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PRESS RELEASE

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Share Memorial Day with the CAF & the B-17 Texas Raiders

MIDLAND, TEXAS (May 11, 2012) – This Memorial Day, Mon., May 28, 2012, join the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) for a celebration honoring those who fought for our freedom. This FREE event will be held at the CAF at 9600 Wright Drive at Midland International Airport.

Start your day at 11:15 a.m. at the CAF where your family can enjoy traditional ceremonies, Open Cockpit Day, FREE admission to the CAF Airpower Museum and fantastic activities! While you're at the CAF, participate in the Above & Beyond Seminar Series featuring the crew of the B-17 Texas Raiders! Hear what is involved in keeping this warbird in the air, the maintenance, the training to be a proficient crew-member! Also, hear the firsthand story of a World War II B-17 crewman!

The annual Memorial Day Celebration will include a flag ceremony, guest speaker Congressman Mike Conaway, Missing Man Formation fly over by the High Sky Wing and the induction of eight of the Texas Medal of Honor recipients. Attendees can also experience the Missing Man Formation flyover by vintage CAF aircraft in remembrance of those veterans who have Gone West. Lunch can be purchased in the Commemorative Center hangar from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. for \$10 per plate.

Following the ceremonies, families can enjoy face painting with Greenie the Clown, balloon fun with Harlan the Balloon Guy, and the excitement of indoor flying with the Hi-Sky RC Club. Adults and children alike can climb inside authentic warbirds and get an idea of what the men and women of our American Military may have felt as they flew missions to protect our freedoms during Open Cockpit Day, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The B-17 Texas Raiders will be selling rides in this vintage World War II aircraft all weekend long. Rides will be limited and subject to weather. For more information, please visit the official Web site at http://www.gulfcoastwing.org/GCW/B-17_AirplaneRides.htm.

The George H.W. and Barbara Bush Commemorative Center is home to the state's largest Medal of Honor memorial. The Texas Medal of Honor Memorial recognizes the valor of Texans who earned the highest military decoration awarded by the United States for service and bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Each year, the Commemorative Air Force will induct eight Medal of Honor recipients until all 84 of the Texas recipients have been recognized.

This Memorial Day, the CAF will honor Medal of Honor Recipients Milton Murray Holland, William Grafton Austin, Jack G. Hanson, Steven Logan Bennett, Daniel Richmond Edwards, William Dean Hawkins, George Benton Turner, William James Bordleon, by inducting them into the CAF's Texas Medal of Honor Memorial. (Biographies are attached)

The above information has been provided by the CAF Airpower Museum and distributed by the Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau. The mission of the Midland Convention & Visitors Bureau is to encourage economic growth by developing, promoting, enhancing and supporting Midland as a vibrant visitor destination.

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