



## **proposed building U. S. ARMY AVIATION MUSEUM FT. RUCKER, ALABAMA**

THE ARMY AVIATION MUSEUM FOUNDATION, INC.

### **FACT SHEET**

**1. What is the U.S. Army Aviation Museum?** The mission of the Army Aviation Museum is to collect, preserve, restore, and present aircraft, memorabilia, artifacts, documents, and other items which tell the story of Army aviation. The museum serves as a repository for artifacts, documents, and other Army aviation items contributing to the history of Army aviation. It also provides periodic exhibits of a cultural nature on loan from the National archives.

The museum serves as a source of educational and historical facts concerned with Army aviation. It is an inspiration to all who visit. It is an incentive to the aviation novice while arousing nostalgia and active support for Army aviation among the veterans. In addition to a major tourist attraction, the museum is used as a training facility for the Aviation School and as a source of morale and esprit de corps for Army aviation by serving as a place for recognition of units and individuals of distinction, both civilian and military, in Army aviation history.

The museum was founded in 1955 at Fort Rucker, Alabama. In the past 26 years, its collection of aviation equipment, displays and exhibits illustrating the history of Army aviation has grown until it is now valued at over \$75,000,000 and increasing monthly.

**2. What is the Army Aviation Museum Foundation, Inc.?** It is a non profit Foundation incorporated under the laws of the State of Alabama and the Federal Government.

**3. What is the purpose of the Foundation?** Its primary goal is to raise sufficient funds to build a permanent home for the U.S. Army Aviation Museum. The building will be presented to the U.S. Army upon completion.

**4. Why is a new building needed?** The museum is now housed in WWII buildings which do not offer sufficient protection and do not provide the flexibility needed for a first-rate museum. A new museum building will provide more display space, necessary humidity control to preserve aircraft and artifacts and greater security from fire and theft.

**5. Where will the new building be located?** At Fort Rucker, Alabama on a site selected by the Fort Rucker Planning Board which is adjacent to the present museum.

**6. Who visits the museum now?** In the past ten years, the museum has had over three million visitors. These include tourists, aviation students, school and college groups, foreign students, local residents and personnel stationed at Fort Rucker.

7. **Will tourism be an important factor in the new building?** Yes, definitely! 65 million people spent \$2.5 billion traveling in Alabama in 1981. Travel contributed over \$90 million in Alabama sales tax with additional amounts in gasoline taxes and lodging taxes. Tourism generated enough dollar volume to pay the salaries of 65,000 employees.

8. **Will there be an admission charge?** No!

9. **After the building is built by the Foundation and given to the Army, how will it be maintained and staffed?** The Commanding General of the U.S. Army Aviation Center will provide all required maintenance, utilities, professional staffing and any other requirements needed for the new building in accordance with existing regulations.

10. **Who is asked to contribute to the fund raising campaign?** Everyone, to include army aviators and enlisted personnel, Army Aviation Associations, Army Aviation units and other persons and organizations interested in preserving the history of Army aviation. Fund drives are being conducted at Fort Rucker and in local communities to solicit contributions from military and civilian personnel. Also, a worldwide campaign to reach Army aviation personnel and units outside the United States as well as reserve and retired personnel are being conducted. The solicitation of Army aviation related industry is another phase being conducted country wide.

11. **Are contributions tax deductible?** Yes.

12. **Are stocks, bonds, property and wills acceptable as gifts?** Yes.

13. **Are pledges possible?** Yes, pledges may be paid over a three year period.

14. **What about permanent recognition?** Individuals contributing \$100 or more will be listed on a permanent plaque in a prominent place in the new museum.

**ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIPS:** Contribution determined by the Foundation Board of Directors.

**PATRON MEMBERSHIPS:** Individual contribution of \$25,000.00

**CHARTER MEMBERSHIPS:** Individual contributions of \$1000.

**DISTINGUISHED MEMBERSHIPS:** Individuals contributing \$500.

**LIFE MEMBERSHIPS:** Individual contributions of \$100.

**"IN MEMORIAM" SPONSORSHIPS:** Contribution \$100. Memorialized person's names engraved on permanent plaques.

**UNIT MEMBERSHIPS:** Contribution of \$500 from any detachment or company size unit.

15. **How can I help?** Send your contribution to: The Army Aviation Museum Foundation, Inc.  
P.O. Box H  
Fort Rucker, Alabama 36362