

**PRESS RELEASE**  **MEDIA CONTACT**
March 19, 2024 Jacques Robitaille

**For Immediate Release** Public Information Officer

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**The AIRPOWER HISTORY TOUR brings Iconic world war iI AIRCRAFT**

**to Rick Husband Amarillo International airport in amarillo, TX**

**FOR PUBLIC TOURS AND RIDES**

**September, 2024**

***- Event offers great visuals and interview opportunities***

***- Media will have exclusive access to the aircraft upon arrival***

The distinctive rumble of radial engines from two of the rarest World War II bombers, the B-24 Liberator “*Diamond Lil”*, will be heard in the skies over Amarillo in September in April when they visit Rick Husband Amarillo international Airport as part of the ***AirPower History Tour*** of the Commemorative Air Force. The bomber is to be accompanied by a T-6 Texan and RC-45J Expeditor.

The ***AirPower History Tour*** brings the sights, sounds, and stories of World War II aviation to airports across North America each year. Visitors to the ramp will be able to view all aircraft up close, purchase rides, and tour the B-24 cockpit when the aircraft are not flying.

The aircraft will arrive at noon on Monday September 2. The aircraft will be staged at the Texas Air and Space Museum ramp, located at Rick Husband Amarillo International Airport, 10001 American Drive, Amarillo, TX 79111.

The event will be open to the public Tuesday and Wednesday, September 3 -4, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Access to the ramp where the warbirds are parked is $20 for adults, $10 for children ages 11-17 and free for children 10 and under. The T-6 and RC-45J will be offering rides each day. The B-24 flies on Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Cockpit tours of the B-24 will be available Tuesday beginning at 9:00 a.m., and on Wednesday beginning at noon.

Rides may be booked in advance at [AirPowerTour.org](http://www.airpowertour.org/) where additional information about the event may also be found.

***About the B-29 Superfortress “fifi”***

The Boeing B-29 Superfortress, the largest and most technically advanced aircraft of its time, was first flown in 1942. It began active service in the US Army Air Corp in 1944, and is best known as the aircraft whose missions over Japan helped bring an end to World War II. The B-29 also was used in the Korean War in the early 1950s and was a staple of the U.S. Air Force until 1960. “FIFI”, one of only two B-29’s in the world still flying, was acquired by the CAF in 1971. She began touring in 1974 and has been entertaining air show audiences across the country ever since.

***ABOUT THE B-24 LIBERATOR “DIAMOND LIL”***

The Consolidated B-24 Liberator was the most produced American warplane of WWII with over 18,400 aircraft rolling off assembly lines across the country. Most were manufactured at Ford’s giant Willow Run assembly plant in Detroit. *Diamond Lil*, one of the first B-24’s produced and still one of only two

B-24’s in the world still flying provides the opportunity to experience the sights and sounds of our fathers and grandfathers in the dangerous air wars over Europe, the Pacific, North Africa and Asia.

***ABOUT THE T-6 TEXAN***

The North American T-6 Texan, known as the "Pilotmaker”, was an advanced flight trainer that introduced new pilots to a complex aircraft with more speed of over 200-plus miles per hour, to prepare them for the warbirds they would fly in combat in WWII. The T-6 was designed for an instructor and student, and had a closed cockpit.

***ABOUT THE RC-45J EXPEDITOR***

The Beech SNB is a US Navy/Marine variant of the civilian Model 18 Twin Beech. Over half of the 10,000 produced from 1937 and 1970 were for to the US Military, and were used for light transport, photoreconnaissance, and navigation, bombing, and gunnery training. Many Twin Beech aircraft survive today after serving post-military as relative inexpensive, reliable light cargo aircraft.

***ABOUT THE COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE***

Through more than six decades of collecting and flying World War II aircraft, the CAF has become the world’s largest flying museum. Their fleet of over 170 World War II airplanes are assigned to unit locations across the U.S. and are supported by 12,000 volunteer members. Nearly all the aircraft are kept in flying condition, enabling people to experience firsthand the sight and sound of vintage military aircraft in flight. The CAF is dedicated to honoring American military aviation through flight, exhibition, education, and remembrance.

To learn more about the Commemorative Air Force, please visit  [www.commemorativeairforce.org](http://www.commemorativeairforce.org).

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