



The "HUMP" is a line drawn across the eastern Himalayas and the jungles of Burma by American blood and courage. It is a sky route 525 miles that was pioneered by the civilian volunteers of the China National Aviation Corporation (also known as CNAC) carrying supplies from India to China during WWII. Born out of confusion and chaos, it barnstormed its way to maturity and performed its missions with a streamlined efficiency that has had profound significance to the post war era, becoming a model for the Berlin air lift.

The Hump operation carried more tons of

cargo and personnel over a given route than any other flying operation. Its operational losses were higher than those of any other noncombat unit and exceeded those of many combat units. It flew unarmed cargo planes during the most dangerous days of the marauding Japanese fighter activity.

From Dinjan, in northern Assam, planes took off and flew over rice paddies, tea plantations and jungles to the hills. The hills puckered growing sharper and sharper and soon became the terrifying spurs of the Himalayas that reach like knuckled fingers to the sky.

Living like dogs and flying like friends the

Hump pilots acquired a style of their own. But they outmaneuvered the Japanese, the jungles, the mountains, and monsoons all day and all night, every day and night the year around. The only world they knew was that of planes. They never stopped hearing them, flying them, patching them, and cursing them. Yet, they never got tired of watching the planes head for China. The FINAL APPROACH was always a sense of another successful mission and accomplishment for having made it again over the most dangerous and treacherous air route in the world to Kunming.



AVIATION FUELS

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR'S BIRTHDAY	16	17 VALENTINE'S DAY	18	19	20
21	22 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY OBSERVANCE	23	24	25 WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY	26	27
28	29	30	31 ASH WEDNESDAY		DECEMBER 1989 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	FEBRUARY 1990 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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