

José Francisco Gil Jaubert

(April 4, 1925 - April 6, 1976)

1

Early Life and Training

- **Born: Apr. 4, 1925, Limon, Costa Rico**
- **Relocated with his mother to Hong Kong in 1937 at age 12**
- **Jan. 1941: Graduated from the Hong Kong Government Airplane Mechanics Training School**

*Led to his career as an aircraft mechanic in the
Sino-Japanese War, World War II, and Chinese Civil War*

2

Supported AVG, 14th Air Force, and Chinese Air Force

- Jul. 1941 – Aug. 1942: Sino-American Aircraft Works, Burma --
China Aircraft Manufacturing Company (CAMCO) –supported
American Volunteer Group/Flying Tigers
- Sept. 1942 – May 1943: 14th Air Force, 54th Service Group, Kunming, China
- Jun. 1943 – Oct. 1944: 11th Combat Cargo Squadron, Shanghai, China
- Nov. 1944 – Nov. 1946: 332nd Troop Carrier Squadron, China-Burma-India theater
- Jan. 1947 – Jan. 1948: Chinese Air Force American Engineering Civilian Team

3

CAT

- Got to know Gen. Chennault through AVG, 14th Air Force
 - Led to joining CAT in Shanghai in Oct. 1948
- Written up in Felix Smith's *China Pilot*
 - One of 8 captured by the Communists at Mengtze together with Capt. Bob Buol
 - Later escaped with Lincoln Sun
 - Received a thank-you note from Bob Buol for items given to him in prison
- Felix referred to Jose as an "unsung hero"
 - Recounted many incidents where Jose improvised and created airplane parts from metal scraps and other debris to repair damaged planes when no replacement parts were available

4

CAT (cont'd)

- Jose married Phoebe Ling in Shanghai in 1946



- Evacuated from Shanghai to Canton and Hong Kong, later relocated to Tainan
- Jose served as Crew Chief, Ramp Crew with Air Asia Company Limited in Tainan, Taiwan, until Oct. 1962

5

Family in Tainan in 1950s



6

Extended Family, La Habra, CA 1975



7

Jose Jaubert

- Died unexpectedly from coronary heart failure at the age of 51
- Best described as a creative and resilient individual who took pride in his achievements
- Worked diligently to provide for his family and prioritized a quality education as the most valued goal for all his children
 - Sean: Director of Career Center at University of California, Riverside (Hacienda Heights, CA)
 - Anna: Molecular Biologist and Attorney, retired (Mill Valley, CA)
 - Flora: Family Nurse Practitioner, retired (Los Angeles, CA)
 - Dinora: Emergency Room Physician, retired (Honolulu, Hawaii)
 - Libia: Superintendent of Schools, retired (San Diego, CA)

8



*Deeply grateful for the opportunity
to work for Gen. Chennault*