

UPDATE # 105 - “CITY OF SAVANNAH”
B-17 Restoration
September 2, 2011

Summer is coming to its close here in Savannah and the *City of Savannah* team is closing out the season with a bang before the busy fall schedule begins.

We need to begin this Update with a big thank you to Tonnie Glick. Last week Tonnie took our 25 pound box of paper records into her home and filled the dining room table with everything we have accumulated in the last 32 months. When the paper came out of her front door everything was categorized in loose leaf binders and preserved in page protectors. Some of the materials had only recently been discovered in the files of the late Dr. Walter Brown. Walt was CEO of the Mighty Eighth from 2007 until January of 2009, and had done significant research on the original *City of Savannah* aircraft. Some of the original 1945 newspaper coverage of the ceremonies surrounding the naming and departure of the original aircraft will be published in this column in the near future. Tonnie – thanks, for a great job!!



Another thank you has to go out to our “Special Projects Guy”, Jim Argo. Jim returned from hiatus bearing a wonderful gift – on loan from Gulfstream Corporation – he was carrying a boroscope. Jim has been tasked with inspecting the *City’s* gas and oil tanks in order to determine their condition. The boroscope allowed Jim to look inside the tanks, view their condition on a TV screen, and take pictures of what the pliable TV camera was seeing inside the tanks. So far, Jim reports, things are looking very good. Yet another thank you – to Gulfstream Corporation.



Jim Argo (left) and Wednesday Crew Chief Danny Harden with the boroscope



Jim checking a fuel tank while watching the boroscope's screen

Moving from the wings of the airplane to the tail – the Wednesday evening crew is making great progress with our Alaskan tail turret. Most of the exterior skin has been replaced and last night the turret was removed from its “rotisserie” mount and attached to the tail of the airplane. Much, much more work needs to be done on the turret – but from now on the metal team will be working on the floor of the museum and not in the shop.



Historic moment – there is no record as to the last time 83814's profile included a tail turret

We hope that everyone enjoys their Labor Day weekend. Stand by with the *City of Savannah*, there is more to come . . .