

Dear friends from the Air America and CAT Associations,

After a wonderful trip to Dallas and to Washington, we returned to our home today. While we stayed at Dallas between 23 and 27 August, we did not only do further research into the history of Air America and CAT, but we were also able to have 3 new files and a lot of updates installed on the web. So what is new since 23 August 2010?

As to *The Aircraft of Air America* (located at <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/collections/speccoll/Leeker/index3.html> ), I added material from several new sources, including

- 1) The material donated to the Archives by Patricia F. Walker, M.D., daughter of Captain Frederick "Fred" Frye Walker. This material includes priceless documents like all types of Memoranda, Notams, Contracts, Radio messages, and Daily Flight Schedules of several Air America bases, including the Saigon Daily Flight Schedules of 28 and 29 April 1975, that is of the last two days Air America was in operation.
- 2) The photos sent to the author for publication by Dr. Jonathan Pote, documenting his one-year stay in Laos in 1965/66. These photos not only allowed to considerably augment the file about the RLAf T-28s maintained by Air America, but also to add a completely new section at the end of the C-47 file, presenting all known information about the C-47s flown by the Royal Laotian Air Force that were also maintained by Air America.

As to *The History of Air America* (located at <http://www.utdallas.edu/library/collections/speccoll/Leeker/history/index.html> ), three new files are published here for the first time in August 2010:

- The early days I – CAT operations in China 1946-48
- The early days II – CAT operations in China 1949-50
- Air America - Cooperation with other airlines

While the 2 files about the early days of CAT are mainly based on old *CAT Bulletins* preserved at the CAT / Air America Archives (UTD) and on information about the aircraft flown by CAT prior to 1950 obtained from Princeton University Library, the file about Air America's cooperation with other airlines mainly deals with the Company's relations with Southern Air Transport, Bird and Sons, Continental Air Services, Boun Oum Airways and all those airlines who had handling contracts with Air America, particularly for services at Clark and Kadena Air Bases. The file *Air America Japan* has been considerably augmented at the beginning, dealing with the history of CAT prior to the Korean War. And the file *Air America in South Vietnam III – the collapse* has as well been increased with material recently released by the CIA like trip reports in which several Air America pilots describe in detail how they spent the last 2 days in South Vietnam, that is 28 and 29 April 1975.

Thank you very much to all those of you who contributed to these updates and new files. And have fun!

All the best from Germany,

Joe Leeker