



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS**

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### **FINA-CAF AIRSHO® 2007 HONORS THOSE WHO SERVE FOR DUTY, HONOR COUNTRY**

MIDLAND, TEXAS – (Sept. 14, 2007) The Commemorative Air Force and Alon USA will honor those brave men and women who have answered our nation's call to duty during the upcoming FINA-CAF AIRSHO 2007, scheduled for Sept. 29-30, 2007, at Midland International Airport in Midland, Texas. Once again, all World War II veterans will be invited to AIRSHO as the CAF's special guests, with a free ticket to AIRSHO and a hospitality tent located on the grounds. Each veteran may be accompanied by one guest.

This year, in honor of the CAF's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, AIRSHO will be an all-military, all-warbird show, with the addition of the FINA EXTRA 300L. Jan Collmer will kick off AIRSHO each day, providing a breathtaking display of aerobatics in the FINA Extra 300L. His aerial ballet never fails to thrill AIRSHO crowds. A snap roll on takeoff causes watchers to gasp, as it appears that he has lost control. After that, he puts his 20-plus years of experience to work, performing awe-inspiring maneuvers such as torque rolls and tail slides.

Touted as the nation's largest collection of flying, classic warbirds, AIRSHO gives visitors the rare opportunity to get close to some of the world's rarest airplanes, including the world's only flyable B-29 Superfortress and the SB2C Helldiver. Other inspiring aircraft taking to the skies will include the B-17 Flying Fortress, FM-2 Wildcat, P-63 King Cobra, P-39 Airacobra, FG1D Corsair, P-51 Mustang, SBD Dauntless and many more. Aerial dogfights fill the skies and simulated bomb explosions rock the ground as the CAF's collection of classic warbirds reenact some of the most famous aviation battles of World War II.

An expanded Vietnam-era segment will include three newly-restored helicopters owned by CAF member and Midland resident Greg Baiano, joined by an O-2A Super Skymaster, O-1 Birdog, OV-10 Bronco, OV-1 Mowhawk, a T-28 Trojan as used by the South Vietnamese air force, an A-1

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Skyraider, AC-47 Spooky gunship and an A-26 Invader light bomber used for night-time bombing of infiltration routes used by Communist forces.

Featured act will be the Trojan Horsemen – a team of six T-28 aircraft performing precision aerobatics. The routine is a patriotic tribute to the United States Armed Forces, with music and narration and includes a stirring Missing Man formation pass. The T-28 is a large, crowd-pleasing fast and loud Warbird with a 1,425 horsepower radial engine, and the Trojan Horsemen are the only T-28 demo team in the country. The planes have smoke systems and sport authentic Air Force and Navy paint schemes to compliment the patriotic theme.

Also performing a tribute to the Armed Forces will be Clyde Zellars in his 64-year-old SNJ-Texan. Zellars spends about a fourth of his performance upside down or sideways, as he performs the same maneuvers that the Navy, Army Air Corps and Air Force pilots used for advanced training in World War II.

Rounding out AIRSHO 2006 will be appearances by a host of today's modern warbirds. Additionally, as has become tradition, AIRSHO will pair up some of World War II's legendary aircraft with today's most versatile jets in the Air Force Heritage Flight and Navy Legacy Flight.