



# DON *and* JOHN

The Story of how the Ace Combat Team of the Army Air Forces in World War II . . . Maj. Don S. Gentile and Maj. John T. Godfrey . . . is carrying on as a Flying Team in the interest of Peacetime Aviation.

# THE TEAM . . . A Pair of Aces Come to Texas

Fighter Pilots Earn Title of "General Ike's Two-man Air Force" in Air Battles with the Nazi Luftwaffe

THE TOP-RANKING fighter pilot combination of World War II, Maj. Don S. Gentile and Maj. John T. Godfrey, have assumed civilian duties that will keep them flying as a team in peacetime aviation.

The famous fliers have been named Division Directors of Sales and Service for the Globe Aircraft Corporation of Fort Worth, Texas, and are making a tour of national scope as representatives of Globe and as ambassadors for aviation generally in Texas and the Southwest.

On the tour Gentile (pronounced Gen-TILL-ey) and Godfrey are making appearances and speaking in behalf of private flying and giving demonstrations of the Globe Aircraft all-metal personal planes, the SWIFT 85 and the SWIFT 125, two-place, low-wing monoplanes now in production.

Together in 180 combat missions and 192 sorties against the Nazi Luftwaffe, Gentile and Godfrey destroyed a total of 69 enemy aircraft, Gentile getting a total of 32, and Godfrey destroying a total of 37.

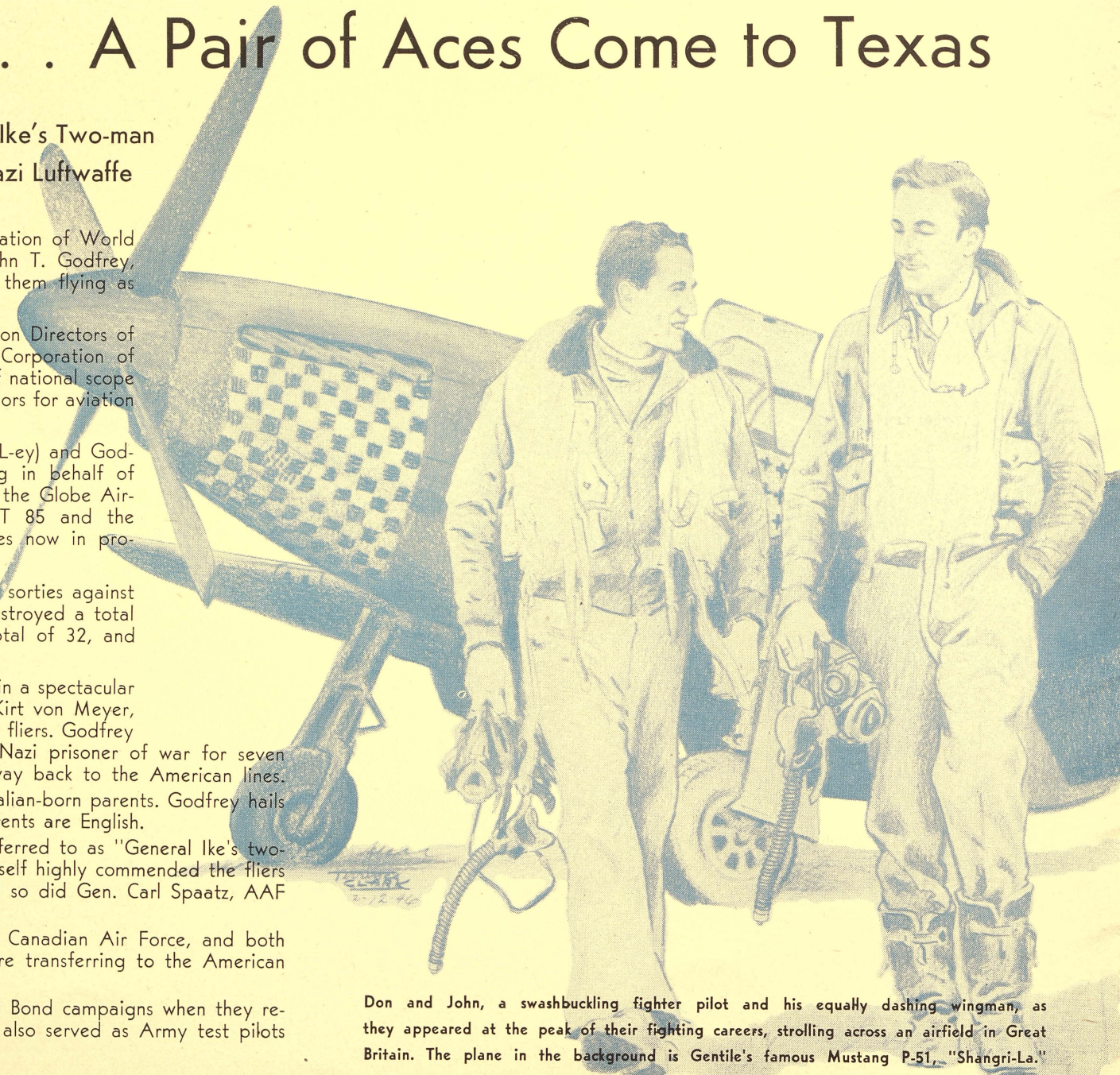
Gentile was credited with shooting down, in a spectacular battle over Berlin, the noted German ace, Kirt von Meyer, said to have scored 150 victories over Allied fliers. Godfrey was shot down over Germany and was a Nazi prisoner of war for seven months before he escaped and made his way back to the American lines.

Gentile is from Piqua, Ohio, the son of Italian-born parents. Godfrey hails from Woonsocket, Rhode Island, and his parents are English.

In Europe the combat team often was referred to as "General Ike's two-man air force," and General Eisenhower himself highly commended the fliers in letters to their new friends in Texas, and so did Gen. Carl Spaatz, AAF commander-in-chief.

Godfrey was a volunteer with the Royal Canadian Air Force, and both men served with the Royal Air Force before transferring to the American Air Forces.

The fliers aided in War Bond and Victory Bond campaigns when they returned from the European battlefronts and also served as Army test pilots before going on terminal leave.



Don and John, a swashbuckling fighter pilot and his equally dashing wingman, as they appeared at the peak of their fighting careers, strolling across an airfield in Great Britain. The plane in the background is Gentile's famous Mustang P-51, "Shangri-La."

Front cover design and sketches of Gentile and Godfrey by Terrence Clark, Globe Aircraft artist.

# FOR VALOR IN COMBAT

## DON S. GENTILE

Distinguished Service Cross  
(With One Oak Leaf Cluster)

Silver Star

Distinguished Flying Cross  
(With Seven Oak Leaf Clusters)

Air Medal  
(With Three Oak Leaf Clusters)

British Star

British General Service

Canadian Volunteer Medal  
(With One Maple Leaf)

French Croix de Guerre

French Fourragiere

Eagle Squadron Crest  
(Presented by the King and Queen of England)

Presidential Unit Citation

Royal Air Force Wings



## JOHN T. GODFREY

Distinguished Service Cross

Silver Star  
(With One Oak Leaf Cluster)

Distinguished Flying Cross  
(With Five Oak Leaf Clusters)

Air Medal  
(With Three Oak Leaf Clusters)

Purple Heart Medal

British Star

British General Service  
Canadian Volunteer Medal  
(With One Maple Leaf)

French Croix de Guerre

French Fourragiere

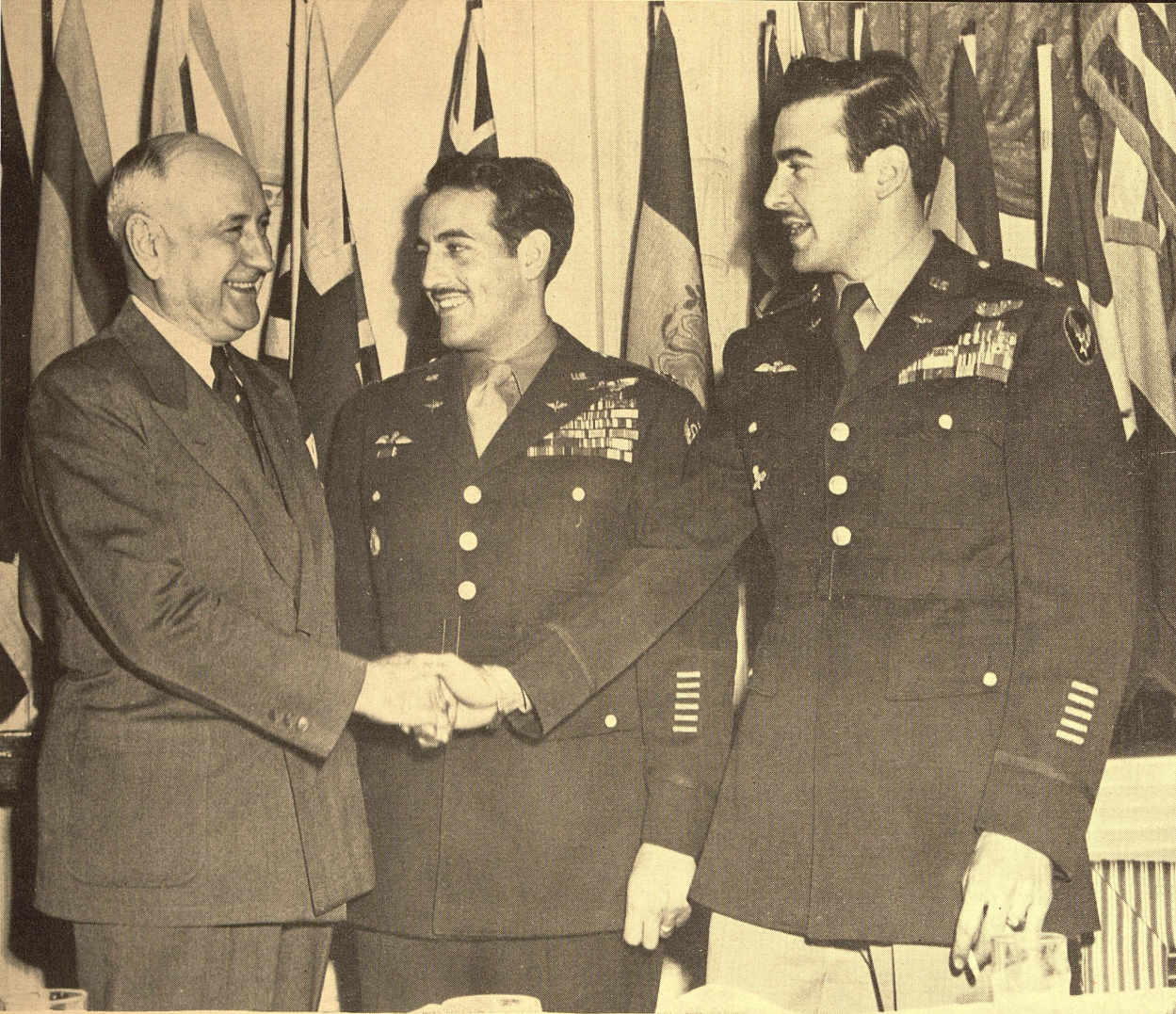
Flying Boot

Presidential Unit Citation

Royal Canadian Air Force Wings

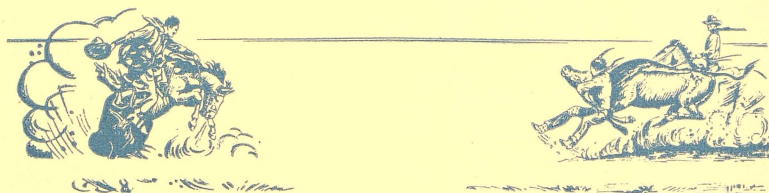
"The top combat team of any war . . . the living example of American teamwork in aviation"—Gen. H. H. Arnold.





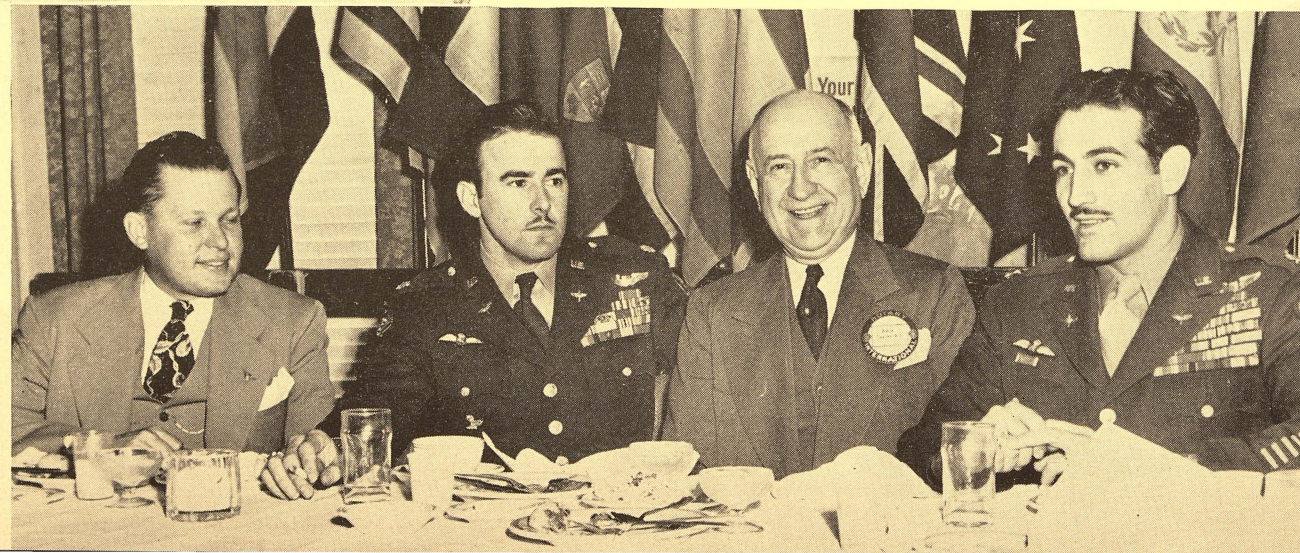
# Welcome to Fort Worth

*Where the West Begins*



Above, Don and John are greeted by Amon Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and internationally-known Texan, whose son, Lt. Amon Carter Jr., served with the First Armored Division, was captured in the early fighting in Africa and spent over two years as a prisoner of the Germans.

At right, the fliers are presented to the Fort Worth Rotary Club by Amon Carter, honorary member of the club. Shown at the table, left to right, are Carrol F. Hinners, Rotary president; Maj. John Godfrey, Mr. Carter and Maj. Don Gentile.



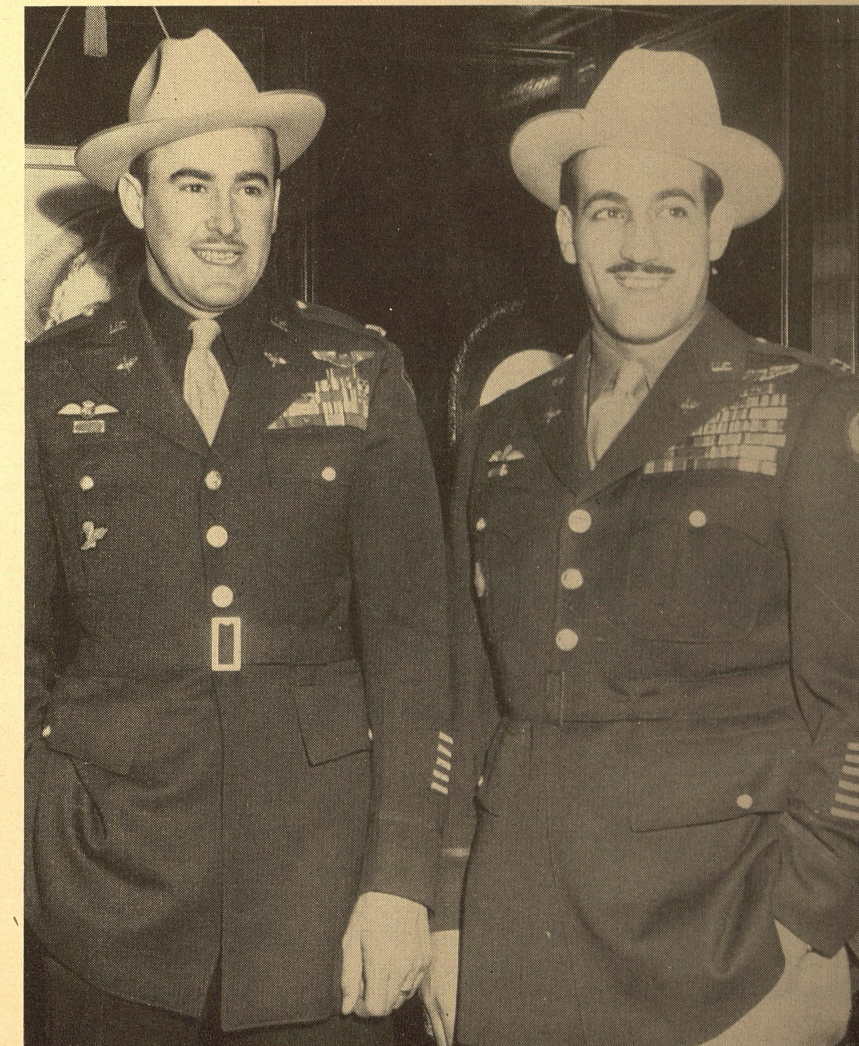
WELCOME TO THE LONE STAR STATE

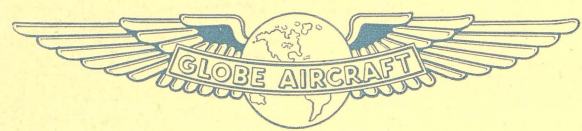
—They Become Texans



★ Above, the flying team of Gentile and Godfrey is welcomed to Texas by Governor Coke Stevenson in the Capitol at Austin.

★ At right, Godfrey and Gentile wearing Shady Oak hats, noted symbols of Western hospitality in Fort Worth, Texas. The hats were presented to them by Amon Carter, publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and famous Texas host.





Welcomed to their new civilian duties by John Kennedy, right, president of Globe Aircraft Corporation at Fort Worth, Texas, Godfrey and Gentile are shown as they assumed the posts of Division Directors of Sales and Service.



THEY BECOME AVIATION AMBASSADORS FOR TEXAS—Wearing their Shady Oak hats and equipped with other Western regalia, Don and John prepare to take off in a Globe Swift from Fort Worth's Municipal Airport on another leg of their national tour, making appearances and speaking at Air Shows and other events.

DON and JOHN

Share a

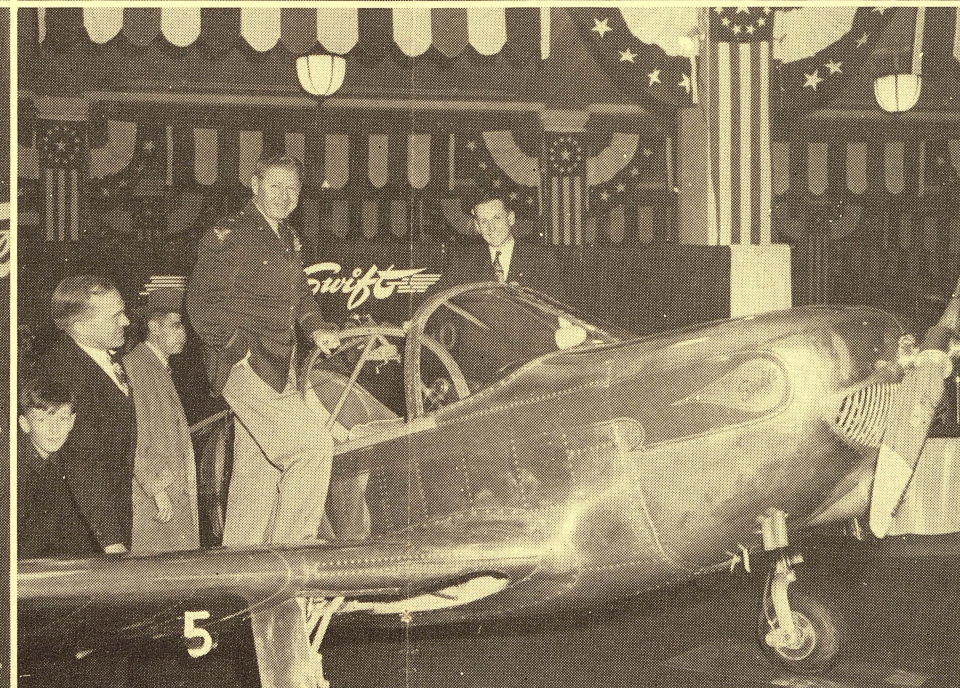
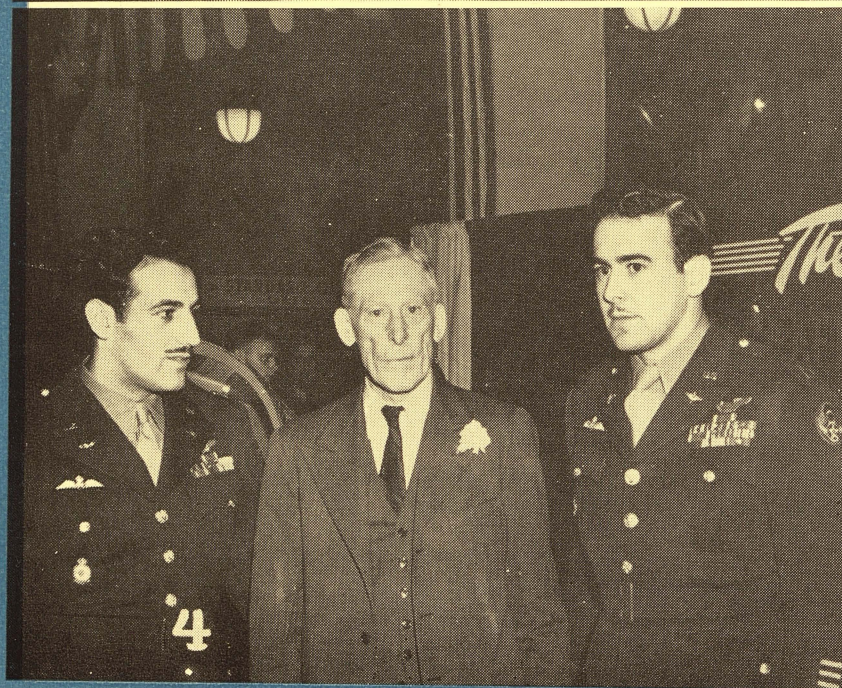
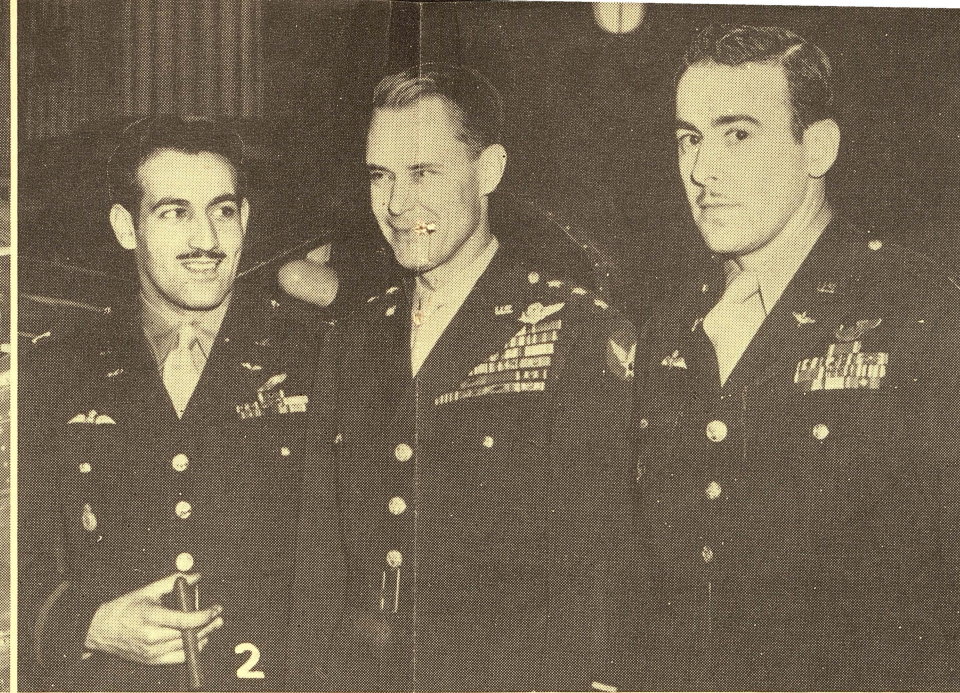
"General"

View

of the

GLOBE

Swift



Majors Gentile and Godfrey and other Globe Aircraft representatives had the pleasure of showing the Globe Swift to a distinguished assembly of military visitors at the Cleveland National Aircraft Show. In the pictures, (1) Maj. Gen. E. M. Power, Washington, and Norman Nicholson, left, Globe vice president; (2) Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenburg, center, with Gentile, left, and Godfrey; (3) Maj. Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, Washington, in plane, with Gentile and Godfrey looking on; (4) Brig. Gen. Frank P. Lahm, retired, of Cleveland, center, with Gentile, left, and Godfrey (Lahm was one of two Army officers taught to fly by Wilbur Wright in 1909 when the Army bought its first airplane); (5) Maj. Gen. Benjamin W. Chidlaw, standing on wing, with W. G. Fuller, left, Globe assistant vice president, and George Robinson, right, Globe field representative, and (6) General Chidlaw, in plane, with Robinson on wing. Gentile and Godfrey received their commissions as majors shortly after this show as they began their terminal leave.



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## They Take In the Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show



Pictured in Fort Worth at the opening of the Fiftieth Annual Southwestern Exposition and Fat Stock Show March 8 in Will Rogers Memorial Coliseum, Don and John join President John Kennedy of Globe for a visit with Governor Stevenson of Texas and Gene Autry, star of screen and radio and co-producer of the exposition's world championship rodeo. Left to right, Maj. Don Gentile, Mr. Kennedy, Governor Stevenson, Mr. Kennedy and Maj. John Godfrey.

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## They Get Acquainted With the Queen of The Range



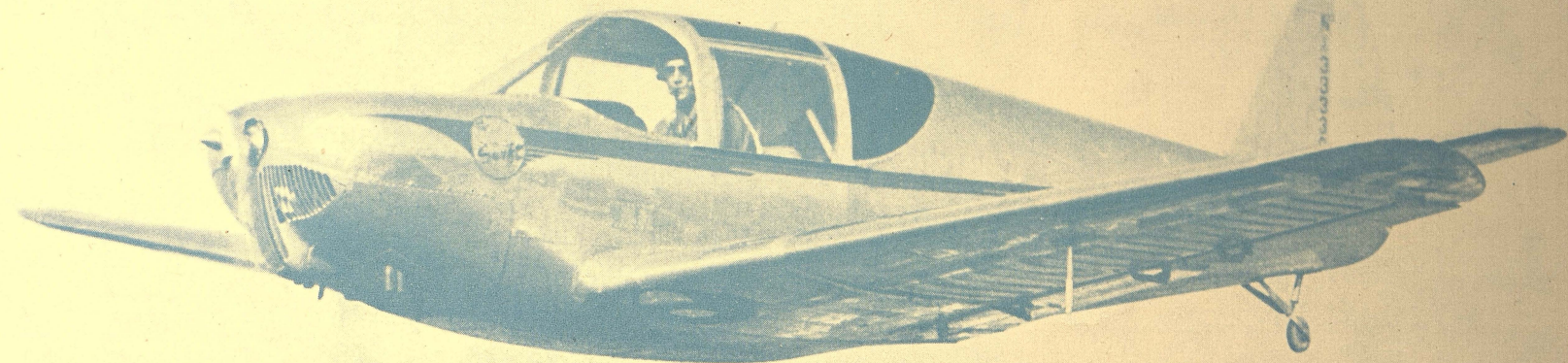
At the Southwestern Aviation Exposition, held in connection with the Fat Stock Show, Don and John made appearances at the Swift exhibit of Globe Aircraft, and here are showing the plane to Miss Virginia Lutz of Fort Worth, named Queen of the Range in a beauty contest held in connection with the Earl Carroll Vanities, an entertainment feature of the Fiftieth Annual Exposition.



# At the Annual CHICAGO SPORTS and TRAVEL SHOW

Above, Don and John visit with two Hollywood celebrities at Globe Swift exhibit in the annual Chicago Sports and Travel Show, held in Chicago Stadium under sponsorship of the Chicago Herald-Examiner. Left to right, Major Godfrey, Screen Stars Lee Bowman and Eleanor Parker, and Major Gentile.

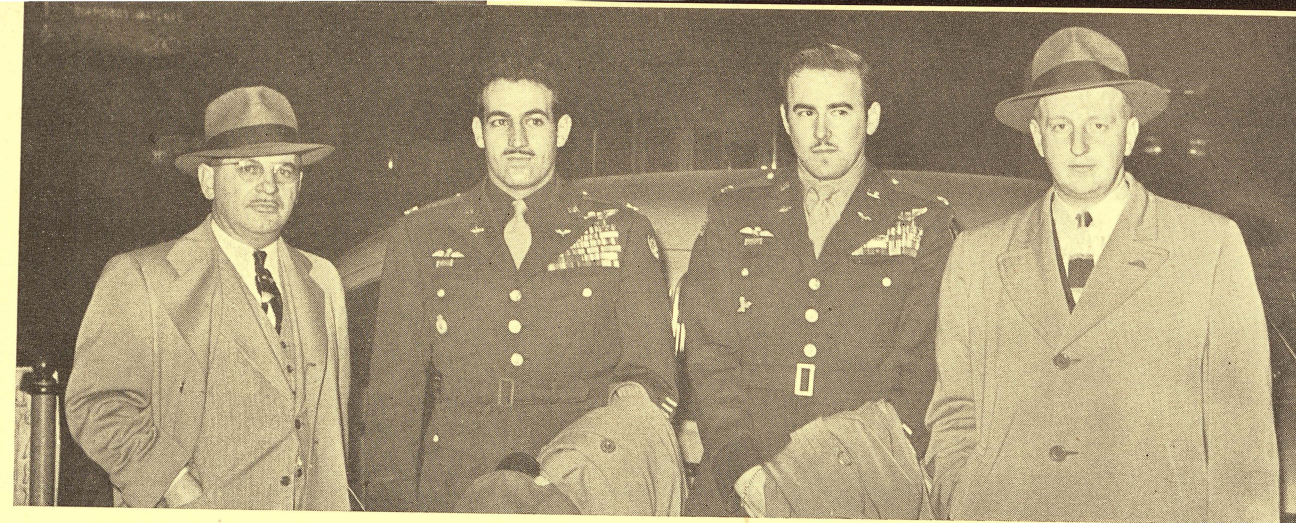
At right, the fliers have a visit in Chicago with Governor Dwight H. Green of Illinois. Left to right, Major Godfrey, Governor Green and Major Gentile.



GLOBE SWIFT IN FLIGHT . . .  
The Swift 85 skimming over the broad plains of Texas

## At the Second Northwest Annual Airshow Held at Minneapolis

Aces of two wars got together when Don and John met William T. Ponder, left, second living Ace of World War I (he shot down 11 enemy aircraft with the French Air Corps and the AAF). Mr. Ponder is president of Ponder Aircraft Sales, San Angelo, Texas, distributors for the Swift in West Texas.



Hosts to Don and John on their visit to the Second Northwest Annual Airshow in Minneapolis during March were Jack R. Reddy and William E. Schons of Aero Operating and Supply Corporation, St. Paul, Swift distributors for Minnesota and part of North Dakota: Left to right, Mr. Reddy, Maj. Don Gentile, Maj. John Godfrey and Mr. Schons.

## For Your Information

Globe Aircraft Corporation of Fort Worth, Texas, the concern with which Maj. Don Gentile and Maj. John Godfrey are associated as Division Directors of Sales and Service, was the first aircraft plant in Texas to design, manufacture and secure approved type certificate for a personal airplane.

The first Swift was built by Globe prior to World War II and firm purchase orders had topped the \$1,000,000 mark when this operation was set aside for war production.

During the war years Globe built twin-engined trainers for the AAF, fabricated parts for Curtiss-Wright C-46 and Fairchild C-82 transports for the Army, and made replacement parts for the Lockheed P-38, in addition to modifying trainers and transports.

Wartime production of the company was commended by the Aircraft Production Board and by Gen. H. H. Arnold, former commander-in-chief of the AAF. Production at Globe has never been interrupted by a labor strike nor any serious lost-time controversy.

Since the end of the war, Globe has given employment to more than 300 ex-service men. The company's sales force is staffed entirely by ex-service men, including three former prisoners of war.

Globe has in excess of \$18,000,000 in firm purchase orders for its all-metal Swift, now in production at the Fort Worth plant.

The peacetime modification center at Globe has modified airfreighters and transports for about 15 airlines, including three airlines in foreign countries.



The Globe SWIFT 125—A Water Color by Eugene O. Clay  
Mr. Clay is Globe Aircraft's chief designer

