

BRIEFING TIME



Our aircraft is a North American SNJ-4 advanced trainer of the type known as the "Texan." These aircraft were flown by all military services during World War II.

The SNJ-4 was used by all pilots prior to going into high performance aircraft. Its engine is a Pratt & Whitney Wasp 9 cylinder radial, air cooled, with 600 HP.

The date December 6, 1941, is stamped on the engine name plate, the day before the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese on December 7, 1941.

This aircraft is a national treasure.

From Col Bob Koren Acting Wing Leader Notes

Our 2007 air show season is now underway, with our first appearance at the Louie Run event on May 6th having been completed. Our SNJ made its flyby over the Lake County fairgrounds, where the event was held, accompanied by Chuck Mazzola and his Chipmunk aircraft. The attendees were impressed not only by the fly-over of the two aircraft, but also with the two military motorcycles we had on display. And, as usual, Col Kevin Donovan did an excellent job of narrating our portion of the event.

The remainder of the season will be quite active for us as well, with 10 air show and other fly-over appearances scheduled through September. As a reminder to our members, we need your help at these events, so please sign up for as many as you can and help to make this year a successful one for us.

As you know, I assumed the position of Wing Leader, once again, at

the time when Col Patti Juhn, our existing Wing Leader, was required to attend to a number of family issues in connection with her late mother's estate. Now, Col Juhn has completed those responsibilities and has re-assumed her position as of our May 2007 staff meeting. I would like to thank all our members and staff for their help and support during this time, and I welcome Patti back as Wing Leader.

I would also like to express my appreciation for the generosity of all the organizations who supported us last year and are continuing their support this season. With costs for just about everything on the rise, we would not be able to operate the Wing without their support. Please check our website...

www.clevelandwing.org

...for the latest information on our appearance schedule and social events, as well as our air show and ride photos.



From Col Paul Stojkov Flight Operations

A few of us went out some Wednesdays to help the boys at Ohio Aircraftsmen with the annual inspection on our SNJ. I am happy to report that things went along very well. Full reports on the annual are always presented at the monthly CAF meetings, so those interested in detailed breakdowns of what, exactly, our airplane is having done to it during annuals are encouraged to attend.

I would like to extend a special thanks to those who came out to help with the annual. The boys at Ohio Aircraftsmen have a full-time business to run besides also helping us, so the extra effort from our members is always appreciated.

Thanks to the hard work of all involved, our SNJ's annual is now complete and we're ready for a great air show season. Col Juhn has set up a good schedule, and it looks like another fun year of events!

For our pilots: You will be receiving reminders to update your pilot files with me shortly, if you haven't already. Also, with the new Fortress System now being used by HQ for our records, I am auditing our aircraft logs closely as I type in the information. If you have flown more than your allotted 1.5 hours/month, you will be receiving a

bill which will have to be paid before being allowed to continue to fly.

From Col Paul Stojkov Gone West

Another great WWII aviator has gone west. Robert "Rosie" Rosenthal passed away on April 20th of multiple myeloma. He was 89.

Rosie had won the Distinguished Service Cross flying B-17s with the "Bloody 100th" Bomb Group.

On a raid to Munster Germany with 12 other aircraft on October 10, 1943, his was the only aircraft to return...with two engines disabled and an unexploded cannon shell still in one of the fuel tanks. He later went on to lead a 1,000 aircraft mission to Berlin. He had been shot down over Germany and France, the last time being rescued by the Russians and repatriated through Iran and Egypt.

At the time that Japan surrendered, he was in training to fly the B-29.

Rosenthal was a lawyer, and he participated in the trials at Nuremberg which included interviewing Field Marshals Wilhelm Keitel and Hermann Goering.

Special Thanks to our Gracious Supporters

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From Col Kirk Hiner So, Where Have We Been?

More accurately, where have *I* been? It's a long story, and not terribly exciting to tell. Suffice it to say I did something stupid with my computer, and it let me know that.

I'm now back on track with *Briefing Time*. This particular issue is a bit outdated by now, but I didn't want the contributors' work to go to waste. For more up-to-date informa-

tion on the Wing, be sure to visit our website or stop by the hangar on Saturday mornings. Our Wing is still very active, even if the *Briefing Time* hasn't reflected that lately.



Bob Zak presents a framed print of the *Plain Dealer* front page photograph of the B-29 “Fifi” as she flies over the city of Cleveland on July 4th, 1994. Fifi and the B-24 “Diamond Lil” were at Cleveland Hopkins that day. Bob was PIO of the Cleveland Wing at that time, and he orchestrated a ride and photographing session for a *Plain Dealer* photographer. Bob thought Fifi would make a good picture, but didn’t expect to see her spread across the entire front page of the *Plain Dealer* the next day. For details, read Bob’s presentation below.

From Col Bob Zak May 12, 2007 Presentation to the Wing

As most of you know, I have been around the C.A.F. for a long time; since 1988, to be exact. I have been a Deputy PIO, PIO, head of the photo team, Membership Chairman, *Briefing Time* newsletter editor for 8-1/2 years, designer of our new wing patch and plane patch, and now Historian. As Historian, I have cataloged our publications and media. They are open to be loaned out to Wing members.

Now, as Historian, I will tell you why I am here today:

Do any of you remember what happened on June 15, 1991? Well, we participated in the largest parade this town has ever seen: **The Cleveland Desert Storm Welcome Home Parade**. I had been browsing through my old negatives, and I found these pictures. I mounted

them in this frame of mine and decided to donate this to the Wing for hanging here in the hangar. I do have some extra copies of some of the photos if any of you want one.

Do any of you remember July 4, 1994? What were we doing? Do you remember what happened on July 5, 1994? At that time, I was PIO. On July 4th, we had the **B-29** and the **B-24** here for a tour visit at Hopkins Airport. We received all kinds of grief from the city of Cleveland. Air Services, who was the host, took the heat from the city. We had a media flight on the 4th with the planes. My idea was to photograph the B-29 from the 24. I assigned the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* photographer to fly in **Diamond Lil** to photograph **Fifi**. We expected the usual story and picture from the *PD*. On

the 5th, our B-29 stole the front page of the *Plain Dealer* with a full page-width photo of Fifi over downtown, with a rather nice story to boot. Here is a copy of what was in the article and the photo.

We achieved the biggest publicity coup any Wing could have. Never has the CAF received such publicity here in Cleveland. Here is the picture and article. I framed it, and now present it to the Wing, with my compliments, for hanging here in the hangar. I believe we can find it a good home.

I thank you.

To see the photos and articles about which Bob is speaking, visit us at the hangar on Saturdays for Donut Patrol. Details at:

www.clevelandwing.org



| DATE | EVENT | LOCATION | START TIME |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| July 13-15 | USAM Gathering of Eagle | Lost Nation Airport | 10:00 a.m. |
| July 21 | Kids in Flight | Burke Lakefront Airport | 9:00 a.m. |
| July 28 | Staff Meeting | CAF Hangar | 10:00 a.m. |
| August 5 | American Legion Car Show | Wellington, Ohio | |
| August 11 | General Meeting | CAF Hangar | 10:00 a.m. |
| August 25 | Staff Meeting | CAF Hangar | 10:00 a.m. |
| September 1-3 | Cleveland National Air Show | Burke Lakefront Airport | 9:00 a.m. |
| September 9 | Kent State Aviation Heritage Fair | Kent State University Airport | 7:00 a.m. |

Attend Donut Patrol – Saturdays 0930 hours at Lorain County Airport in the Wing Hangar.

Briefing Time edition deadline is the 20th day of the month prior to publication.



COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE
 Cleveland Wing Headquarters
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FIRST CLASS

Address Correction Requested