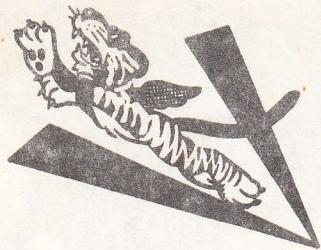


# FLYING TIGERS

American Volunteer Group — Chinese Air Force



# THE TIGER RAG

BURBANK, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER, 1965

## OJAI : JULY, 1965

Our reunion at Ojai this year was one of the best and most successful we have had. The turnout was much greater than anticipated, and a lot of "new" faces turned up.

With the buses picking up Thursday morning at the Thunderbird and Hollywood Roosevelt, the meeting began to get organized. It had gotten slightly disorganized Wednesday night at the Hungry Tiger. Since the All-Star game interrupted things, we had to skip our trip to the ballpark. We made it to the bar instead.

We had about 180 people registered at the Ojai Valley Inn, and about 200 at the bar. The first function Thursday evening was the hayride down to the barbecue area. Then a cocktail party, hosted by Bob Prescott and the Flying Tiger Line. This was followed by a steak fry, and accompanied by square dancing for the older members of the group, with the watusi, etc., for Doc Rich and the younger members and teenagers.

Friday's daytime activities included drinking, golf, horseback riding, tennis, swimming, an AVG business meeting, drinking, loafing, visiting and drinking. Rode will report the meeting. Here it will be noted that Tom Kelly was elected chaplain for the enlisted men. His prime qualification for the job was experience!

A cocktail party was followed by the CNAC banquet, for which we blame "Pappy" Quinn. At this dinner, Bob Prescott was presented with a beautiful clock (it's later than he thinks!) from members of the AVG/CNAC associations. It was to express our appreciation to Bob for all his efforts and contributions which are very instrumental in making these meetings successful. Wayne Snyder was chairman of the committee (of one) doing all the work on getting this ready. Shirley did the work.

After dinner we saw the film that Ozzie Glover took of our tour to Taipeh. It was very good. Then Ed Rector showed some film of his air operation in India. Those scenes sure

brought back many memories, particularly to the Hump flying group.

After this, there was very little to do but go to the bar and dance. Might mention here that R. T. Smith and Ronnie were on their honeymoon and Bob and Anne-Marie Prescott were celebrating their anniversary. So back to the bar and dance and a good time was had by all.

Besides the usual activities, there was a CNAC business meeting Saturday and a golf tournament. The first was lost by Bob Prescott (he was re-elected) and the second was won by John Williams. (Prescott claimed fraud on John's

(continued on page 2)



1965 FLYING TIGER PILOT AWARD - Mary Kelly, Miss Flying Tiger; Col. R. Stephens; Lt. Col. D. Andre; Dick Rossi.



handicap.) Between activities there was a little action around the bar.

After another cocktail party, the AVG banquet was held. Jack Rourke did a fine job as M.C. A trophy was presented to Don Rodewald for Indian wrestling. He defeated Ed Rector in the finals. (I never did see any preliminaries.) John Williams was given the golf trophy. The Flying Tiger Pilot Award was presented jointly to Col. R. Stephens and Lt. Col. D. Andre in recognition of their accomplishments with the YF12, in which they set speed and altitude records. Tom Kelly's very attractive daughter, Mary, donned the tiger costume and became Miss Flying Tiger 1965 to assist in the presentation. Milt Machlin, editor of Argosy magazine, who had just returned from Viet Nam, gave a talk on what he had seen and some of his impressions. After this a fight broke out, sparked by questions from the floor, comments by Prescott and Al Mah. This one was won by one of guests of the evening, Gen. Johnny Allison. So back to the bar and dance. Time for a drink.

Sunday morning the gang arose, surveyed the world through bloodshot eyes, hoisted a few Bloody Marys, and decided to call it quits. So back to the hometown bars.....



GOLF TROPHY - In spite of Prescott's doubts, Rossi awarded trophy to John Williams for winning golf tournament.



AVG 1st SQDN - (standing) Schaper, Cross, Burgard, Uebele, Rodewald, Locke, Cornelius; (seated) Richards, Prescott, Rossi, Joan Petach, Kustay.



October 1965

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## GENERAL CLAIRE LEE CHENNAULT FOUNDATION

4201 CATHEDRAL AVENUE



WASHINGTON 16, D. C.

W O O D L E Y 6 - 2 4 5 2

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June 29, 1965

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Mr. Dick Rossi  
10633 Kinnard Avenue  
Apartment 18  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Dick and Members of the Flying Tigers:

I deeply regret for not being able to make the reunion this year. By the time your reunion is held, I will be traveling over South East Asia including Viet Nam.

I am going over to South East Asia to do some work for the Voice of America and gather some information for my lectures.

I have tried very hard to change my schedule hoping to make the convention, however, all arrangements for my tour were made ahead of time and no changes could be made.

I will miss all of you and I am sure you will have a successful meeting. My very best to each of you and also my congratulations to the A V G Trophy's winner.

My summer address from July 1st to September 1st will be  
C/O Civil Air Transport, Taipei, Taiwan.

After my trip to the South East Asia I will be going to Korea by invitation of the Korean President. However, my headquarters will be in Taiwan from July 1st to September 1st.

I hope to join you in your next convention.

As Always,



LIST OF ATTENDEES - OJAI 1965

AVG/CNAC

Bill & Cynthia Bartling  
 Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Groh  
 Bob & Anne-Marie Prescott  
 Dr. L. J. Richards  
 Dick Rossi

AVG

Mr. & Mrs. Twisty Bent  
 George Burgard  
 Jack Cornelius  
 Jim Cross  
 Dr. Bob & Sybil Gallagher &  
 2 children  
 Hank & Claudia Geselbracht  
 P. J. Greene  
 Mrs. Emma Jane Hanks  
 Tom & Betty Haywood  
 Tex & Mazie Hill &  
 2 children  
 Bud & Janice Hubler  
 Ed Janski  
 Ken & Gen Jernstedt  
 Bus Keeton  
 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Kelly &  
 3 children  
 Steve & Ann Kustay  
 Bob & Marion Layher  
 Bob & Gwyn Locke  
 Chuck Older  
 Mr. & Mrs. Arvid Olson  
 Ed & Helen Overend  
 Preston Paull  
 Joan Claire Petach  
 Joe & Mary Poshefko  
 Ed Rector  
 Freeman & Barbara Ricketts  
 Don & Betty Rodewald  
 Bill & Mary Schaper  
 Bob Smith  
 R. T. & Ronnie Smith  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Ubele  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Williams &  
 Sandy  
 Harvey Wirta

CNAC

Tom Applegate  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Brannen &  
 child  
 Peer & Ione Carr &  
 2 sons  
 Glen Carroll  
 Bob & Mildred Chang  
 T. Y. & Margaret Chiang  
 Morgan & Katty Chu  
 Lynn & Kay Crapuchettes

Buzz & Betty Cummins &  
 Chris  
 Dr. Reg Farrar  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Folz  
 Oliver & Rosemary Glen  
 Joe Hall  
 George & Hazel Hammill  
 Christy Hanks & son Fletcher  
 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Hobbs  
 James Holt  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Kenehan  
 Art & Cisie Kininmonth  
 Venus Ling  
 Olga Littlefield  
 Al Mah  
 Bill & Peggy Maher  
 Mr. & Mrs. Vic McHenry  
 Bob McGinty  
 Joe & Isabell Michiels  
 Frank & Ann Micka  
 Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Neff  
 Mr. & Mrs. Charles Nesy &  
 2 children  
 Byron & Marylou O'Hara  
 Al Oldenburg  
 Valerie Parrish  
 Jim Pelegrin  
 Bob & Mary Margaret Potts Schmidt  
 Gene Powers  
 Walter "Pappy" Quinn  
 Bob & Linda Rengo  
 Mel Richardson  
 Frances Parrish Riddle  
 L. F. "Robbie" Roberts  
 Rocky & Esther Roncaglione

Mike & Sally Scarpace  
 Jerry & Angela Schrawder &  
 Maria  
 Bob & Margaret Sherwood  
 John & Audrey Shoemaker &  
 2 children  
 Felix Smith  
 Wayne & Shirley Snyder  
 Sol & Leela Soldinski  
 C. K. Tseng  
 Jules & Peggy Watson &  
 2 children  
 Tommy & Maggie Wong  
 Bernard & Margaret Yang

GUESTS

Lt. Col. D. Andre  
 Anne Bell  
 W. Barclay  
 Bob & Martha Conrath  
 Evelyn & Jack Dillon  
 Ozzie Glover  
 Charles & Laura Ilka  
 Len Kimball  
 Milt Machlin  
 A. S. Michna  
 Mr. & Mrs. A. J. Parry  
 Dode Penrod  
 Jack Rourke  
 Col. & Mrs. R. Stephens &  
 family  
 Sue Shrewsbury  
 Deirdre Sullivan  
 Russ & Pinky Waldron  
 Del Watson



AVG 2nd SQDN - Bent, Layher, Geselbracht, Hill, Ricketts, Rector, Richards, Keeton.





AVG BANQUET - M. C. Jack Rourke at mike.

OJAI AGAIN IN 1967

Both the AVG and CNAC groups, in their private meetings, voted to hold a joint reunion again in 1967 at Ojai. Among the highlights of the 1967 meeting, which is planned for the week-end following the 4th of July, will be the celebration of the AVG's 25th anniversary. For this reason, a four-day reunion is planned, instead of the usual three-day meeting.

Now that you know it is scheduled, there will be very little said about the 1967 meeting until after we get the Mallorca tour behind us.



TOAST TO THE NEW CHAPLAIN - Kelly, Joan Petach, Lydia Cowgill, Rossi.



TRYING TO STEAL ROSSI'S DATE - Bob Smith, Lydia Cowgill, Bill Williams.



TRYING TO STEAL RODE'S DRINK - Kininmonth, Rode-wald, Roberts, Carroll.



NOTED HERE & THERE AROUND OJAI

Al Mah finally showing up for a reunion... Rocky and Esther Roncaglione driving all the way from Ft. Lauderdale...P. J. Greene finally showing up for the whole reunion...Our East Coast sparkplug, Joe Poshefko, and Mary, keeping their attendance record at 100%.

Bob Layher falling asleep one night and not keeping everybody up...Doc Rich dancing, for a change...Christy Hanks and Emma Jane at their first reunion as Mr. and Mrs. -- still arguing who the "guest" is...Tommy and Maggie Wong in from Montreal.

Felix Smith (our pilot on CAT's jet last year) making his first party since our 1952 meeting and his first joint AVG/CNAC reunion. He says his romance with the charming Swedish masseuse he dated was a 50% success -- he liked her, but she didn't like him!

"Pappy" Quinn doing an excellent job of collecting money...Tex Hill's son entertaining all the gals at the piano...Frank Micka and his wife started out for Taipeh, but just caught up with us at Ojai...Byron O'Hare, the most senior ex-CNAC, who has a son flying for FTL.

A letter from Jerry Costello sending

greetings and regrets at not being there... Ed Overend on one of his infrequent visits to the good ol' USA...Paul Frillman is preparing a book, would appreciate material or pics from any of the gang.



DOUBLE BUSS FOR MISS FLYING TIGER - Col. Stephens, Mary Kelly, Lt. Col. Andre, Rossi, Rourke (seated).

*Mary Kelly*



AVG 3rd SQDN - (standing) Poshefko, Older, Olson, Haywood, Jernstedt; (seated) R. T. Smith, Overend, Prescott (guest), Greene, Hubler.





ACCEPTANCE SPEECH - Tex Hill, Mary Kelly, Lt. Col. Andre, Jack Rourke, Col. Stephens, Rossi, Rector. *Mary Kelly*



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY - Mr. & Mrs. Bob Prescott.



AVG GROUP - (standing) Hubler, Wirta, Janski, Locke, Schaper, Geselbracht, Layher, Williams, Ricketts, Paull, Keeton, Older, R. H. Smith, Jernstedt, Haywood, Poshefko, Cross, Olson, Rector, Uebele, Rodewald, Kelly, Bent, Cornelius; (seated) Prescott, Richards, Red Petach Hanks, Gallagher, Hill, Rossi, Kustay, Burgard.





Paul, Joan C. Petach, Burgard, Barbara Ricketts, Ricketts.

#### AVG - 14AFA FEUD

After soft-peddling the Flying Tiger name in their publicity for the Los Angeles convention, the 14AFA broke out with a fresh and obnoxious claim to being THE Flying Tigers, before and during their Boston convention in August, 1965. One of their press releases said that their convention chairman, Herb Corkin, served with Chennault in the AVG!

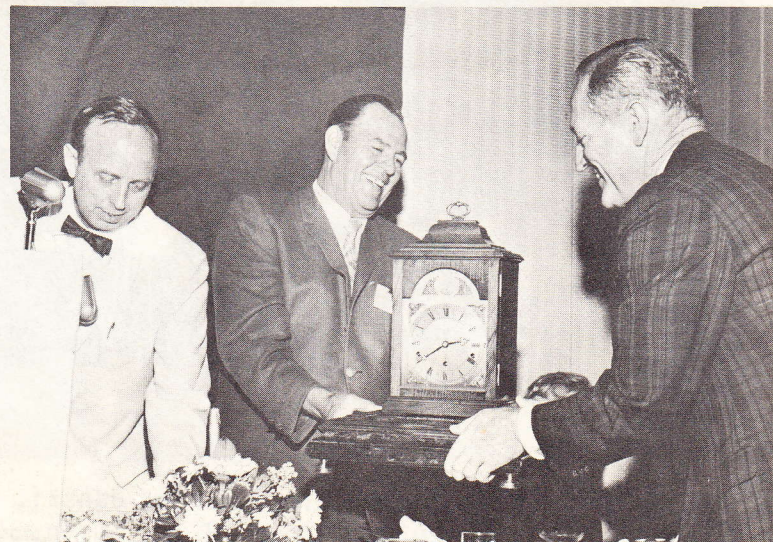
Whether or not the convention committee at Boston was ashamed of their 14AFA identification is difficult to say, but they seemed to be making every effort to bury it in their wild claims to the Flying Tiger name and even AVG service. With Gen. Chennault having passed away and unable to attend their conventions, a feeling of insecurity must have gripped their convention planners.

Having attended several of their conventions while the "Old Man" was still alive, I noted that the rank and file of the 14AFA knew very well that the AVG members were the Flying Tigers. As a matter of fact, many of the 14AFA members were embarrassed by any small claim or insinuation that the 14th and Flying Tigers were the same thing. At these meetings, the Flying Tiger name was always brought in, but more in relation to, and in connection with, the General and such members of their group as Tex Hill and Ed Rector, at least in a legitimate way.

Since 1958, the Flying Tiger claims and obnoxious publicity have grown from bad to worse. It reached its height when Buck Doyle was 14AFA president, and practically tried to cut the AVG out of the name as mercenary imposters! Last

year at Los Angeles, it was slowed down very considerably, due to cooperation from Lt. Gen. Stone. He personally signed a release to the press outlining the difference between the AVG and 14AFA. Gen Stone commanded the 14AFA after Chennault retired. Meantime, back on the East Coast, the same sore is festering again and the continual brain-washing of their members, and the press, has actually gotten some of the members of the 14AFA to believing that they now are the Flying Tigers!

We want to thank Emma Jane Hanks, George Burgard, Joe Poshefko and Chuck Older for their efforts to combat this situation. Chuck is initiating some meetings with General Stone to try to work this thing out peacefully. It is getting a little embarrassing to some of the bigger men of the 14AFA.



CLOCK PRESENTATION - Farrar, Prescott, Rossi.





AVG BANQUET - (at table) Olson, Older, Hill, Rourke, Milt Machlin, Rossi, Allison, Rector.

AVG/CNAC TOUR TO MALLORCA

At this writing it looks as though the group will be split up between Hotel San Vida and the Bahia Palace. Joe Rosbert says he can secure a few additional rooms at San Vida. Anyway, it is urgent that reservations be made as soon as possible.

A priority list will be made up as reservations come in, for both the hotel and the plane ride. However, they will be confirmed only af-

ter a deposit is received.

As previously reported, the FTL plane will leave New York on June 26 and will return three weeks later. The first week will be spent in Palma de Mallorca. The remaining two weeks will be free to use as per individual preference. The return flight will pick up at Palma and Madrid.

Ex-CNAC-er Andy Lerios will suggest and arrange itineraries for those requiring same.



CNAC BANQUET - (at table) Rengos, Farrar, Quinn, Prescotts, Al Mah, (Rodewalds in foreground).



= DEPOSIT NOTICE =

The reservations for the Mallorca tour have been arriving in large numbers, no now it is necessary to tie up the hotel rooms and the transportation with deposits.

We need a \$100.00 per person transportation deposit, and a \$25.00 per person hotel deposit. If children are staying in the same room, no deposit is required for them.

Due to the heavy amount of attendees, it will be necessary to utilize both hotels, so be sure to designate, again, which hotel you prefer.

Send all checks to Bob Smith, our new treasurer, made out to FLYING TIGER MEMBERSHIP FUND. Be sure to repeat all names, and current addresses, when writing. It saves a lot of cross-checking. Bob will make the necessary transmittal to the hotels. All the deposits already sent in will be turned over to Smith. Address.....

ROBERT M. SMITH 225-4633  
401 MT. WASHINGTON DRIVE  
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Please send those deposits at once so transportation and rooms can be firmed up!!!



INDIAN WRESTLING TROPHY - Rodewald, Rossi.



CNAC GROUP - (standing) Kenehan, Maher, Watson, Carr, Sherwood, Roberts, Rengo, Yang, Folz, Chu, Smith, Snyder, Cummins, Shrawder, Quinn, McHenry, McGinty, Roncaglione, Hanks, Powers, Prescott, Farrar, Micka, Kininmonth, Wong, Oldenburg, Michiels, Mah, Rossi, Chang, West, Pottschmidt, Carroll; (seated) Margaret Yang, Katty Chu, Richards, Soldinski, Hammill, Pelegrin, O'Hara, Mary Margaret Pottschmidt.