

Cannon Ball

Reg Farrar, Editor

Issue No. 5

REUNION JULY 2 - 5

May 15, 1975

The CNAC-AVG Reunion is July 3-5. The Cnac Reunion starts 1 day earlier at the Ojai Valley Inn, Ojai, California, 93023. Write direct for reservations.

Everytime we meet someone else turns up. Renewed interest is never too late. This is our youth, but it is fading further and further away. In spite of this you can recapture it for a moment. This is the year that everyone who flew or serviced the "Top Side Rickshaws of the Middle Kingdom Space Machine Family" should gather. Now Hozytaw lies over the next ridge, but before we see the beacon, lets meet again. What you were and what you did and what you didn't do is of no importance now. All is forgiven. We lived a moment in a strange land. We may even have made a little history, but all of us made friends. Now is the time to renew those acquaintances.

The CNAC Reunion will start on July 2, 1975. This is one day before we are joined by the AVG. That evening we will show movies of China, Calcutta and past reunions. If you have any film of the Hump bring it along. The next morning we will greet the AVG and late comers as they arrive. That evening there will be the outdoor bar-b-cue and dancing. There will be 2 banquets, one for CNAC and one for AVG. There will be business meetings with elections. There will be a golf tournament. In addition to golf there is tennis, swimming and riding.

If this is your 1st reunion you will like the Ojai Valley Inn. It is perched on a small hill surrounded by a golf course in the heart of the Ojai Valley. They turn the whole place over to us so everywhere you turn you will see a familiar face.

This promises to be a great reunion and may be our last one on the West Coast for awhile now that the Flying Tiger Line is unable to take us out. We have been very lucky in the past and we owe so much to the generosity and courtesy of this great airline. So - on to California. We have a great program for our banquet. Our featured speaker is Dick Merrill.

Captain Dick Merrill, christened Henry Tindell Merrill at Iuka, Mississippi. In 1894, started his colorful flying career prior to World War I, at the controls of Tiny Jenny with an OX-5 engine. Since that time he has amassed a record unequalled in aviation. After several years of barnstorming around the United States, Dick, on July 20, 1928 joined Eastern Airlines, then known as Pitcairn Aviation. Flying everything from Eastern's open cockpit Mailwings to today's jets, he has logged 40,300 hours and 8 million miles in the air. Due to today's federal regulations requiring pilots to retire at 60, it is doubtful that another pilot will ever approach these impressive totals.