



# MILE HIGH VIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE MILE HIGH WING, COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)

Keep 'em Flying!

May, 2010



Civil Air Patrol cadets and color guard members pose with the C-45 on May 15<sup>th</sup> at the Erie airport

## First Mission of the 2010 Campaign, Armed Forces Day 15 May 2010

**Col. Stan Hanson**

As with any military operation planning is the key to a successful mission and such was the case with the Mile High Wing's first mission of the 2010 Air Show season. The PX trailer was restocked and positioned 2 days before the event at Erie airport and all volunteers were advised to arrive at 6AM to begin setting up to be ready for business at 7AM. As with any outdoor activity weather is always the unknown variable, and this day the weather was not cooperating with us early on. The morning started off cool (to some cold) low overcast and fog. The weather did not deter the efforts of the ground activities, we were set up and ready for business by 7:15AM. As the morning progressed the fog began to lift and the overcast began to breakup which allowed our air campaign to begin. The aircraft arrived at 10AM and was well received by all who were in attendance.

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**Honoring American Military Aviation Through Flight, Exhibition, And Remembrance**

[www.milehighcaf.org](http://www.milehighcaf.org)

As the aircraft turned on final approach I could see all the spectators begin to point to the large plane coming in for landing. By the time the plane was taxied to its parking slot people were standing at the pedestrian barriers with cameras in hand. Thanks to the efforts of Col. Rob Range, the aircraft flown in and put in position for our first Air show this season.

Our first order of business was a VIP press flight. This flight was to have the Mayor of Erie, a member of his staff, and three members from the airport authority. Because Col. Range had another commitment at noon elsewhere, Col Tom Edwards stepped in to fly the VIP flight. This flight went off without a hitch and all passengers emerged from the aircraft with broad smiles of excitement after riding in a vintage WWII aircraft.

As a side note to the arrival of the aircraft and waiting for the VIP flight at the pedestrian boundary, I was approached by many people asking, what is it, where did it come from, how old is it, can I go inside? While answering the many questions an older gentleman approached me and said he used to fly these in WWII as an air evacuation ambulance. As we talked I asked if he would like to get a closer look and go inside, he hesitated a bit and said no his camera could get some good pictures from where we were. I invited him to come with me and at first he hesitated again but with encouragement and lifting of the barrier we moved toward the plane. The closer we got I noticed the tears begin to well up in his eyes as he recounted a general story to the effect the interior of this plane was a little different than the one he flew as his passengers were on litters and in not very good shape. He shot a couple of pictures and said thank you and we turned and walked back to the barrier where he disappeared as quickly as he had appeared. I am only sorry I did not get his name.

As I mentioned at the start, weather is always the unknown variable and this day weather played a big role. It delayed the arrival of the aircraft and led to low turn out of spectators. Those hardy souls that did turn out made our PX operations somewhat of a success. By 11AM the fog and low clouds lifted and the sun came out and it started to warm, and a few more spectators arrived. By 3PM things began to die down and we decided to pack up and get ready for our next campaign. We were all secure and on our way home by 4PM. We had a little over \$300 in sales, and made several contacts for future events. All in all it was a successful day. Well done to all who were there and thanks to everyone for their participation and hard work.

-Col. Stan Hanson

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## MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2010 PHOTOS FROM ERIE AIRPORT

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(left photo): Local VIP's after their flight on the C-45 include Pat Miller, Rob Tanes, Tom Edwards (pilot), Joseph Watson (Mayor of Erie), Cecil Stump, and Scott Deloeis. (right photo): Col. Stan Peterson at our WWII dog tag machine.



The C-45 taxis with passengers aboard at Erie Municipal airport

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## Calendar of Events

☐ Saturday and Sunday June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Vintage Aero Flying Museum Fly-In and Platte Valley Airpark Open House. See their website for details at [www.vafm.org](http://www.vafm.org)

☐ Saturday June 19<sup>th</sup>  
Boulder Airport Day fly-in at Boulder Municipal Airport

**NOTE SPECIAL EVENT SATURDAY JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>** . Second Annual 1940's WWII Ball hangar dance with live 1940's-style big band and singers, vintage airplanes, re-enactors, food and drinks and much more. Boulder Municipal Airport. This is an outstanding event and spouses like it! Visit their website at: <http://1940swwiiball.org> for more information.

☐ Visit our online PX store at:  
<http://stores.ebay.com/AviationCollectablesMHW>

☐ Newsletter articles wanted. Please send to [mark-edu@mindspring.com](mailto:mark-edu@mindspring.com) or mail to: Mile High Wing, CAF, P.O. Box 471596, Aurora, CO 80047-1596



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