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A Sentimental Journey: Historical WWII Aircraft at 2018 Air Show

C-47 Skytrain "Placid Lassie" Veteran of D-Day Allied Invasion

CLEVELAND, OH (July 11, 2018) - The 2018 Cleveland National Air Show presented by Discount Drug Mart will take a sentimental journey with a WWII C-47 Skytrain "Placid Lassie" on Labor Day Weekend (Sept. 1, 2 & 3) at Burke Lakefront Airport in downtown Cleveland.

The historic Douglas C-47 Skytrain troop transport aircraft will make a special appearance at the 2018 Air Show. The restored plane, "Placid Lassie," participated in the D-Day invasion of Europe, operation Market Garden in Holland, supplied Patton's 3rd Army and dropped desperately needed supplies to troops in the Battle of the Bulge...plus was hit by enemy fire! Ground tours will provide Air Show attendees with a close-up look at this authentic aircraft from a momentous event in history.

"Placid Lassie" was delivered to the United States Army Air Corps in early 1943, assigned to the 74th squadron of the 434th Troop Carrying Group in England to prepare for D-Day. The C-47s, also known as Dakotas, towed massive cargo gliders and dropped more than 24,000 paratroopers on the morning of June 6, 1944 (D-Day). Lassie and her crew flew several missions on that fateful morning, first towing gliders and later carrying paratroopers.

"Placid Lassie" is in her original WWII paint scheme and proudly displays the name her crew gave her, along with her left engine "Idling Ada", after the Crew Chief's wife and the right engine "Eager Eileen", after the Radio Operator's wife. The 74th Troop Carrier Squadron marking was "ID" and her radio call sign was "N". To learn more about the aircraft visit: http://tunisonfoundation.org/placid_lassie.html

Headlining this year's show are the U.S. Navy Blue Angels. They will be joined by the U.S. Air Force F-16 Viper Jet Demonstration, U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team and more. Inside the gates spectators will experience the 300 mph Shockwave Jet Truck and pyrotechnics with a Wall of Fire. Fans can tour unique aircraft, help pack a parachute, meet a pilot and explore aviation first hand. The 2018 Air Show is also part of the inaugural Grunt Style Air Show Majors tour uniting the most prestigious air shows in the country.

All tickets for the Cleveland National Air Show are on sale now. The most sought-after seating options include Reserved Box Seats and Barnstormer Club, which offer a variety of amenities. Advance General Admission Tickets will also be available at local Discount Drug Mart stores starting August 1, 2018. For more information, please visit www.clevelandairshow.com or call (216) 781-0747.

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The Cleveland National Air Show has been Northeast Ohio's Labor Day Weekend Tradition since 1964, attracting 60,000 to 100,000 visitors to Burke Lakefront Airport and making it one of the region's largest annual events. It is produced by Cleveland National Air Show, Inc. a 501(c)(4) not-for-profit Ohio corporation that relies on sponsorship and community support to offset the costs of producing the event. The Air Show has an annual economic impact of \$7.1 million+ on the City of Cleveland.

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Interview Requests/Media Rides

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