

## Update # 40 – “City of Savannah”

B-17 Restoration  
January 8, 2010

The two week Christmas break on the “City of Savannah” project was the first time that work on the aircraft had stopped since its arrival last January. Although no formal work by the crews took place, two of our volunteers, Ben Ridgdill and David Pinegar deserve kudos for coming to the museum on their own to work on individual projects. Ben installed new fixed safety bars in the bomb bay and David installed repaired metal stringers in the lower cockpit that had been damaged during the trip from Virginia. Hat’s off to both of these hard working guys!



The Wednesday (Day) Crew started work again on the one year anniversary of the day that Marshall Brooks, Jerry McLaughlin and the All Coast Aircraft Recovery team arrived at the NASM hanger in Chantilly, Virginia, to begin preparing the aircraft for its journey to Savannah. They began work with the ColdJet machine to clean the “City’s” engines and wheel wells, with, at first, excellent results. However, after several hours it was evident that the residue that was being removed from the aircraft was not dissipating along with the dry ice. None of the several ideas that were tried to contain the residue - including calls to the ColdJet headquarters in Cincinnati – were able to fix the problem. That was the end for the ColdJet. What had looked like the answer to all our cleaning prayers was returned to its travel box and is now on its way to Ohio. Today the Friday crew is preparing the “City”

for another attack by the steam cleaner and tomorrow the Saturday Crew will finish up the wheel wells and begin cleaning the waist area of the “City”.

One other task took place on Wednesday – this time with a great deal of success. On advice from our good friend Gary Norville, a careful inspection was made of all the signage on the aircraft, and duplicate pictures were taken – this time with a ruler next to the signs for documentation purposes. Ron Gunnells and Bill Burkel supplied the cameras and were assisted by Danny Harden and Joe DeNapoli.



More to come