



**MUSEUM  
OF AVIATION**  
FLIGHT & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

## ***NEWS RELEASE***

Museum of Aviation, P.O. Box 2469, Warner Robins, GA 31099

[www.museumofaviation.org](http://www.museumofaviation.org)

Contact: Bob Dubiel

[bdubiel@museumofaviation.org](mailto:bdubiel@museumofaviation.org)

(478) 926-6870

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### **MUSEUM OF AVIATION RECEIVES AIR FORCE “HERITAGE” AWARD FOR D-DAY EXHIBIT**



Warner Robins, Georgia – The Museum of Aviation has received the 2009 U.S. Air Force History and Museums Program’s Air Force Heritage Award for its exhibit on the 507<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Air Invasion of Normandy during World War II. Museum Director Ken Emery accepted the award May 13, 2009 from Air Force Chief of Staff General Norton A. Schwartz at a conference at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The Museum was cited for

“fostering a better understanding and appreciation of the Air Force, its history and accomplishments.” A panel of Air Force historians and museum professionals judged the project worthy of Air Force recognition.

“This award is a great honor for the Museum of Aviation and our staff that worked so hard to design and build it,” said Emery. “But the real story here is about the people who accomplished this great task over 60 years ago. The exhibit honors those who served with great honor and distinction and those who survived -- as well as those who did not.”

The 6,000 square-foot exhibit takes visitors through the planning and execution of the allied invasion of the continent of Europe on June 6, 1944 – the defining military operation that ultimately brought World War II fighting in Europe to an end. Two actual C-47 cargo planes are used in the exhibit – one cut-away fuselage section showing paratroopers ready to jump and another complete aircraft elevated 22 feet above the entire exhibit. Veterans of the



507<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment that participated in the D-Day operation helped Museum and community leaders open the exhibit last October.

The exhibit is open free to the public every day including weekends from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Museum is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. For more information call (478) 926-6870 or see [www.museumofaviation.org](http://www.museumofaviation.org).

***Photo #1 Cutline: A World War II C-47 Cargo plane with D-Day "invasion" stripes in simulated flight over the Museum of Aviation's Exhibit on the 507<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment and the Air Invasion of Normandy. .***

***Photo #2 Cutline: U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norton A. Schwartz, left, presents the 2009 U.S. Air Force History and Museums Program's Air Force Heritage Award to Museum of Aviation Director Ken Emery, center. Participating in the presentation is (at right) C.R. Anderegg, Director, Air Force History and Museum Policies and Programs.***

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