

UPDATE # 67 - "CITY OF SAVANNAH"

B-17 Restoration
August 27, 2010

Most of the activity on the "City of Savannah" project this week took place in the administrative offices upstairs in the Museum. All week long the daily mail call brought interesting material to the project. The first package was from Ralph O'Keefe from Rochester, New York. Ralph flew as a photographer on our airplane during the 1950's when the "City" was owned by Kenting Aviation and was known by the Canadian registration letters of CF-HBP. The picture of the handsome young man in the flying suit found below was taken of Ralph in 1956 while CF-HBP and her crew were working in Val D'OR, Quebec. Ralph reports that the flying suit he was wearing was much needed to keep warm on the photographic flights which were done at 30,000 feet, but that he only wore the parachute to scare his mother.



The second package was a series of external lights and controls (below) that Tommy Garcia purchased for the "City" as Christmas stocking gifts before his arrival Saturday night with the Santa Claus array of serious gifts.



The third package was very heavy and very expensive. It contained the five gallons of paint that will be used to paint the interior of the aircraft – at \$240 a gallon.

Another major event occurred in the administrative offices this week with the addition of two new volunteers who will be coming on board with the title of Assistant Project Managers. Richard Moscatiello will be working with the individual crews doing coordination and logistics. Richard is also going to work on developing a web site totally devoted to the "*City of Savannah*" and will develop a data base for our parts and acquisitions activities. Dawn Kosoris will be working on big picture strategic issues dealing with the status of our project two, five, or even ten years from now. She will also monitor our current Strategic Plan and will assist Jane to coordinate the vast amount of material we have accumulated that is needed to document our project. Both of these talented professionals come to us from the Project Management Institute - a professional organization for project managers in the Savannah area. They have considerable project management experience and will bring us into the 21st century with their Information Technology skills.

On the project's fundraising front, the Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum's *Flying Fortress 5K* Run/Walk proudly announced Spatial Engineering, Inc of Rincon, GA as a 5-Star Sponsor. Race Chairperson Jane Harper accepted a sponsorship check in the amount of \$2,000 from Jeff Hoopes of Spatial Engineering, Inc.



Jeff is a member of our B-17 volunteer crew and talked about a donation with his employer and then quickly gathered up 30 (and counting) runner/walkers for the November 6th event being held at the Museum. Thank you, Jeff Hoopes and Spatial Engineering, Inc. for helping us fund the restoration of the "*City of Savannah*"!

We are all looking forward to the arrival of Tommy Garcia over the weekend and the very special week that is about to unfold in the "*City of Savannah*" story after his arrival.

Much more to come . . .