

NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library

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SPECIAL COLLECTIONS BRANCH NAMED FOR LT. GEN. A. P. CLARK



In a surprise ceremony on Thursday morning, April 10, Lt. Gen. J. D. Dallager, the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, announced that the Special Collections Branch of the Academy Library would be named the Clark Special Collections Branch, in honor of Lt. Gen. A. P. Clark, USAF (Ret.). After the ceremony, the honor to General Clark was announced to the entire Cadet Wing at the noon meal. This recognition reflects General Clark's tireless devotion to the Academy Library and The Friends for over 30 years.

Gen. Clark's interest in the Academy Library was very evident during his tenure as Superintendent. In 1973, he donated his personal collection of 32 firearms, issued to the U.S. military from the American Revolution to the war in Vietnam, to the library. Following his retirement from active duty in 1974, General Clark continued his commitment to the library. His initial work was developing and shaping the rich history of Stalag Luft III, which has become the centerpiece of the prisoner of war

holdings in the Special Collections Branch. This collection ranks among the finest in the world.

In February 1987, General Clark worked with the Director of Academy Libraries and Academy Superintendent, Lt. Gen. Winfield W. Scott, Jr., to establish The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library. Serving as the Secretary and subsequently as the President of The Friends, General Clark has led the organization in accomplishing a myriad of projects that have enhanced the quality of the Academy Library.

In 1989 The Friends initiated a conservation project to ensure the preservation of the rich holdings of the Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection. In 1994, The Friends began the task of producing an annotated bibliography to selected holdings within the Gimbel Collection. General Clark was instrumental in the entire process which resulted in the publication of the catalogue, *The Genesis of Flight: The Aeronautical History Collection of Colonel Richard Gimbel*, in October 2000. It has received glowing reviews worldwide from scholars of the history of aeronautics.

The Academy Library and The Friends have benefited immeasurably from General Clark's tireless efforts and his devoted and inspired leadership. It is therefore both fitting and proper that the Special Collections Branch of the Air Force Academy Library be named for him.



LUNCHEON SPEAKER

Colonel Lawrence E. Schaad, USAF (Ret.) was the Director of the Air Force Academy Falconry Program for 14 years, from 1981 to 1995, longer than any of the other 11 directors in the history of the program.

Larry Schaad was born in Oak Park, Illinois on April 8, 1942. He earned a bachelor of science degree at Ohio Wesleyan University and a doctorate of veterinary medicine at the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. His commissioning as a second lieutenant in the US Air Force in 1968 was followed by further study at the University of Michigan for a degree in military public health.

Colonel Schaad served at a number of Air Force bases as a veterinarian, graduated from the Air Force Squadron Officers School, the Command and Staff College, and the Air War College. In 1977, he received his certification as a Colleague of The American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine.

Dr. Schaad is currently the Chief of Health Systems Development in the Department of Health and Environment for El Paso County, Colorado.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me first say how pleased The Friends are with the Superintendent's announcement that the Air Force Academy Library will be named in honor of Brigadier General Robert F. McDermott. It is a well-earned recognition.

We are also delighted to announce that General McDermott generously donated a magnificent Kashan Persian carpet to the Air Force Academy specifically for use in the library in the room holding the famous Colonel Richard Gimbel Aeronautical History Collection. This carpet has added the finishing touch to this beautiful room.

Another interesting and positive development for The Friends is the prospect of having on hand at the annual luncheon on May 13, advance copies of our new book, *Falconry at The Air Force Academy*. This book, which has been in the works for about four years, sheds light on an aspect of the Academy's cadet activities that deserves wider recognition.

The Friends' major contribution to the Air Force Academy's 50th Anniversary will be a DVD (digital video disc) on the history of the Academy in its first half century. (See the article on the DVD project elsewhere in the newsletter.) It will represent recollections from senior officers who have played key roles in the Academy's history. We are very excited about it.

We are also very pleased that photography capturing the Academy Library's magnificent Southeast Asia POW display has been completed by Word One, Inc. While funding is required to complete the project, this is the basic building block for our future DVD of the SEA POW story.

Thanks to the skilled and devoted efforts of Brig. Gen. Erlind Royer and others, our new web site is expected to go on line in July. It is a first-class operation of which we will be justifiably proud.

In closing permit me to express a personal note of appreciation to the members of The Friends' family and many others who have made generous donations to The Friends in memory of my dear wife, Carolyn.

General Clark



LIBRARY NAMED FOR GENERAL MCDERMOTT

On May 1, 2003, the Academy Library will be named for Brigadier General Robert F. McDermott. The general served as Dean of the Faculty at the Academy, 1956-1968. The dedication ceremonies will be featured in the fall edition of The Friends' newsletter.

Born in Boston, General McDermott graduated from West Point in January 1943. After graduation, he flew 61 combat missions in Europe as a fighter pilot. Following the war he was on General Eisenhower's staff in Europe and then served a tour in the Pentagon. In 1950, he received an MBA from Harvard and spent the next four years on the West Point faculty. Assigned to the Air Force Academy in 1954, he was appointed Dean of Faculty in 1956. In 1959, he was appointed permanent dean and promoted to brigadier general. He

retired from the Air Force in 1968.

Brigadier General McDermott was the Dean of Faculty for the first 10 graduating classes. He introduced a number of innovations including "the whole person" admissions policy, an enrichment program, academic majors for all, and a cooperative master's degree program with a number of leading universities. His leadership resulted in the Academy receiving accreditation before the first class graduated--the only such case in the history of American higher education. His outstanding efforts established the foundations for the Air Force Academy's academic excellence today. Many of his innovations were subsequently adopted by the nation's other service academies. It was for these achievements that he gained the reputation as the "Father of Modern Military Education."

THE FRIENDS' BOARD MEETING AND ANNUAL LUNCHEON

The Friends will hold its annual Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, May 13, 2003 in the AOG Board Room in Doolittle Hall. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. Items of business include election of officers, election of members of the Executive Committee, items of new business, a report on our 50th Anniversary DVD project and a detailed briefing on our new web site. All members of the Board are urged to attend this important meeting.

Immediately following the Board meeting we will hold our annual luncheon at the Academy Officers Club.

Social hour will begin at 11:30 with lunch served at 12:15. The theme of this year's luncheon will be the Academy falconry program celebrating the publication of The Friends' book on that subject. Our speaker will be Dr. Larry Schaad, former Academy veterinarian and the officer-in-charge of the falconry program from 1981 to 1995. This promises to be a memorable occasion and all members and guests are urged to attend. The cost will be \$15 per person. Reservations are due not later than May 6. Please make your reservation using the enclosed form.

WWII EXHIBIT

Sixty-one years after Pearl Harbor the American Numismatic Association Money Museum in Colorado Springs opened "Rendezvous with Destiny: The Money of World War II." The exhibit fills the 5,000 square-foot main gallery of the museum. As the exhibit brochure explains, "Money is the engine that drives war. It was a major player in WWII. Regardless of its form or denomination--dollars, pounds, francs, marks, lira, rubles or yen--money was used to finance war machines, counterfeited to destroy economies and fashioned to sustain lives." This comprehensive exhibit showcases the coins, currency, and certificates of the global conflict.

Included in the exhibit are artifacts from the Air Force Academy Library's Stalag Luft III collection. Among these is the replica model of a guard tower of Stalag Luft III, the camp upon which the movie "The Great Escape" was based. Also included are three IOUs brought home by Kriegies, one of which was written by David Westheimer, the author of *Von Ryan's Express*.



Keynote speaker Brig. Gen. George V. Fagan USAF, (Ret.) was introduced by CEO and President of the American Numismatic Association, Edward C. Rochette. More than 300 people attended the opening of the exhibit on December 7, 2002.

"EXPECT GREAT THINGS"

Progress continues ahead of schedule on the Friends' 50th Anniversary project, a DVD (digital video disc) history of the Academy's first 50 years. With the help of Academy Archivist Duane Reed, the project has acquired considerable archival footage and captured a number of key interviews since our last report in November.

Video footage covers original construction at the Academy, the graduation visits of four Presidents of the United States, the release of several graduates from Vietnamese imprisonment, and the distinctive achievements of several graduates in the Air Force.

Additional interviews since November have included Gen. Louis Seith (who initiated summer training in Jacks Valley), Lt. Gen. Bradley Hosmer (the Academy's

first Rhodes Scholar, and the first graduate to serve as Superintendent), Lt. Gen. Winfield W. Scott, Jr. (the Academy's 10th Superintendent, who guided the rededication of the Cadet Wing to the Honor Code), Col. Brock Strom (the Academy's first football All-American), Brig. Gen. Phil Caine (the first permanent professor in the Commandant's area), Brig. Gen. Erlind Royer (former Dean of Faculty who directed the original installation of computers in cadet rooms), Mr. Hal Webster (who introduced falcons to the Cadet Wing and provided the original mascots), Col. Lee Black (the first Commander of the Preparatory School), and Col. Susan Helms (USAFA, 1980, the first woman graduate to become an astronaut).

Portions of the video records of these interviews and historic events will appear

in a two-DVD package, "Expect Great Things", sponsored by the Friends and funded by the Association of Graduates. One DVD will hold a movie of about an hour, tracing development of the Academy and its graduate community from the days of the earliest air pioneers to the present. The movie's theme comes from a speech by then Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. Nathan Twining at the Academy's dedication in 1955, telling the first cadets that Americans would look over their shoulders and expect great things from them. A second DVD will hold "Special Features" covering some topics in additional depth.

The Friends' project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2003, making the DVD set available for use during the 50th Anniversary Celebration beginning in 2004.

MAJOR FILM ARCHIVE COLLECTION

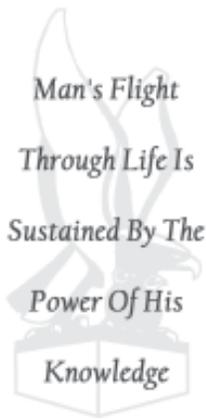
The Friends of the Air Force Academy Library has received, from historian-author Victor Tannehill of Arvada, Colorado, what is believed to be the largest privately held collection of Army Air Forces and U.S. Air Force audiovisual materials ever assembled. The materials will be donated to the Special Collections Branch of the Academy Library.

Included in Tannehill's gift, now being accessed and cataloged by Special Collections' staff, are over 500 films ranging from the Wright Brothers to the present, including the wars of the 20th

century; many of the titles are Hollywood films. In addition there are over 300 titles of such series as "Lowell Thomas Remembers," all the episodes of "Victory at Sea," and over 45 titles of the War Department's "WWII Combat Bulletin." It also includes over 30 episodes of various series on Vietnam. While there are too many items to be adequately covered here, another that deserves mention is a very rare and valuable set of laser discs holding nearly three million still photos from the U. S. Air Force Still Photo Archives.

Vic Tannehill is the author of five books on U.S. military aviation in WWII, and has written articles that have appeared in most American aviation magazines and journals. He recently completed books on the history of the First Tactical Air Force and the Martin B-26 "Marauder." He was a technical advisor on two Hollywood movies: "The Tuskegee Airmen" and "Memphis Belle."

Tannehill began collecting documentary films 40 years ago as an aid to his historical research.



THE COMMEMORATIVE PROGRAM

The Friends offers a special opportunity for those who wish to honor individuals, organizations, or groups of individuals. For a minimum donation of \$50 a handsome certificate will be placed in The Friends' Honor Book. The Honor Book is displayed in a prominent location in the Special Collections Branch of the Air Force Academy Library where it is readily accessible to cadets and visitors.

This is an ideal way to give special, perpetual recognition to a family member, classmate, crew members, a friend, a team, or an organization of special importance to you. The honoree need not be military or deceased to be commemorated.

Over the past 12 years more than 1000 individuals, units, and organizations have been commemorated with an Honor Book Certificate. Honorees include participants in virtually every American conflict of the 20th century as well as a wide variety of other individuals to include Academy faculty and staff, spouses, USAFA cadets and graduates.

Specific details on this unique Academy program can be obtained by writing The Friends or by contacting them by email at: friends@usafalibrary.com. The Friends encourages you to give serious consideration to recognizing a special person or group through participation in our Commemorative Program.

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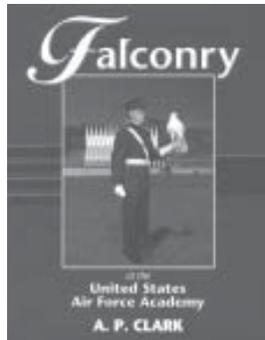
*Former Superintendent
of the Academy

A SPECIAL APPEAL

In order to accomplish our goals and projects The Friends rely on continuous donations from our supporters. As has been true for many non-profit organizations, donations have dropped off significantly over the past year. We need your help during this critical period so we can continue to enhance the quality of the Air Force Academy Library. We are asking you to help us carry out our mission by increasing your financial support.

Please use the enclosed membership form to provide your support.

FALCONRY BOOK UPDATE



In our November newsletter we made the happy announcement that our book, *Falconry at the Air Force Academy*, written by The Friends' President, Lt. Gen. A.P. Clark, is to be published by Fulcrum Books of Golden, Colorado. This account of the exciting cadet program, in which falcons are trained to perform free and untethered at sports events, records the early history of a unique cadet activity that has given the NCAA its only performing mascot.

Final editing of this attractive book, filled with color illustrations, has been completed. We hope to have copies available in time for display at our annual luncheon on May 13th. The book will be printed in both hard back and paper cover, and is expected to sell for less than \$20 in paper back. It should prove to be of interest to friends of the Academy along with falconers and bird lovers throughout the country and around the world.

THE FRIENDS GO ONLINE

www.friends.usafalibrary.com

Beginning about July 1, 2003. The Friends will have its own web site. The web site will include information about the Academy Library, The Friends, our current and past projects, commemoration certificates, membership applications, the latest newsletter, and many other interesting and meaningful items. It will also have links to the Academy Library web site to view and download

displays such as the Stalag Luft III display or the Gimbel Collection CD. Brig. Gen. Erlind Royer, USAF (Ret.), a member of The Friends' Board of Directors, has done outstanding work in preparing this site and we all owe him a debt of gratitude for the many hours he put into this project. Plan to log on and keep current on all of The Friends' activities.