



# 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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## LUNCHEON MEETING, MAY 19, 1989-12 NOON

Charter members, their spouses and guests are cordially invited to attend the luncheon honoring Lt Col Yvonne C. Pateman, USAF (Ret) and members of the WASP (Women's Airforce Service Pilots). The luncheon will be held at the Air Force Academy Non-Commissioned Officers' Club in the Community Center. The cost will be \$6.00 per person (includes tax and gratuity) and a cash bar will be available. To get to the NCO Club, drive in the South Entrance to the Academy, proceed north to Community Center Drive, turn left and drive to the top of the hill, turn left at the first road (the Community Center Gym is at this intersection), turn left again at the first street and proceed into the NCO Club parking lots.

A reservation card is enclosed for your convenience. Please submit by May 10, 1989.

## LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Lt Col Yvonne C. Pateman, USAF (Ret) will be the speaker. Colonel Pateman will discuss the WASP Program and the extensive collection of WASP archival materials which she is donating to the Academy Library. Hopefully, in the future, other members of the WASP will add materials to this collection. Like the Prisoner of War Collection, the WASP materials will provide a rich source of research and reference data for cadets and scholars writing on these specialized aspects of the Air Force experience.



*Lt Col Pat Pateman, USAF (Ret), WASP*

Colonel "Pat" Pateman has had a long distinguished flying career during which she logged over 5,000 hours. In 1943, she was one of 2,000 women accepted for flight training in the WASP Program. During World War II, she flew as an Engineering Test Pilot and as an Aircraft Ferrying Pilot. Following the war, she delivered civilian aircraft from factories to air fields throughout the United States. Then she

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became Chief Flight Instructor at Culver City Airport in California. In the Korean War, Pat was commissioned in the Air Force and served as an Intelligence Officer during her 20-year career. Her assignments included service in the Philippines, Japan, Vietnam and the Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington where she served as the Chief of the China Air and Missile Section.

Since her retirement in 1971, Colonel Pateman has been active in flying clubs as well as being the author of short stories and articles dealing with women and aviation subjects. Her work has been published in MINERVA and THE AVIATION QUARTERLY. She has presented lectures to civic and academic groups on subjects such as "Women in the Military" and "Women in Aviation."

### **PROGRESS REPORT ON LONG-TERM GOALS**

Our Master Plan guiding The Friends sets four main goals: first to seek funding for conservation, preservation and expansion of the world-famous Colonel Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection; second, to produce a printed, illustrated, bibliographic catalogue of the holdings of the Gimbel Collection to aid scholarly research; third, to expand the scope of the Prisoner of War historical material to include the Japanese, Korean, and Southeast Asia POW experience; and fourth, to obtain copies of important papers of distinguished Air Force leaders in order to further the Academy's mission of inspiring, teaching and researching by precept and example.

#### **Goal One** (Consists of two phases):

Phase I. This phase recognizes that this priceless Gimbel Collection of some 25,000 items was received by the Academy in 1971 without any repairs or preservation action having been taken. Some of the 7,000 volumes are in need of repair, especially the incunabula, the vellum and leather-bound volumes. Also, the encasement in acid-proof covers and the microfilm copying of many valuable old letters, prints and other papers is urgently needed to protect them from further wear and tear from handling and acid deterioration. This work constitutes Phase I including the cost of fees paid to conservation and preservation experts who are conducting surveys. This will cost approximately \$50,000.

Phase II. This phase of the Master Plan for the Gimbel Collection involves contracting with nationally recognized experts to examine, photograph and describe in professional terms the various categories

of the collection. There are about thirteen categories: incunabula and other rare books, prints on mythology of flight, balloon prints, coins and medallions, ceramics, *objets d'art*, and seven categories of literary works. This phase will also cost an estimated \$50,000.

#### **Goal Two**

Goal two involves assembling the data resulting from Phases I and II into a bound, illustrated catalog of the entire Gimbel Collection with bibliographic information and annotations. Hiring a professional editor to direct this publication will be required. The end result of this effort will be to provide urgently needed information on the existence and content of this unique collection for aeronautical scholars and researchers world-wide. Cost of this goal may reach \$150,000.

#### **Goal Three**

Goal three enunciated in our master plan involves the expansion of the prisoner of war historical material, to include the Japanese, Korean and Southeast Asia POW experience. Achievement of this goal is being financed by the Stalag Luft III Former POWs, and is progressing satisfactorily.

#### **Goal Four**

Goal four is to obtain copies of important papers of distinguished Air Force leaders. This goal will further the Academy's mission of inspiring, teaching and researching by precept and example. The papers of Arnold, Spaatz, Doolittle, Eaker and many others are now held by many different repositories and need to be copied on microfilm for use by our faculty, cadets, and for important historical research. This will be an expensive and time-consuming project over the coming years, and we will proceed as funds can be made available. Our immediate objective is to obtain copies of the General Arnold papers now in the Library of Congress. The Air Force historian, Dr. Richard Kohn, is seeking to arrange an opportunity to obtain the material from the Library of Congress. The cost of purchasing the microfilm copies may exceed \$10,000.

In summary, the scope of the task facing The Friends encompasses finding the funds to enable us to protect and enhance the centerpiece of the Academy's special library collections-its internationally significant Gimbel Collection and the library's holdings of the papers of the Air Force's past great leaders. Toward the accomplishment of this task, The Friends now direct their primary efforts. Since incor-

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poration in 1987, The Friends have stabilized their operations. They are financially viable, properly organized and situated to cope with the various aspects of this important endeavor.

We are now planning to make this case for financial support first to our local Colorado foundations, and then to those national foundations known to support educational, historical and library endeavors. To be successful, the Board of Directors need the support and assistance of all of the members of The Friends.

### **DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO THE ACADEMY LIBRARY**

During 1988, The Friends were instrumental in acquiring for the Academy Library, manuscript material, printed matter, art work and photographs from twelve individual donors. In addition, The Friends Book Fund enabled the Library to acquire 39 titles of specialized books relating to military aviation plus 12 reels of microfilm of the Papers of General Claire L. Chennault. The Friends contributed \$1,200 to the Book Fund in 1988 and have budgeted \$2,000 for 1989. In addition, the Board of The Friends set up a \$5,000 contingency fund to enable the Director of the Academy Library to enter bids on rare aeronautical materials being offered in book auctions in various sections of the nation.

### **BALLOON PRINTS**

On March 16, 1989, we passed the 550 mark for charter members. On that date, 397 reproductions of the 1783 Montgolfier Balloon print from the Gimbel Collection had been sent to all charter members who had contributed \$50.00 or more. Less than 100 numbered prints remain of this special limited edition of the print,

### **JOEL A. H. WEBB**

It is with great sadness that we announce the death on March 14 of one of our most valued Board Members. Joel A. H. Webb was a life-long resident of Colorado Springs and was a descendant of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy. Mr. Webb had a distinguished banking career climaxed by his serving as the Chairman of the Board of the First National Bank. He was a civic leader for over half a century. He was an ardent supporter of the Air Force Academy and all other military agencies in the Pikes Peak Region. His father, Dr. Gerald B. Webb, was a medical pioneer in fields of tuberculosis and immunology and owned a large tract of land on what is now the site of the Air Force Academy.

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### **1989 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

All members who contributed during 1988 are urged to send in their renewals for 1989 not later than June 30. Your initial generous contributions have enabled The Friends to get launched. To continue our important work, we need your sustaining support and financial assistance.

Please fill out the back page as soon as possible. All checks should be made out to: The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library and sent to P.O. Box 188, USAF Academy, CO 80840-0188.

