



SCHAF Newsletter for October, 2021

Reminder: The next SCHAF Open House will take place Saturday, October 9, 2021 from 10am-1pm at Hangar Y-1 Jim Hamilton/LB Owens Airport.

Foundation Happenings

The newest area on GF2 to be cleaned is the crawlway above the bomb bay area. Two original instruments, Inverters, were removed from this area. The instruments were taken apart then soaked in white vinegar to remove the rust. After cleaning, the brass switch still works! Even the words "HI" and "LO" can be clearly seen on the inverters. These instruments will be cleaned and placed back in GF2.



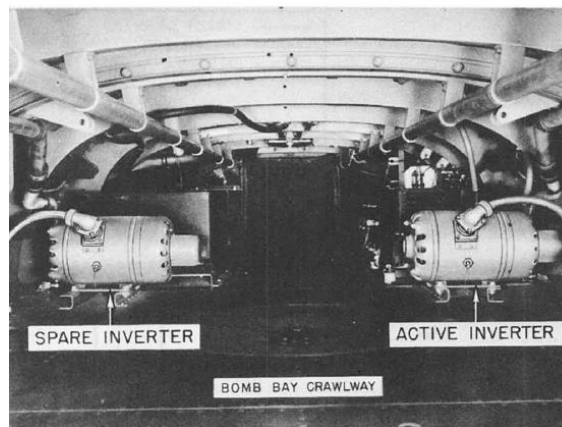
Before soaking in white vinegar



After soaking



Switch still legible



Picture from manual

Finding new areas of the plane always kicks off research to learn more about GF2. Here is some information about these Inverters from the B25C&D Maintenance Manual:

An alternating current generating system is provided on this airplane which supplies 115-volt, 26-volt and 3-volt alternating current for various purposes. The 115-volt alternating current is used in connection with the radio compass receiver and to supply current to the primary coil of a transformer, the secondary voltage of which is 3 volts. The 3-volt alternating current is used to operate the bomb release indicator lights and to light the pilot's magnetic compass. The 26-volt alternating current is used to operate the engine Autosyn instruments and the remote reading compass.

The inverters of the alternating current generating system are mounted, one on either side, in the crawlway between the navigator's compartment and the radio operator's compartment, just aft of the navigator's entrance to this passageway.

SCHAF Open House

Since the SCHAF Open House for September fell on 9/11, the American flag was flying in remembrance of the lives lost that fateful day.



SCHAF was thrilled to have another group of youth visit during the open house. There were two young boys who knew as much or more about WWII than anyone else at the open house. Their excitement about the aspects of flying was contagious. Ken spent quite a bit of time with them explaining the aerodynamics of flight. Alton is always a hit talking to the youth who visit. SCHAF is extremely thankful to have Alton attend the open house each month.



Ken talking aerodynamics



Alton talking to youth

DREAM FLIGHTS

On Sunday, September 19, Dream Flights came to the Hamilton/Owen's Field Airport to offer free rides to WWII veterans. During the month of September, they launched their Operation September Freedom as the "largest barnstorming event in US history". Quoted from their website: "Dream Flights is a nonprofit dedicated to honoring the service, sacrifice and stories of America's senior veterans by providing them with a life-changing experience: an open-air flight in the cockpit of one of Dream Flights' fleet of fully restored WWII era Stearman biplanes." SCHAF member and WWII veteran, Alton Blanks was able to go on one of the flights. Pictured below is Alton in the plane ready to fly and all smiles with the pilot after the flight.



GF2's Birthday

On October 13, 1942, GF2 rolled off the assembly line in Inglewood, CA. On October 15, she was flown to the B-25 plant in Kansas City, Kansas to receive some modifications. After that, she arrived in Columbia on December 2, 1942. GF2 is looking very good for being 79 years old. We will have cupcakes at the October Open House to celebrate her birthday.

In honor of GF2's birthday, here are a couple of pictures taken at one of the factories.



Wrap Up

If you have something you would like to share in a future newsletter or if you have any questions, please send an email directly to SCHAF at info.schaf@gmail.com.

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