader to take a massive army into the Soviet Union would be American. With both America and the Soviet Union having suffered devastating surprise attacks in the war, they were both determined that it would never happen again.

They readied their armies to fight what would prove to be one of the most abstract conflicts in history – the Cold War. The following is an outline of the documentary:

- Introduction
- What is a Cold War?
- Phase 1 1945 1960
- The Berlin Airlift
- NATO
- Stalin's Atom Bomb
- The Bomber Gap
- The Korean War 1950-1953
- The Warsaw Pact
- Intelligence gathering efforts
- Cuba, Hungary, and Suez 1956
- Dawn of the ICBM
- Phase 2 1960 1970
- The Vietnam War
- Phase 3 1970 1981,
- Only Nixon could go to China
- The Soviets in the 70s
- The Invasion of Afghanistan
- Phase 4 1981 1986, Enter Ronald Reagan
- The Strategic Defence Initiative "Star Wars"
- Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND)
- Final Phase 1986 1991,
- Chernobyl and Glasnost
- Aftermath





# Motion Picture History Of The Korean War Armed Forces Info Film

(Continued page 8)

The featured presentation on June 26, 2023, was **A** *Motion Picture History of the Korean War* - **Armed Forces Info Film**. The film is a documentary that describes the Korean War. The film begins with a brief overview of Korea's geography and its capital city, Seoul, as it rebuilds following the war. While it is relatively quiet today, on 25 June 1950, artillery shots marked an all-out attack on South Korea from the communist North, prompting President Harry Truman to authorize military intervention.

The film covers the significant events of the war such as the Inchon landing and the recapture of Seoul by General MacArthur. It also describes the role of the United Nations in the conflict and how it was able to help South Korea. The documentary also shows how the USArmy adapted to the harsh conditions of the Korean War and how it fought effectively against the North Korean Army.

World War II divided Korea into a Communist northern half and an American-occupied southern half, divided at the 38th Parallel. The Korean War (1950-1953) began when the North Korean Communist army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded non-Communist South Korea. As Kim Il-sung's North Korean army, armed with Soviet tanks, quickly overran South Korea, the United States came to South Korea's aid. General Douglas MacArthur, who had been overseeing the post-WWII occupation of Japan, commanded the US forces, which now began to hold off the North Koreans at Pusan, at the southernmost tip of Korea.

With the US, UN, and South Korean (ROK) forces pinned against the sea at Pusan, MacArthur orchestrated a daring amphibious assault on Inchon, a port on the western coast of Korea. Having made this landing, MacArthur crushed the North Korean army in a pincer movement and recaptured Seoul, the capital of South Korea. Instead of being satisfied with his rapid reconquest of South Korea, MacArthur crossed the 38th Parallel and pursued the North Korean army to the northernmost provinces of North Korea. Afraid that the US was interested in taking North Korea as a base for operations against Manchuria, the People's Republic of China secretly sent an army across the Yalu River. This Chinese army attacked the US/UN/ROK forces. Only after the appointment of Lt. General Matthew Ridgway as commander of ground forces did American morale improved, and the initiative began to swing against the Chinese Communists.

Although President Truman hoped to end the war quickly and pressed MacArthur to be more tactful, the brilliant strategist went against presidential orders and continued spouting incendiary lines about his hopes to reunify Korea. After gaining the support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS), Truman relieved MacArthur of command. The move was extremely unpopular in America; MacArthur was perceived as a popular war hero. Only the support of the JCS saved Truman from impeachment after the firing. Communists with strong fortifications and entrenchments just north of the 38TH Parallel, sending occasional offensives against the Iron Triangle, the Communists' staging area for attacks into South Korea. Peace negotiations dragged on at Kaesong, then moved and continued to drag at Panmunjom through 1951 and 1952. The US tried using strategic bombing to intimidate the Communists into negotiating a peace treaty, but they wouldn't budge, particularly on the issue of POW (Prisoner of War) repatriation. Neither side wanted to appear weak, so the talks continued, occasionally breaking down for months. Only after Eisenhower, a war hero unafraid of Republican criticism (since he was a Republican), became President could the US make substantial concessions to the Communists. In 1953 a peace treaty was signed at Panmunjom that ended the Korean War, returning Korea to a divided status essentially the same as before the war. Neither the war nor its outcome did much to lessen the era's Cold War tension.

Korea and its neighbor Manchuria had been of great importance to the USSR, the PRC (People's Republic of China), and Japan since the nineteenth century. Following this tradition, the USSR attempted to occupy Korea after World War II. Not wanting the Soviets to grab too much territory, the US occupied the southern half of Korea, south of the 38th Parallel. Much as it had in Germany just after World War Two, these two occupations set the status quo: North Korea, that area of the Korean peninsula north of the 38th Parallel, became Communist, while South Korea was the province of a nationalist, anti-communist government.

The Korean War erupted on June 25, 1950, in the middle of the burgeoning Cold War. It was an international struggle between the US and the USSR for world domination their competing ideologies. of Democracy/Capitalism versus Communism. While the Soviet Union never got directly involved in the fighting, it did supply North Korea with weapons and supplies. On the other hand, the US committed its own troops as part of a UN international-peace keeping force. In reality, the UN force was in name only; the troops were almost entirely American forces, with some American allies. The Korean War was the first time it became clear that we could use the UN as a foreign policy tool.

It is somewhat surprising that only a few years after letting enormous China turn Communist without getting seriously involved, as well as watching Eastern Europe fall under the "iron curtain," the US would then become embroiled in an Asian land war over the fate of strategically insignificant Korea. The Korean War thus represented an important shift in US Cold War policy. By 1950, a loss to communism anywhere was thought of as a loss everywhere. The beginnings of the later Domino Theory were already present in an early form.

Ridgway took MacArthur's command and held off the

(Continued page 9)

The US got involved in Korea to save face and to appear strong against communism, not because Korea was vital to American interests. Somewhat ironically, South Korea was only a sham democracy under Syngman Rhee, who was just as tyrannical as North Korea's Kim II-Sung. Once again, this set a Cold War pattern for the US: support of anti-communists who were quite blatantly dictators themselves and the tautological justification of that US support for the simple reason that these dictators were anticommunist.

One of the significant results of the Korean War was that it gave the US reason to increase its military expenditure four-fold. Under Truman, military expenditure increased rapidly, laying the foundations for the so-called military-industrial complex that existed throughout the Cold War. Perhaps on a more positive note, it was during the Korean War that black and white troops were first integrated into the US army, an important step to civil rights. The Korean War also strengthened the US relationship with Britain, which sent troops for the UN peacekeeping force. Finally, during the Korean War (and partially because of it), the Democratic monopoly of the Presidency, going back to before World War II, finally ended with the election of Eisenhower.

Another result of the Korean War was the ascendance of the People's Republic of China onto the world stage. Fighting against the US, China received aid from the Soviets, helping them to become a major military power. The US had proved the fulcrum in both World War One and World War Two, with its forces providing the force needed for its European allies to overcome its enemies. The Chinese forces, however, fought the US to a standstill, as represented by the reinstitution of the 38th Parallel as the dividing line between North and South; in fighting against the US in the first war, the United States entered and did not win, China established itself as a power to be reckoned with and a communist power at that.

The Korean War also proved the tenacity and skill of the Communist Asian militaries, which would be reaffirmed by the Vietnam War in the 1960s. Remarkable similarities exist between the Korean War and the Vietnam War, from the US support of a dictatorial and corrupt anticommunist regime to its conception of communism as a monolithic entity, under which all communist nations were necessarily allies rather than individuals to be dealt with separately. However, through those parallels, Vietnam-era policy-makers did not apply the lessons of the Korean War to the Vietnam War. Rather, they did not seem to recognize those lessons as lessons and repeated many of their previous mistakes in the Vietnam War.

The Korean War also showed a single individual's impact on history. General MacArthur's brilliant strategies, willfulness, egomania, and refusal to obey orders dramatically influenced the war's outcome positively and negatively.

Finally, the Korean War demonstrated the new terms of the new post-WWII era and showed how difficult it would be to fight a limited war under those terms. Although the United States attempted to keep the war on a very small scale, it quickly snowballed out of proportion, involving China, at times seeming like it might become a World War III. Looking at another way, though, the Korean War can be considered a success. Although the war did sometimes get out of hand, the US and the USSR could avoid confrontation, especially since the USSR fought mainly by proxy. Perhaps most importantly of all, though it was fought just five years after Hiroshima and Nagasaki were bombed, the Korean War was not an atomic war, avoiding both the possibility of an immediate nuclear holocaust (since the USSR by then had its own bombs) and setting a pattern that would continue throughout the Cold War. 

# <text>

U.S. Air National Guard photo by Senior Airman Jacob Hancock Members of the 114th Electromagnetic Warfare Squadron, Florida National Guard, operate a satellite at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Florida, Jan. 8, 2023. The unit's federal mission is to deliver offensive counterspace and space situational awareness to rapidly achieve flexible and versatile effects in support of global and theater campaigns.

#### **Space National Guard Gains Steam in House**

June 13, 2023 | By Greg Hadley

The House Armed Services personnel subcommittee advanced legislation on June 12 to establish a Space National Guard and to pave the way for part-time Guardians rather than form a Space Force Reserve.

Subcommittee members voted to turn the 14 units and 1,000 space-focused Airmen in the Air National Guard into a new Space National Guard. Lawmakers also offered a measure requiring the Space Force to maintain a single personnel management system rather than creating a separate Space Force Reserve.

(Continued page 10)

To become law, the proposals must first clear the House Armed Services Committee when it meets June 23 to vote on amendments, then survive a vote by the full House, and finally survive a conference committee that must reconcile any differences between the House and Senate versions of the final National Defense Authorization Act.

So while still far from certain, the plan represents the most far-reaching step yet in a debate that has been argued since the Space Force was born: Whether or not the National Guard would have a Space mission and whether or not the Space Force could carve a path to a simpler force management construct than that of the Air Force, with its active and two reserve components.

The question of a Space National Guard has been hotly debated for years. Proponents—including the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS), the Air & Space Forces Association (AFA), and lawmakers from states with space-focused units—say a separate Guard is needed because Air National Guard units with space missions are "orphaned" in the current organizational structure, unattached to the Space Force but left with no corresponding Air Force units.

National Guardsmen already provide an indispensable core capability for the Space Force and Space Command. Specifically, "...Airman assigned to 16 units across seven states and one territory provide 60 percent of [our] ... space electronic war [capabilities], [and] 50 percent of [our] protected satellite communications."

"Air National Guard personnel provide fundamental capability to the Space Force today," said AFA President & CEO Lt. Gen. Bruce Wright, USAF (Ret.). "Logically, moving those Guardsmen into the Space Force is the right thing to do, ensuring space remains under the control of a single service. A New Space National Guard does not need to be large and unwieldy. It can comprise just those units we have today. And it can do so without a lot of complicated infrastructure."

Critics—including the White House and multiple Senate leaders—argue a Space National Guard would cost too much, create added layers of bureaucracy, and is unnecessary since there are no specific missions for which states need military space forces.

The House has approved Space National Guard proposals before, only to see them die later in the process. In the 2022 and 2023 NDAAs, Space Guard passed the House but were killed in conference when Senate and House leaders reconciled their bills.

Meanwhile, the White House and the Pentagon want a single component and have held to that position for months. This year's plan is different because the HASC personnel subcommittee appears to have incorporated elements of both ideas.

"We authorize the establishment of the Space National Guard and set a new personnel management benchmark by authorizing the creation of an innovative personnel management system for the Space Force," subcommittee chair Rep. Jim Banks (R-Ind.) said in a hearing.

The language on the Space National Guard is lifted from the Space National Guard Establishment Act, introduced by Rep. Jason Crow (D-Colo.) earlier this year. The bill addresses some concerns about cost by specifying that it does not "authorize or require the relocation of any facility, infrastructure, or military installation of the Space National Guard or Air National Guard." Critics have argued creating a new Guard would require new facilities that would cost hundreds of millions of dollars.

The portion creating the single personnel management system is extensive—140 or so pages—as it adjusts sections of U.S. law dealing with how Reserve forces are typically managed to account for the Space Force's proposed new structure.

At its heart, the legislation would get rid of the idea of a "Regular Space Force" and a "regular reserve" and create one unified system consisting of full-time, part-time, and inactive Guardians. Those on active status who work fulltime will be referred to as on "sustained duty," while parttime personnel on active status will still need to either:

- Participate in 48 drills or training periods and spend 14 days on active duty
- Spend at least 30 days on active duty

Proponents say such an arrangement would benefit the Space Force by allowing Guardians to more easily switch from full-time to part-time and back again, as compared to the Reserve forces of the other military branches.

The language also clarifies that members of the Air Force Reserve with space-related jobs could transfer over into the Space Force. The Air Force Reserve's main spacefocused unit is the 310th Space Wing, with roughly 1,100 military and civilian personnel.

Still, some parts of the legislation will have to be clarified—while the bill states the Space Force "shall be managed ... without component," the section on the Space Guard states that it will be designated as the "reserve component" of the Space Force.

(Continued 11)

The Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard are both reserve components for the Air Force, but the Reserve is always under federal control, while the Guard can be activated for state-level missions. A single personnel management system for the Space Force would reduce the number of organizations on the federal level.



Photo caption: Princess President John Padgett, center, presents retired Lt. Colonel James H. Harvey III with a cake on Discovery Princess to celebrate his 100th birthday.

### Princess Salutes Tuskegee Airmen with Special 100th Birthday Celebration

#### James Shillinglaw, May 22, 2023

With a patriotic salute and special celebration, Princess Cruises welcomed one of the few surviving Tuskegee Airmen onboard Discovery Princess in Seattle as he arrived for his celebratory cruise to Alaska, marking an early commemoration of his 100th birthday. Lieutenant Colonel James H. Harvey III, retired United States Army Air Corps and Air Force officer (USAF), shattered racial barriers in the military as a part of a group of African American pilots who served their country with legendary distinction during World War II.

To honor Harvey, the McChord Field Honor Guard welcomed him and his family aboard Discovery Princess with a USAF traditional display of presenting colors. Topping out the festivities, the Discovery Princess crew presented Lt. Col. Harvey with a birthday cake while hundreds of the ship's company joined in wishing him a happy birthday.

"It's our sincere honor to celebrate the 100th birthday of Lieutenant Colonel Harvey III, a trailblazer, hero, and real 'Top Gun," said Padgett. "His life and legacy should remind everyone the power of courage, determination, resilience and the American spirit. From all of us at Princess Cruises, we salute Lt. Col. Harvey and wish him a very happy 100th birthday!"

Born in Montclair, N.J., on July 13, 1923, Harvey is a former fighter pilot with the 332nd Fighter Groups 99th Squadron, best known as the Tuskegee Airmen, "Red Tails," one of 1,007 documented pilots trained for aerial combat during World War II. He is best known as the first African American USAF jet fighter combat pilot to fight in the Korean War and flew 140 missions from 1949 to 1950. Harvey, along with every member of the Tuskegee Airmen, received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2006.

In addition, Harvey won the USAF's first "Top Gun" competition in 1949, when he and his team lead a 10-day event on aerial gunnery at 20,000 and 12,000 feet, dive bombing, skip bombing, rocketing firing and panel strafing. After serving a combined 22 years (1943-1965) in the United States Army Air Corps and the United States Air Force, Harvey retired, joined Oscar Mayer as a corporate salesman, and settled his family of four girls in Denver, where he still resides.

During the upcoming voyage Harvey will share insights from his storied service and remarkable life experiences with other guests as part of a scheduled onboard discussion. Discovery Princess is currently sailing on week-long, roundtrip cruises from Seattle to Alaska, departing every Sunday through September. For more information, visit <u>www.princess.com</u>.



Secretary of the Air Force Frank Kendall listens to comments while testifying before the House Armed Services Committee for the Department of the Air Force fiscal year 2024 budget request, Washington, D.C., April 27, 2023. U.S. Air Force photo by Eric Dietrich

Air Force 'Doesn't Just Need Airplanes' to Modernize, Kendall Says (Continued page 12) Air Force Secretary Frank Kendall insists the service needs to modernize rapidly to face the threat of China. But modernization does not just mean fielding new aircraft, Kendall and other service leaders argue—the Air Force also needs to retire its aging airplanes.

"The truth is the Air Force needs things like electric warfare, battle management, intelligence, cyber capabilities, all of these things," Kendall said at the Ash Carter Exchange defense conference on May 9. "It doesn't just need airplanes."

"As the character of warfare changes," Kendall added, the Air Force will become just as much about those new systems as "traditional platforms."

"We're having to divest some of those to free up resources to move forward," Kendall said. "There's been resistance to that in the past."

That means the service—and lawmakers—have to make hard choices, Kendall said, while acknowledging that political realities also come into play.

"I know it's hard, locally, in particular, to divest aircraft," Kendall said.

The Air Force needs to acknowledge that lawmakers do not want jobs and resources taken away from their constituents and try to ensure it brings "similar value to the local communities" as it modernizes, Kendall said.

The service has made progress on that front recently. After years of Congress saying "No" to the Air Force's attempts to divest some of its aging fleet, the legislature has started to relent some, going along with the service's requests to retire platforms like the A-10 "Warthog" and E-3 AWACS.

In fiscal 2024, the Air Force plans to retire 310 aircraft, including even more A-10s and E-3s, as well as 32 older F-22s. The F-22s in particular are aircraft the Air Force unsuccessfully tried to retire last year, facing pushback on and off Capitol Hill. But Kendall said the A-10s and E-3s were "increasingly obsolete and very difficult to maintain" and the early F-22s "are not fully combat capable."

If it can, Kendall said, the Air Force wants to replace retired aircraft with similar systems, such as replacing an aging fighter unit with new fighter aircraft. If not, Kendall said the Air Force wants to convince lawmakers that a new unit is something with "longevity."

For example, as the service gets rid of A-10s at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., it plans to stand up a new "Power Projection Wing."

This year, Kendall sounded optimistic that the service's reasoning and messaging is getting through.

"I'm going to express my appreciation to the Congress," he said.

For now, the Department of the Air Force has wrapped up the unveiling of its fiscal 2024 budget to Congress, including advocating for aircraft divestitures. After fielding a myriad of questions from lawmakers during a series of hearings, Kendall has one main takeaway: Congress must act.

"Now we're going to wait," Kendall said, reiterating his frustration at political gridlock—which Kendall said will almost certainly lead to a delayed budget of at least three months.

Kendall came into his role in 2021 with the goal to modernize the Air Force and build out the Space Force to meet the threat of China. His seven "operational imperatives" have shaped that modernization effort over the past two years, and the Department's budget is now aligned with those goals, he said, with aircraft divestitures making up one piece.

"These are operating problems we have to solve to be effective against the emerging threat and moving forward fairly rapidly," Kendall said. "China is not wasting any time."

"They've surprised me a couple of times," said Kendall, who spent decades as a Pentagon official before returning as Air Force Secretary. "They're not waiting for us to do things. They're thinking ahead and moving forward. We have to be competitive."

#### Monday Zoom Meeting Agenda

The URL is always the same:

https://us04web.zoom.us/j/661372701?pwd=NEZCWjl MUTArRW1tREtWUWRLNmpDQT09

- Meet & Greet starts at 8:00 am.
- The formal meeting starts at 9:30 am.
- Visitors and guests interviewed about 9:40 am.
- The presentation starts around 10 am

#### Meeting ID: 661 372 701 Password: 200220 THE MEETING ID and PASSWORD DO NOT CHANGE



#### WOW Events Calendar Additions

Because of Wings Over Wendy's members' high participation in their events, the **teamup.com WOW Events Calendar** has been extended to include: ANA Meetings, MOAA/MOWW Meetings, and Operation Gratitude Events.

The key is: kswpwdaeovnb1jans4





20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year 9409 Owensmouth Ave, Chatsworth

July 19 Wednesday, 9 am - 12 pm Sign up to attend @ <u>https://www.operationgratitude.com/v</u> olunteer-at-the-fob/ For Help with your Zoom Connection Contact: Charles Scott (818) 448-1737

#### pcinfoman@gmail.com.

Charles has offered to help Wings Over Wendy's members with their computer problems for FREE.

### Prayers

Unfortunately, several of our most active members are at home, recuperating from their injuries or illnesses. Our prayers are for a speedy recovery:

Steve Anderson & Shirley Andrews's son John

#### <u>Memoriam</u>

During June 2023, we learned that a long-time Wings Over Wendy's Monday member died.



Hillard Lewinson 05/13/1926 – 06/03/2023

#### **July Birthdays**

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Max Carlisle	July	03	1983
Dave Steinbacher	July	06	1937
Kurt Rademacher	July	07	1961
Gary LaPook	July	08	1947
Avery Willis	July	11	1943
Gordon Fell	July	18	1947
Nathan Wolfstein	July	21	1949
Charles Scott	July	25	1962
David Timmerman	July	31	1963
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#### Wings News Patrons

The following is a list of WOW members who have contributed \$10 to fund the publication for **10 months.** 

**David Alvarez** Steve Andersen **Lillian Anderson** Lee Auger Peggy Jean Bassett **Bob Bermant Thyra Boeckmann** John Boiko **Richard Burns Michael Castro** Harvey Cohen **Ricard Dunner** Jan Fdwards **Mike Emch Gordon Fell Carter Greene Marilyn Hauck Richard Hernandez Neil Houston Carol Jensen Steve Klausner** Andy Kopetzky **Robert Lee** Hillard Lewinson Vivian Lewis **Morris Litwack Barry Maiten Claude Maugein Dan Pemberton Richard Raskoff** Ed Revnolds Maria Rodriguez Andy Romanisky **Esther Roth** Bruce Schultz **Jim Sivazlian** 

Lee Ambers Dave Anderson **Shirley Andrews** Mark Ax **Tom Bates** Karl Boeckmann **Ron Boggess Rod Boyce** Marge Callahan **Barry Chapman Bob Donovan** Steve Dunner **Bob Eisenhart** Nancy Emch **David Freeman Richard Gross** Peter Helm Abe Hoffman Manny Iglesias Fred Kaplan Jerry Knotts Erick Lace **Barney Leone** Howard Lewis **Martin Light** Marion Lovelace Ethel Margolin Shannon Muchow Maurice Portnov **Bill Ratner** Rosalie Rifkin **Ray Rodriguez** Earl Roth **Stanley Salmore** Sam Schultz Doc Stafford

**Bob Stiles** Howard Swerdlick **Bill Tapp** Karen Vegtel **Tony Velarde** Joe Weber **Bill Wishard ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++** 

Alice Stone **Rob Swihart** David Tostenson Karen Velarde Lucie Volotsky **Jimmy Weldon** 

#### Win<u>gs Staff</u>

Publisher: Ed Reynolds Editor: Ed Reynolds Photographers: Larry Kushner, Andy Kopetzky, Ed Reynolds, Michael Sugar, Dave Andersen Audio & Video: Max Carlisle Secretaries: Marion Lovelace, Nancy Eisenhart, Jill Lace. Shirley Andrews Programs & Speakers: Bob Eisenhart Tours: Barry Chapman **Events:** Erick Lace, Maria Rodriguez **Treasurer:** Erick Lace, Barry Chapman Hats & Shirts: Bob Bermant Name Tags: Ed Reynolds Raffle Tickets: Fred Kaplan, Lee Ambers **Decorations:** Fred Kaplan, Bill Ratner Technical Assistance: Max Carlisle, Charles Scott Coffee & Donut Crew: Barry Chapman, Mark Ax Tim & Karen Velarde, Rod Boyce, **David Greenburg** Room Set-up Crew: David Greenburg, Fred Kaplan, Ron Boggess, Bill Ratner, Lee Auger 

#### <u>Reminder</u>

Wings Over Wendy's monthly food drive is Monday, July 3rd





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