

Vzpomínka (60)

American Airpower Heritage Museum, MIDLAND, TEXAS, USA



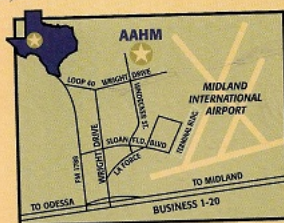
World War II began and ended with the airplane. From the German aerial attack on Poland in 1939 to the release of the atom bomb over Hiroshima in 1945, the airplane played a decisive role in the outcome of World War II.

Today, the American Airpower Heritage Museum (AAHM) located at Midland International Airport in Midland, Texas, is dedicated to preserving the complete history of World War II military aviation and the memory of the men and women who built, serviced and flew the historic military aircraft of World War II.

Recognized for its collection of authentic World War II artifacts and memorabilia, including uniforms of Allied and Axis countries, armament, photographs, weapons and equipment, the museum houses 40,000 square feet of "hands-on" permanent exhibits that detail the story of World War II airpower. From the rise of German and Japanese militarism before World War II to the introduction of the atomic age, the AAHM provides interactive exhibits that illustrate aviation concepts and events from every theater of the war.

Museum Membership

Your membership in the museum provides for general operating expenses. Memberships allow the museum to provide quality educational programs, exhibits and special events. As a member of the museum, you and your family will enjoy a variety of benefits from free museum admission and special invitations to great publications and discounts. You can join online or call the museum office for more information.



Admission Rates and Hours of Operation

The American Airpower Heritage Museum is open daily, except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Hours of operation are from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday and holidays. Call for admission rates.

American Airpower Heritage Museum
9600 Wright Drive, P. O. Box 62000
Midland, Texas 79711
Phone: (915) 563-1000 Fax: (915) 567-3047
www.airpowermuseum.org



Pilots of an F6F Hellcat on board the USS Lexington



Educational and Oral History Programs

The Museum offers award-winning interdisciplinary activities such as the Footlocker program and Aviation Boot Camp that provide area schools with unparalleled educational opportunities. A monthly seminar series featuring World War II veterans and scholars is another of the museum's popular educational programs.

Also housed at the AAHM is a significant collection of over 3,300 oral histories provided by men and women who experienced World War II first-hand. Oral history kits are available for those wishing to record their World War II experiences or those of a fellow veteran. The recordings are sent to the museum and are placed on file in the museum's archives for future generations to use for research and historical purposes.

For more information on upcoming seminars or the oral history program, contact the museum at (915) 563-1000 or visit the website at www.airpowermuseum.org.

Aviation Art Gallery

Of the 100,000 artifacts at the AAHM, 35 are very rare original nose art panels that represent the artistic expressions of young men at war. The panels were cut from the fuselages of World War II aircraft as they were being scrapped after the war. This one-of-a-kind collection is featured in the museum's Aviation Nose Art Gallery.

Giant murals, original video productions, and educational activity stations bring the nose art collection to life as do actual audio accounts made by crewmembers and artists who were personally connected to the pieces of art.

Designated by the White House Millennium Council and the National Trust for Historic Preservation as an official project of *Save America's Treasures*, the nose art collection is the world's largest.

The gallery also features a myriad of other folk art from the AAHM's extensive collection of World War II memorabilia, including flight jackets, oil paintings and armament, which allows museum visitors of all ages and backgrounds to become familiar with the culture surrounding the "nose art" era. A conservation laboratory, changing exhibit gallery and research library are exciting additions to the gallery.



Aircraft on Display

As part of the museum tour, visitors will see 14 to 20 aircraft on display in the CAF hangar. Many of the airplanes are part of the CAF's fleet – some of which are the only examples in the world. The airplanes change quarterly, so there are always new and different airplanes for visitors to see.

More aircraft can be found just outside the hangar doors. Dedicated to those Americans who served as aircrew during the Vietnam conflict, "A Salute to Vietnam Veterans" exhibit features the F-105 Thunderchief, F-4 Phantom, F-100 Super Sabre, AH-1 Cobra and the UH-1 Iroquois.

