



American Fighter Aces

and Friends

The Bulletin of the American Fighter Aces Association

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Dick Fleischer: Thunderbolt Over New Guinea



Association President's Message

Dear Aces, Friends, Survivors, and Honorees:

Our Ace's Association was founded in 1960, recognizing the 1450 combat pilots that qualified as Aces for action in World War I, WW II. Korea and Vietnam. In individual combat they contributed to the security of our country in times of war. Since that day, membership in the Association has continued to inspire patriotism and set a high example for our youth in America.

Our mission each year is to remind our public of the commitment the pilots had, to remain confident and courageous. It seemed to always be one on one or against the odds, playing the hand they were dealt. Betting it all. The Association's commitment transcends time and continues to be the direction we want to go.

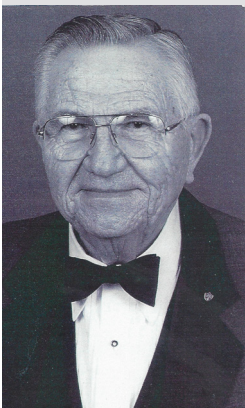
I have a large number of helpers in getting the Association's day's work done and I owe many a "Thank You" for their efforts. The Board of Directors officers give continually of their time on committees and are joined by Friends and volunteers to participate in study groups. In order to continue our mission of the future as an educational organization a few changes will have to be made and will require help of some strong donors to get good results. I encourage our Friends of the AFAA to help us in advice, suggestions and recruited a larger membership for support.

Thanks again for all the help we are getting and that includes the new team from the Museum of Flight. I am very encouraged about the future. Daily, I "Count my many Blessings". Have a great April and its many flowers.

Respectfully,

Colonel Dean Caswell USMC (Ret)

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Cover: Second Lieutenant Richard H. Fleischer proudly proclaims his qualified aviator status before going off to war (Courtesy of Richard Fleischer)