



## **NEWS RELEASE**

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)  
MIDLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P. O. Box 6200 Midland, TX 79711-2000  
Midland TX 79711-2000  
(432) 563-1000 ext 2231  
[www.commemorativeairforce.org](http://www.commemorativeairforce.org)

GULF COAST WING - CAF  
Col Sandy Thompson  
Public Information Officer  
9310 Max Conrad Drive  
Hooks Airport – Spring, TX 77379  
(817) 304 0393  
[www.gulfcoastwing.org](http://www.gulfcoastwing.org)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **VINTAGE WWII BOMBER TO MAKE INDIANAPOLIS APPEARANCE**

SPRING, TEXAS – *Texas Raiders*, an authentically restored B-17 Bomber, celebrated its forty years of historic preservation in 2011 with flights honoring the veterans who served during World War Two and introducing this segment of history to the visiting public. This previously award-winning Flying Fortress will be arriving into Indianapolis Executive Airport on Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> hosting walk-through tours and rides at Montgomery Aviation (11329 State Road 32, Zionsville IN 46077) and departing on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. This B-17 Flying Fortress performs at air shows, conducts flyovers at major sporting events and hosts static tours and rides at various U.S. locations each summer.

After nearly eight years of extensive restoration this B-17 Bomber became airworthy in 2009 and has flown in air shows throughout the central Midwestern United States, conducted sports-event flyovers and reunited remaining World War Two veterans with their link to the aircraft flown in the European and Pacific theatres of this historic period. To date there are just nine (9) remaining flyable B-17s left in the United States. Although the non-profit 501-(c)-3 organization, the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) is the owner of this vintage Bomber, the maintenance, restoration and operation is assigned to the Gulf Coast Wing, an all volunteer CAF membership group. It is estimated that the cost to operate this vintage Bomber is \$3,000 per flying hour.

-MORE-

## WORLD WAR II BOMBER

Page 2

To support the flying operation of *Texas Raiders*, the volunteer members of the Gulf Coast Wing will be offering rides and tours at Indianapolis Executive Airport, Tuesday, July 31, 2012 and Wednesday August 1st. All donations for tours and rides are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

*Texas Raiders* became a member of the Commemorative Air Force's *Ghost Squadron* in September of 1967 and was thereby assigned to the Gulf Coast Wing in 1971. This unique B-17 Bomber is currently featured in *WARBIRDS INTERNATIONAL* and *FLYPAST* magazines. She has appeared in two movies, *Ike The War Years* and *Brady's Escape*, one PBS Documentary *Honor Squadrons* and two television commercials.

Collecting, restoring and flying warbirds for more than half a century, the Commemorative Air Force ranks as one of the largest private air forces in the world. The CAF is dedicated to honoring American Military Aviation through flight, exhibition and remembrance with a flying museum of classic military aircraft. A non-profit educational association, the CAF has approximately 9,000 members and a fleet of almost 160 airplanes representing more than 60 different types – including planes from several foreign countries and military conflicts since WWII. For more CAF information, visit [www.commemorativeairforce.org](http://www.commemorativeairforce.org) or call (432) 563-1000. For more information on tours and rides on *Texas Raiders*, contact Sandy Thompson, Public Information Officer at 817 304 0393 or [info@gulfcoastwing.org](mailto:info@gulfcoastwing.org)