

TRIBUTE TO LT. CLYDE ADAIR TUCKER, JR.

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, at the tender age of 23, Lt. Clyde Adair Tucker, Jr., paid the ultimate price for the cause of freedom when he was killed during Operation Leader on October 4, 1943. On that fateful day, his plane was shot down off the coast of Bodo, Norway. He and his crewman, Stephen Bakran, remained with the aircraft in 160 feet of water until the summer of 1990, when members of a local scuba diving club found them.

It took 2 years for the Norwegians to recover parts of the aircraft and Lieutenant Tucker's and Bakran's remains. On October 4, 1993, Clyde A. Tucker III, a Birmingham, AL, area resident and businessman, and his family attended a memorial ceremony in Bodo, Norway, honoring his father and Stephen Bakran, 50 years to the day after their plane was downed. On March 28, 1994, Lieutenant Tucker's remains were buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Clyde A. Tucker, Jr., was born in Greenwood, MS, on September 23, 1920. He attended Louisiana College in Pineville and was commissioned on his 21st birthday in 1941. His background and circumstances were representative of those of millions and millions of other young people at that time who faced the terror of fighting in a global war. But it is during perilous times like this that the most ordinary of citizens show extraordinary courage and conviction. So it was with Lieutenant Tucker; he never expected more than he received, yet always gave more than was expected.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of the supplement to chapter 1 of ``Torpedo Squadron Four: A Cockpit View of World War II,`` by Gerald W. Thomas be printed in the Record following my remarks. It is a detailed narrative of some of the events that took place during Operation Leader on October 4, 1943, the day Lt. Clyde A. Tucker, Jr., gave his life for his country.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

Operation Leader--The Northern Attack Group\1\

At 0618 on October 4, 1943, in the semi-darkness before dawn, the USS Ranger launched the Northern Attack Group and a small ``Combat Air Patrol.`` The CAP was charged with flying cover over the Task Force until both attack groups could return.

\1\Supplement to chapter 1 in ``Torpedo Squadron Four: A Cockpit View of World War II.`` Gerald W. Thomas.

The Northern Attack group consisted of twenty SBC ``Dauntless`` dive bombers and eight F4F ``Wildcat`` fighters. Lt. Cdr. G. Otto Klinsmann, Skipper of VB-4, was assigned the leadership role. [I recall vividly an earlier night launch when Otto went in the drink on take-off (see page 18) and later his tragic drowning after being shot down in the Pacific (see chapter 24)].

The Tactical Formation of the Northern Attack group was as follows:

Plane	Pilot	Gunner
4-B-1.....	Lt. Cdr. Klinsmann.....	Rogers.
4-B-10.....	Lt. Weeks.....	Meredith.
4-B-7.....	Lt. Stratton.....	Odd Dahm (Norway).

4-B-20.....	Lt. (jg) Ross.....	Devine.
4-B-17.....	Lieut. Bettinger.....	Shaw.
4-B-2.....	Lt. (jg) McReynolds.....	Parrish.
4-B-5.....	Lt. (jg) Longley.....	Edens.
4-B-22.....	Lt. (jg) Henricks.....	Keefe.
4-B-9.....	Lt. Keller.....	Shackelford.
4-B-6.....	Lt. (jg) Breckheimer.....	Branson.
4-B-13.....	Lt. Boykin.....	Reed.
4-B-15.....	Lt. (jg) Davis.....	McCarley.
4-B-11.....	Lt. Johnson.....	Eardley.
4-B-19.....	Lt. (jg) Tucker.....	Bakran.
4-B-23.....	Lt. Phillips.....	Lankowicz.
4-B-14.....	Lt. (jg) Dill.....	Blier.
4-B-3.....	Lt. Chase.....	Lorentzen.
4-B-29.....	Lt. (jg) Gordon.....	Waterson.
4-B-21.....	Lt. Weitzenfeld.....	Jobe.
4-B-27.....	Lt. Simmons.....	Colon.

-----

Two additional SBD's were assigned to Anti-sub patrol and loaded with depth charges:

Plane	Pilot	Gunner
4-B-18.....	Lt. (jg) Norman.....	Brilhart.
4-B-4.....	Lt. (jg) Way.....	Ellis.

-----