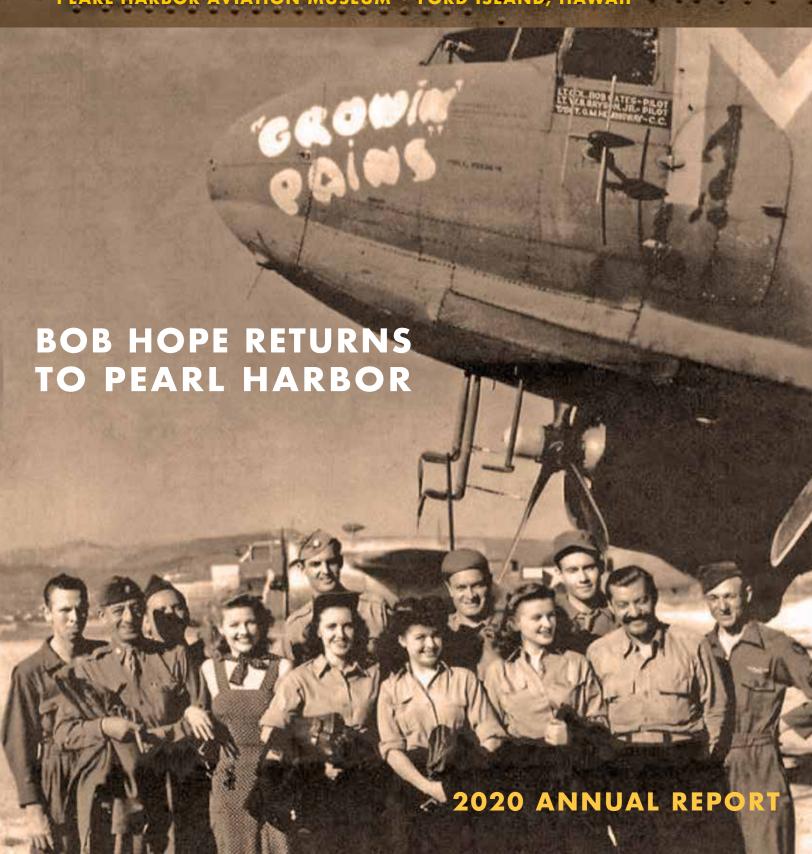
NOTICE TO AIRMEN SPRING 2021 | ISSUE #44

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM • FORD ISLAND, HAWAII



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: 2021 OUTLOOK IS PROMISING



With nearly half the year behind us, our outlook for 2021 is promising. Reflecting on 2020, we realize that philanthropy, volunteerism, and the support of people helping people combined to sustain families, communities, and organizations around the country. As **John F. Kennedy** observed, "Philanthropy, charity, giving voluntarily and freely... call it what you like, but it is truly a jewel of an American tradition."

Facing this crisis together elevated the effects of the lessons of our past. Remembering the strength and resilience of our Greatest Generation inspired us as we grappled with restrictions, financial challenges and loss. The observation of **Charles Swindoll** rings true, "Words can never adequately convey the incredible impact of our attitudes toward life. The longer I live the more convinced I become that life is 10 percent what happens to us and 90 percent how we respond to it."

It may have been lost in the moment, but our Museum, like many nonprofit stewards of history, arts and culture, felt the power and the legacy of our WWII veterans directly. The inspired challenge gifts from the **Ray Foundation** and the **Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation**, and the many gifts from all our valued donors, helped us weather and continue to weather the COVID-19 storm.

Nearly 80 years after the impact of the attack on Pearl Harbor moved a young **James Ray** to enlist in the Marines to serve his country, his Foundation trustees continue to invest in ways that strengthen families and foster self-discipline, confidence and personal responsibility. Though he is no longer with us, I am sure Mr. Ray would be pleased to see how his legacy and his personal passion for flight continue to open the doors to the future for many young people.

Then there are the words of **Bob Hope** himself, "I was there. I saw your sons and your husbands, your brothers and your sweethearts. I saw how they worked, played, fought, and lived. I saw some of them die. I saw more courage, more good humor in the face of discomfort, more love in an era of hate and more devotion to duty than could exist under tyranny." Linda Hope keeps the memory and impact of her father alive through the amazing work of the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation. The recent release of the book, **Dear Bob . . . Bob Hope's Wartime Correspondence with the G.I.s of World War II**, drives home that impact. Soldiers who could not bring themselves to share their fear or concerns with family, did so with Bob Hope. Their letters, many of which were answered personally by Bob, gave these soldiers solace in the midst of the horrors of war.

The opening of our new exhibit, "Bob Hope: An American Treasure," will impact tens of thousands who visit our Museum and take time to thoughtfully remember as they view the artifacts, photos and videos that share the story and influence of this hero.

I hope the pages of this NOTAM, and the included 2020 Annual Report, convey our deepest appreciation for your support during a challenging year.

"On matters of style, swim with the current, on matters of principle, stand like a rock." — **Thomas Jefferson**

Mahalo,

Elissa Lines



BOB HOPE EXHIBIT TO TREASURE ARRIVES AT MUSEUM IN MAY

By Mary Altman, Consultant to the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation



Few Americans of the 20th century can rival the long-lasting impact made by **Bob Hope**. One of the most iconic entertainers of his time, Hope was also a philanthropist, golf addict and, most famously, an ardent supporter of our nation's men and women in uniform.

On May 21, 2021, in time for Bob Hope's May 29th birthday, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum opened "Bob Hope: An American Treasure," a special exhibit focusing on the life, accomplishments, and humor of the legendary comic. With the support of Bob's daughter, Linda Hope, this traveling exhibit focusing on his life, accomplishments, and humor, began touring in 2011.

The display includes more than 150 artifacts from the **Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation** including his Honorary Veteran citation and a Hope-signed vaudeville contract, several hours of video of his performances in war zones spanning more than 50 years, hundreds of photos, and scores of jokes.

Visitors will take a happy journey beginning with the Hope family's arrival at Ellis Island and Bob's rise in vaudeville through his career in Hollywood, to his most cherished role as one of America's greatest patriots. The exhibit also highlights his obsession with golf and relationships with twelve Commandersin-Chief accompanied by artifacts that include a putter from **President Richard Nixon** and a piece of the Berlin Wall that was a gift from **President Ronald Reagan**.

Before its arrival at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum for an exhibit in perpetuity, the exhibit toured for seven years with stops at numerous institutions, including the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, Ellis Island, the National World War II Museum, and the Greenwich Heritage Center near London.

Throughout the exhibit, visitors will experience much of Hope's story in his own voice, adding charm and humor to their visit. Prior to its departure from the mainland, new artifacts were added, including additional stories, photos and video from Hope's 1944 Pacific USO Tour, keepsakes from his 1995 trip to Honolulu for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, and a golf bag from the late **Admiral John McCain, Jr.** (father of the late **Senator John McCain III**).

Whether you grew up watching his Christmas specials, saw him perform in a USO show, or are learning about him for the first time, you will be touched by Bob Hope's humanity and humor.

GEN. RAYMOND E. JOHNS JR. USAF (RET.) ELECTED BOARD CHAIR

By Elissa Lines, Executive Director

At the annual meeting of our Board of Directors, January 21, 2021, Clinton R. Churchill stepped down as Chairman after serving in a leadership role since our Museum opened. Clint will remain on the Board of Directors as the Treasurer. It has been my pleasure and privilege to learn from and work with Clint over the years.



In a symbolic gesture, Clint passed the "flight control" to incoming Board Chairman, Gen. Raymond Johns USAF (Ret.). An active Board member since 2013, Ray brings a commitment to educating and engaging youth in all facets of aviation. With 36 years of service, Ray retired in 2013 after commanding the USAF Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL composed of 135,000 Airman and some 1,400 aircraft. Ray is a highly experienced Air Force Test Pilot, having flown over 5,000 hours in 83 different military aircraft.

Following his military service, Ray joined FlightSafety International as SVP in 2014 and retired in 2019 having served as CO-CEO. In addition to numerous board leadership roles, Ray is the President of Pacific Air Charters. Ray's energy and passion will serve to inspire our next generation.

The following leaders were recommended and approved for Board appointment at the annual meeting. We are thrilled to welcome their leadership:

Chris Thorpe, Managing Partner of Brick Investment Partners, LLC

Chris is a Chartered Financial Analyst focused on investing in private equity and publicly traded markets. He has managed portfolio investments for over 25 years. In 2003 he co-founded Hudson Capital Energy, LLC, which was eventually sold to INTL FCStone. His most recent endeavor is as co-founder of Brick Investment Partners, LLC which makes control investments in privately owned businesses.

Tony Vericella, Retired President, Island Partners, Hawaii

Tony recently retired as President of Island Partners Hawaii, Luxe Travel Hawaii and as the Senior Vice President of Business Development of MC&A, Inc. Collectively, these are the premier destination management companies throughout Hawaii. Tony served as Executive Director for both the 2016 Commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor and the 2020 75th Commemoration of the end of WWII.

Please join us as we bid "aloha" and "mahalo" to departing Board Members, Walter K. Kaneakua and Rick Blangiardi.

A FAREWELL TO CLINT CHURCHILL FILLED WITH GRATITUDE

By Gen. Raymond E. Johns Jr., USAF (Ret.), New Board Chairman



One of the joys of flight is the perspective it grants; from thousands of feet in the air you truly get to see the big picture. As we slowly emerge from the pandemic and the Museum continues to find innovative and new ways to bring history alive and into the present, it is likewise important to understand and to acknowledge a person who has been the Museum's backbone and who has masterfully carried us through the recent turbulence.

Having spent the past few months shadowing **Clint Churchill**, understanding the many hats he has worn has been a truly eye-opening experience for me. His breadth and depth of knowledge – every detail of the Museum and its contents; his mastery of the organization and its operations; his gift for connecting with staff members, volunteers and donors – has left me in awe.

We are so fortunate Clint will continue to contribute his knowledge and expertise as our Treasurer and Finance Chair. Clint's tireless efforts on behalf of the Museum have left us in a healthy place with a solid foundation, when so many organizations have found themselves struggling over the past year. As the Museum soars into a bright and exciting future, I know I speak for so many of us when I say "Mahalo nui loa, Clint," for all you have done.

JN GROUP COMPLETES FIVE-YEAR, \$100,000 COMMITMENT TO PEARL HARBOR HISTORIC SITES

By Danielle Bowers, Director of Development

Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum would like to extend its deepest thanks to JN Group. This year, the company completed its five-year, \$100,000 commitment to the Pearl Harbor Historic Sites. JN Group's pledge to preserve this American battlefield was made in 2016, in honor of the 75th commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"At JN Group, we celebrate our service members every single day. We recognize the commitment, sacrifice and selflessness it takes to dedicate your life to protecting your fellow citizens. We've been proudly veteran-owned since we opened in 1961. My father, Joe Nicolai, founder of JN Group, served in the United States Army in the late 50s while stationed at Pearl Harbor as an interpreter for the Italian submarine, Evangalista Torretelli. We have deep roots in the military, and we make it a priority to support service members and their families on Oahu."



Throughout their years of service here on Oahu, JN Group has worked hard to also support the many charities like AUSA, Navy League, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum, and our Take Stock in Pearl Harbor program, efforts that honor our military communities and historic sites. We appreciate their commitment to preserve our veteran's legacies and to support the lives of our service members. To learn more about their programs and benefits, visit inpatriotprogram.com.





VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT: 735th AIR MOBILITY SQUADRON

By Rod Bengston, Director of Exhibits, Restoration & Curatorial Services

The Museum cares for 26,600 objects ranging from vintage 1930s-era Pan Am pilot wings to our recently acquired F/A-18C Blue Angels Hornet. Each year, curatorial and restoration staff research, inspect and maintain every object in the collection. Add to this mission the assembly of several complex aircraft and you can understand why we are grateful when an outside group offers to lend a hand.

Recently, volunteers from the 735th Air Mobility Squadron (AMC) of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam detailed our 1950 Pirsch fire truck, cleaned a dozen of our jets, and provided invaluable assistance reassembling the wings and landing gear of our new F/A-18C. Led by **Brandon K. Baimbridge**, MSgt, USAF, Aircraft Maintenance Production Superintendent, this team tirelessly applied their expertise and elbow grease to ensure a job well done.

"735 AMS ohana is proud to volunteer at Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum. It is a great opportunity for us to give back to the community and add to our airframe and powerplant technical experience on a variety of generational airframes and engines."

- Brandon K. Baimbridge

MSgt, USAF, Aircraft Maintenance Production Superintendent





Technical Sergeant Anthony Napolitano from the 735th AMS holds a special chock he created in honor of his grandfather who worked on C-47s during WWII. A shared experience, decades apart.

A YEAR OF SINGULAR CHALLENGES

By Clint Churchill, Former Board Chairman



The year 2020 was unprecedented for the world, our country, our state, our Museum, and each of us personally. Yes, the pandemic is certainly far from over, but we can, at least, recap a year that we will never forget.

Everything seemed to close on March 18, including the Museum's front doors. Whereas the Museum experienced an encouraging 25.6 percent year-over-year increase in visitors during the first two months, it all ended a few weeks later. From that watershed date to year-end, our visitation declined more than 92 percent.

Uncertainty and anxiety set in, with our state's unemployment peaking in April at 23.8 percent. Furloughs, layoffs and pay-cuts were widespread, with the Museum being no exception. While we lament having little choice but to part ways with many valuable employees, our hope is that 2021 will be a year of rebuilding.

I am quite proud of the manner in which our team faced the challenges of 2020. The words resilience, adaptiveness and "can-do attitude" come to mind. Our education team pivoted, offering remarkable online programs while providing a series of informative and inspirational webinars. Construction was deemed to be an essential activity in Hawaii, so work on renovating the Ford Island Control Tower elevator continued unabated. Progress on our long-envisioned Aviation Learning Center continued as well.

Architecture and engineering were completed, the project put out to bid, a construction contract awarded, and ground broken on the \$3.2 million project. The center will, no doubt, inspire many of our youth to a future in the aviation industry. Thanks to the support of our donors and members, we also proceeded with the acquisition of acclaimed curriculum and related software from the Museum of Flight in Seattle. On the aircraft front, the Museum added an A-4 Skyhawk to its collection and secured the Navy's commitment to a long-term loan of a Blue Angel F/A-18.

One high point of our year included the 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II. While COVID-19 caused significant downscaling of planned events, the Museum's role in the Legacy of Peace flyovers was noteworthy. A total of 14 WWII warbirds were brought to Hawaii on a U.S. Navy amphibious carrier, the USS Essex, for a series of nostalgic flights. The main aerial parade occurred in conjunction with the September 2 program on the deck of the Battleship Missouri Memorial. The volunteer warbird owners and pilots provided the highlight of the Commemoration.

Throughout the two financial pages that follow, you will see that the Museum has endured the pandemic remarkably well. Revenue from fees and related sales were down 78 percent, tracking almost exactly to the drop in Hawaii's tourism for the year. Our fundraising pivoted from specific capital projects to unrestricted grants and contributions, which were up more than \$900,000 from the previous year. When the dust cleared, losses from the significant decline in normal revenue were greatly offset by fundraising.

On the balance sheet, the Museum's pre-pandemic conservative financial position served us well. Swift action to control expenses and reduce staffing minimized the impact on our reserves. Assets totaled \$33.8 million at year-end.

In the governance area, I would be remiss in not again mentioning the passing, in early 2021, of Admiral Ron Hays, Chairman Emeritus of the board. Admiral Hays personified leadership with integrity; the Museum stands as his legacy. I would like to thank both Walt Kaneakua and now-Mayor Rick Blangiardi for their years of dedicated service to the Museum as board members and leaders. Earlier this year we welcomed two new board members, Chris Thorpe and Tony Vericella. They each bring a wealth of practical experience to our board; their commitment is exemplary. I would like to also thank all of our board members for their support and sage advice during a year that required adjustment due to uncertainty more than any other.

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

While the unwavering support from volunteer docents, restoration specialists, simulator operators, and other volunteers had to, unfortunately, wind down last March, we look forward to welcoming them back once it is safe to do so. And a huge shout-out to all of the Museum's financial supporters who helped us weather the financial storm brought on by the pandemic. Your continuing commitment is heart-warming. This is my last annual report letter, having stepped aside as chairman in March of 2021. Retired Air Force four-star General Ray Johns, who has been on our board for six years, has taken over as chairman. The Museum will benefit greatly from his high-level executive experience, aviation expertise and commitment to youth education. Best wishes, General!

While I have been honored to hold various Museum board positions since inception, the credit for the Museum's progress to date goes to the village of dedicated volunteers, staff, members, donors, and partners who have made it possible. I remain confident that the future is bright for our still-young Museum as we honor those who fought for our freedom.

Aloha,

Clint Churchill

Former Chairman of the Board

2020 MUSEUM RECAP: PRESERVATION AMIDST A PANDEMIC



Historical preservation is about protecting our culture by ensuring the legacy of those who stood before us is used to inspire our future generations.

Our doors closed to the public on March 18, 2020, and remained closed for much of the year. In the midst of the pandemic, this definition of historical preservation directed our efforts. Though COVID-19 altered our plans, it did not prevent our work.

- **FEBRUARY:** A group of 20 WWII and Korean War veterans were welcomed on an Honor Flight pilgrimage to Pearl Harbor.
- MARCH: Pearl Harbor at Home was launched, an on demand digital resource providing inspiration, resources and discoveries. This resource was delivered to tens of thousands of inboxes around the world each week.
- APRIL: The monthly webinar program was kicked off with a webinar about the attack on Pearl Harbor, featuring educators from the National WWII Museum. Overall, the Museum hosted eight webinars viewed by thousands, including participants from Japan, France, Switzerland, UK, Italy, Afghanistan, Mexico, Australia, Malaysia, Ireland, and Brazil.
- MAY: Five scholarships were awarded to future aviation professionals in Hawaii.

- JULY: "A Piercing Blow: The Aerial Attack on Pearl Harbor," was unveiled. This new exhibit showcases a relic of the *USS Arizona* within historic Hangar 37.
- AUGUST-SEPTEMBER: 75th Commemoration of the End of World War II. Events included the participation of 60 WWII veterans, and the Aerial of Peace flyover on Oahu featuring 15 WWII warbirds.
- **OCTOBER:** Virtual Classroom Visits were unveiled, engaging schools around the country in STEM, history and leadership lessons.
- **DECEMBER:** The annual "For Love of Country" Gala was celebrated online. During this event, our community raised more than \$250,000, helping us achieve a \$500,000 match from the Ray Foundation.

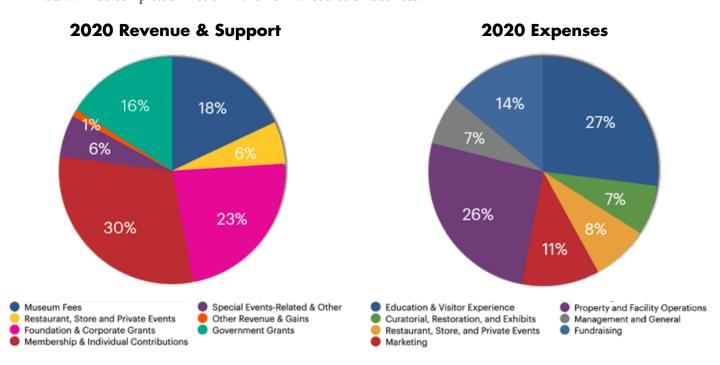
It goes without saying that 2020 was a year of challenge. Yet, with the help of our member and donor communities, we weathered the storm and grew stronger from having overcome the threats we, like many nonprofits, faced. The innovative support provided by the challenge grants awarded to us by the Ray Foundation and the Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation combined to power our Museum and our programs forward. We thank you all for your transformative support over the past year. We hope you are able to join us—in person and online—in the coming months.

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Statement of Activities (Unaudited*) for Calendar Years Ending 12/31/20 and 12/31/19

2020		2019
\$ 1,509,778	\$	6,835,587
4,237,726		4,673,387
615,773		720,321
\$ 6,363,277	\$	12,229,745
\$ 1,813,744	\$	2,733,082
736,421		644,071
1,633,865		3,292,238
\$ 4,184,030	\$	6,669,391
\$ 392,857	\$	553,644
\$ 295,837	\$	375,236
81,498		627,676
340,695		442,788
\$ 718,030	\$	1,445,700
\$ 5,294,917	\$	8,668,735
\$ 1,068,360	\$	3,561,010
\$ \$ \$ \$	\$ 1,509,778 4,237,726 615,773 \$ 6,363,277 \$ 1,813,744 736,421 1,633,865 \$ 4,184,030 \$ 392,857 \$ 295,837 81,498 340,695 \$ 718,030 \$ 5,294,917	\$ 1,509,778 4,237,726 615,773 \$ 6,363,277 \$ \$ 1,813,744 \$ 736,421 1,633,865 \$ 4,184,030 \$ \$ 392,857 \$ \$ 295,837 \$ 81,498 340,695 \$ 718,030 \$ \$ 5,294,917 \$

^{*}Audit will be completed in 2021 in the normal course of business.



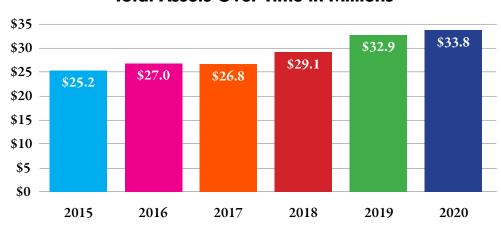
PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Statement of Activities (Unaudited*) for Calendar Years Ending 12/31/20 and 12/31/19

ASSETS CURRENT ASSETS	2020	2019
Cash and Investments	\$ 5,754,023	\$ 5,249,030
Contributions and Grants Receivable	2,313,253	1,665,375
Museum Fees Receivable	231,545	832,402
Prepaid Expenses and Others	137,487	377,659
Total Current Assets	\$ 8,436,308	\$ 8,124,466
MUSEUM COLLECTIONS	\$ 8,985,245	\$ 8,671,699
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET OF DEPRECIATION & AMORTIZATION	\$ 16,406,070	\$ 16,106,459
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 33,827,623	\$ 32,902,624
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Notes Payable Within One Year	\$ 1,229,763	\$ 55,118
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	348,330	589,350
Deferred Revenue	106,236	240,487
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 1,684,329	\$ 884,955
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	\$ 483,831	\$ 1,426,564
NET ASSETS		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 25,840,929	\$ 25,428,755
With Donor Restrictions	5,818,534	5,162,350
Net Assets	\$ 31,659,463	\$ 30.591,105
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$ 33,827,623	\$ 32,902,624

^{*}Audit will be completed in 2021 in the normal course of business.

Total Assets Over Time in Millions



DONATIONS TO PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM - 2020

Thank you to our Donors for their continued support.

\$500,000 and Above

James C. Ray Foundation The Price Family in conjunction with Oil Changers, Inc.

\$200,000 and Above

Bob & Dolores Hope Foundation **Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust The Estate of David C. Lau

\$100,000 and Above

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\$50,000 and Above

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\$30,000 and Above

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\$20,000 and Above

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2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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CDR Richard Welch, USN (Ret.) CDR James Woomer, USN

Akira Yamakawa Hiromu Yogi

*Denotes Pledge

**Denotes Pledges and Payments

THE FIGHTERS OF VIETNAM

By Rod Bengston, Director of Exhibits, Restoration & Curatorial Services



Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's McDonnell Douglas F-4C Phantom II.



F-105s take off on a mission to bomb North Vietnam, 1966.



F-100D Super Sabre drops napalm bomb near Bien Hoa, South Vietnam, 1967.



Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's F-102 Delta Dagger in Hangar 79.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, the leading theory of consultant military analysts was that the U.S. and its allies would require U.S. fighter aircraft to defend against Russian bomber groups. U.S. fighter designs were modified to carry out anti-bomber missions employing an array of air-to-air missiles.

Air-to-air guns were dismissed as obsolete technology. Initial design of the F-4 Phantom utilized only missiles and bombs as armament. As early as April 1965, the U.S. entered a radically different type of air war. North Vietnamese Air Force MiG-17s attacked F-8 Crusaders and brought down two F-105D Thunderchiefs. Dismissing the erroneous predictions of the White House and administration military analysts, the Pentagon augmented bomber-killer missile platforms with M61A1 cannons and Browning M3 machine guns. These alterations met the agile air combat maneuvering and tactics of the North Vietnamese's Russian-built, Mikoyan-Gurevich, MiG-17 and MiG-21 and resulted in long-term changes to U.S. fighter power plants, armament and tactics.

During the Vietnam War, U.S. fighters and attack/bomber aircraft included the McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II and F-4 Wild Weasel, the Republic F-105 Thunderchief, the Chance Vought F-8 Crusader, the Douglas A-4 Skyhawk, the Douglas A-1H Skyraider, the McDonnell F-101 Voodoo, the Convair F-102 Delta Dagger, the Douglas A-3 Skywarrior, the General Dynamics F-111 Aardvark, the Grumman A-6 Intruder, the Lockheed F-104 Starfighter, and the Northrop F-5 Freedom Fighter (Skoshi Tigers). The U.S. Boeing B-52D Stratofortress served as the heavy bomber of the Vietnam War.

Several of these aircraft are represented in our collection: The F-4, F-5, F-100, F-102, F-104, F-105, A-3, A-4C, F-111C. The forward cockpit section of a B-52 bomber is also available for study; versions of this strategic bomber workhorse remain on active duty today. A MiG-21 is also featured at the Museum.



An A-4E of Attack Squadron VA-55 in flight.

WHY ARE YOU GOING SO FAST? "BECAUSE I CAN."

By General Gary North, USAF (Ret.), Museum Advisory Board Member

The F-111, with its variable sweep wings, terrain following radar, afterburning turbofans and self-contained escape module, was the most technically innovative design of its time.

Designed in the 60s for long range, low-altitude, high-speed, hostile airspace penetration -- several General Dynamics F-111 models served in the USAF inventory, including the electronic jamming EF and longer-range FB-111 version. The Aardvark served with USAF distinction from 1967-1998, including combat in Vietnam, where it was known as "Whispering Death" due to its low-altitude and high-speed capabilities. Other combat distinctions include the El Dorado Canyon 1986 mission against Libya, the 1991 Desert Storm successes in tank plinking, and electronic warfare jamming mission roles.

This amazing piece of machinery, the world's first swept-wing fighter, also served with distinction in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) from 1973 until 2010. The Australian F-111C, was a baseline F-111A but with longer wings and strengthened landing gear, developed to meet specific RAAF requirements. The F-111 Aardvark was affectionately known "down under" as the Pig. A derivative of the Afrikaans word "aardvark" is "earth pig." This reflects the long snout and earth following capabilities of that notable animal. Australia ordered 24 F-111Cs to replace the Canberra Bomber and the "Pig" remained in RAAF service

for 37 years. While not withstanding initial technical challenges and growing pains, the jet was revered by aviators, maintainers and the Australian population alike.

The F-111C was the fastest, longest range combat aircraft in Southeast Asia, and served as the preeminent weapon system in the region throughout its service life. With continuous technology updates, the F-111C transitioned from a dumb bomber to a smart precision strike platform. Harpoon missiles made it a formidable maritime strike platform with stand-off missile range in excess of 75 kilometers, giving Australia a genuine independent strike capability second to none.

During 1979 and 1980, four of these aircraft were converted to RF-111C reconnaissance aircraft. Four more ex-USAF F-111As were purchased by Australia and converted to F-111C requirements, in order to replace aircraft destroyed in accidents. Australia also operated 15 F-111Gs between 1993 and 2007, mainly as trainers. This purchase allowed the F-111C avionics to be upgraded from analogue to digital.

In 1998, when the USAF retired the F-111, the RAAF became the sole operator of one of the most complicated aircraft ever built. The RAAF engineers, maintenance personnel, logisticians, and supporting contractors maintained a fully operational fleet



F-111C prepares to be refueled by tanker during Red Flag exercises.

12 years beyond USAF F-111 retirement, with only indigenous resources—a true testament to Australian sovereign capability.

Air Marshal Geoff Brown served with distinction in the RAAF for 35 years, culminating as the Chief of Air Force from 2011 to 2015. He has many accolades and experiences while in uniform. Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum is grateful to the Australian government, the RAAF and AM Brown, for their support that culminated with RAAF Tail # A8-130 finding its final parking spot in the Museum. It is fitting that AM Brown's name is on the canopy rail of tail # A8-130.



Air Marshall Geoff Brown

AM Brown, while commanding RAAF #82 Wing, participated in many national and multilateral exercises. His recounting of one notable sortic could be characterized as "Because I can," when responding to the question of "Why are you going so fast?" Read on, and hang on, to his story of high-speed, low altitude target egress:

"The RAAF F-111Cs participated in numerous Red Flag and Pacific regional exercises. One of my more memorable flights occurred in Red Flag in 2002, where coming off our designated target, having dropped 12 Mark 82's (the 500-pound bomb variant), we were egressing the target area at about 540-560 knots, about nine miles a minute.

Our upgraded F-111 had a great threat warning system -- you could identify what sort of aircraft was tracking you, simply from the audio tones. We had an F-16 aggressor who had 'locked us up with his radar' so I pushed it up...and walked away from him...the F-111 had five stages of burner, and lots of gas, so with full burner selected, the 'Pig' quickly accelerated to 720 knots. One of the great things about the Red Flag exercise range space is you can go supersonic over land. I remember going past four Italian Tornados like they were standing still...they had external tanks on, so they had a speed restriction.



Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's F-111 sits inside Hangar 79 on Ford Island.



F-111C's in early jungle cammo paint scheme.

I went past them doing 750, about 300+ knots of passing overtake. I eventually saw 802 knots (supersonic and about 13+ miles a minute) at 200 ft on the dial. And of course, the F-111 had no speed limit per se, it just had a 'reduce speed' light when the wings got too hot. My only challenge that day was you had to be subsonic in the vicinity of some inhabited areas on egress, affectionately known as the 'farms' and the 'dog ladies house', so I pulled her out of 'burner' and it took over 20 miles to slow down to sub-sonic speed. There was nothing like the 'Pig' when wound fully up and running at low level...as the fighter pilot saying goes, 'speed is life' and no one could touch the 'Pig' on the deck running fast...I would describe it as a Cadillac-like ride."

The F-111 served for 37 years in RAAF service. When it finally retired in 2010, the public missed its incredible ability to set the sky ablaze. The "dump and burn," as it is known, is a relatively simple operation. The F-111 fuel dump is located between its engines and while fuel is being dumped with "burner" selected, it would ignite the fuel about five feet behind the aircraft. The F-111s flame-throwing ability was displayed at national events as well as air shows around the country, including the closing ceremony for the Sydney 2000 Olympics. The resulting spectacle remains a source of national pride for Australians.

It was a complicated, amazing aeroplane with amazing capabilities. Long live the F-111 in our memories and in the aviation museums and parks around the world.

NOTE: Here is the rest of the story as they say. When the RAAF announced the retirement of the F-111 and their decision to place several of these prestigious aircraft in museums, our Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum team explored museums, PACAF, and other avenues to communicate our interest in receiving an F-111 to display. Through a series of incredible decisions led by Air Marshall Geoff Brown, the final F-111 was disassembled, transported and reassembled inside our Hangar 79, a lasting tribute to our friendship.

MAKING AN IMPACT WITH AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS

By Annie Domko, Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum Scholarship Selection Committee

My interest in aviation stemmed from an overall fascination with flying that started when I was a kid growing up in Colorado, watching the geese fly south in the winter. As I walked my dog on cold Colorado nights, I wished I could go with them. My interest led me to airshows with my Dad, which is where I first caught the military bug (Blue Angels, am I right?). Finally, I received the gift of a glider ride when I was 15 which sealed the deal -- flying was what I wanted to do.

I never had a mentor, instead, I had dumb luck and a lot of elbow grease and perseverance. While I am grateful for my luck, I would have much preferred to have a mentor. After landing from



that fateful glider ride that changed my life forever, I knew I wanted to fly, and the only question became how to do it. I started working to earn money for flight lessons. After seeing me work an entire summer to pay for only a couple of hours, my mom took pity on me and took out a small loan so I could fly more than once every couple

of weeks. I had no clue there were scholarships for someone like me, and since it was the age before cell phones and instant information, I found myself on a very lonely, overwhelming and stressful journey, trying to get where I wanted to go without the means to do so.

When looking at colleges, I knew I wanted to be a pilot, but I did not have the money to attend a university with an aviation program -- this is where the Navy helped make my dreams come true. I went to Purdue University and earned an NROTC college scholarship that paid for my entire college degree. Upon graduating from college, I walked away with multiple licenses and ratings, and a Navy commission that was my ticket to Naval flight training. The rest, as they say, is history.

Had it not been for the financial assistance to pursue my dreams, I truly have no idea where I would have gone or what I would have done. As a mentor and advocate now for those without the money to pursue their dreams in aviation, I have seen firsthand how scholarships make a direct impact on students. Scholarships

2021 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

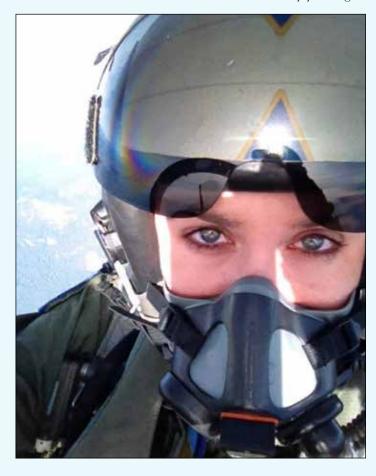
Frank Der Yuen Aviation Scholarship

- ★ Mr. Nicholas Barrick
- ★ Ms. Stephanie Ishigami
- ★ Ms. Kaitlynn Vicuna
- ★ Ms. Abigail Dang

Col. Robert P. Moore Scholarship

- ★ Ms. Jacqueline Jeon
- ★ Ms. Mindy Nye

provide a pathway to a world that many of us otherwise would not have access to. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunities that have been afforded to me along my journey, especially the opportunity to serve on Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum's scholarship selection committee. Every application I read instantly transports me back to when I was in their same shoes. It is an honor and privilege to provide them with the same type of assistance that I was so fortunate to receive many years ago.



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For more information please visit our website www.PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org

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Becoming a member of Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum directly supports our mission and efforts. Members get free admission to the Museum and special events, discounts at our Museum Store and Laniakea Café, and much more.

Questions? Ready to join? Contact us by mail, phone, or by email at: 808-892-3350, Members@PearlHarborAviationMuseum.org

PEARL HARBOR AVIATION MUSEUM: HONORING OUR PAST AND INSPIRING OUR FUTURE

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