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AVG/CNAC BULLETIN

Mid-Winter (or Early Spring) Bulletin

Lots of news for and about us.

There was the enshrinement of General Chennault in the Aviation Hall of Fame, where AVG'ers did themselves proud. (More about that later.)

There's the 1973 reunion fast approaching Ojai, July 5-7. (More to come.)

Big article in February 1 issue of Forbes on Gerhard Neumann, popularly known in China days as Herman the German. Forbes says he's some big operator.

Bob Prescott making a fine recovery after an argument with his ticker just before Christmas. Promises to be in shape for the Ojai course, and all other events.

Dick Rossi, after all these years, getting down to a one-house man; he thinks he has the place in Majorca sold after the first prospect got out of the country just ahead of the sheriff; and the Palm Springs place is going; the West Los Angeles place has gone. But at Fallbrook, Dick has a place which will take at least 10 years to shape up; maybe that's how he got to be a one-house man; finally bought a place that needed so much attention he had to get rid of the others. Lydia is happy; said she could never be a Spaniard. Besides, it's a lot easier to get to Ojai from Fallbrook than Majorca.

Tex Hill is the new president of the Fighter Aces Association. He will tell all about it at Ojai.

Anna Chennault addressed a standing-room-only World Affairs Council meeting in Los Angeles in February on Asia and steps she feels the United States should take in dealing with Asia. Rode Rodewald, Bob Smith, Moon Chin and Len Kimball attended, and Anna said she hoped to see all of us at Ojai in July.

Remember Duke Hedman's champagne party at San Diego? How much he was enjoying it until Bob Prescott told everybody it was Duke's treat. Well, Duke hasn't been questioned about a repeat performance at Ojai but a little urging might help, for instance -- a few letters pointing out what a great host he was, how much all of us enjoyed the Hedman gigglewater and how much we'll look forward to making "Duke's Party" an event at future reunions, with attendant publicity and a feature spot in the program. It's possible Duke might want to go for the whole bundle again. At the moment, he's our best party prospect.

Jack Cornelius is back from the Pacific; i.e., Wake Island, Hong Kong and Hawaii. I know you all feel sorry for Jack and some of the places he's been.

Mr. Smith of the Trenton newspaper contacted me the other night. He had just found out that Trenton had a native son in the Flying Tigers and he would like to learn more about John Croft--where he is or what happened to him. He said his newspaper never gave credit to having a native son in that great organization and he'd like to do a feature article. I informed him that in my records, the only information I have is, "deceased about 1968". I would appreciate it if anyone knows any more about John--what happened to him, if for sure he has passed away and how--please let me know. I talked to Ken Jernstedt and found out that after AVG, John flew for Republic Aviation on Long Island, but we don't have anything after that trek. It's a good chance for additional AVG publicity so let me know any more information on John's life.
