

# **BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation**

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**For Immediate Release**

## Press Release

**Former World War II Army Air Corps pilot/POW to be reunited with a P-38 Lightning.**

**BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation raises funds for World War II veteran Joe Moser's return to the skies in the P-38**

**October 13, 2010,**

Joe Moser of Ferndale, WA will soon be reunited with a Lockheed P-38 Lightning similar to the one in which he was shot down over France in August 1944. This time, Moser will enjoy a leisurely flight in the P-38 and not have to worry about being shot at by the enemy. The non-profit group BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation of Bellingham, Washington recently raised funds for Moser's flight which is scheduled for November 16 in Chino, CA. Moser will be flying in the P-38 Lightning "23 Skidoo" owned by the Planes of Fame Museum in Chino, CA and piloted by Steve Hinton, past Reno Unlimited Race Champion, and current Planes of Fame President.

Kristelle and Kerry Sim of the BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation arranged for Moser's flight in the P-38. According to Kristelle, "After we met Joe and heard his story, it seemed fitting that he get the chance to fly in peacetime too. We knew that there was a P-38 at Planes of Fame that happened to have a jumpseat in the back, so we asked Joe what it would be like for him to fly again in the airplane he loved. When Joe answered 'It would be the dream of a lifetime,' we knew we had to make it happen."

Jeff Geer, BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation President & Chairman said, "We are truly honored to be a part of Joe's return to the skies."

Moser was shot down over France in his P-38 on August 13, 1944 while on his 44<sup>th</sup> combat mission. He was captured by the Germans and sent to the Buchenwald concentration camp. Geer adds, "No one can even imagine what it must have been like for Joe as a

prisoner in that notorious place. Even after being discovered by the German Luftwaffe and moved to a “proper” POW camp, Joe had enormous hardships to endure until he was finally liberated in April 1945.”

A book about Moser and his experience as a Military Pilot and Prisoner of War called “A Fighter Pilot in Buchenwald” was published in 2008. The book chronicles Moser’s life growing up on a farm in rural Whatcom County in Northwest Washington State and then joining the Army Air Corps to become a fighter pilot.

“Joe’s story is coming full circle, 66 years later, so that at age 89, Joe will get to enjoy his favorite airplane, but this time in a peaceful sky. We thank everyone who has contributed to make this happen.” Geer said.

Going beyond this special flight, the BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation is starting the Joe Moser Scholarship fund in his honor. “The scholarship fund will be available to qualified high school seniors who plan on pursuing careers in aviation or aerospace engineering. This is the first of a series of scholarships the Foundation will establish for students seeking careers in science, technology and engineering,” Geer said.

Anyone who wishes to contribute to Joe’s P-38 flight or to the Joe Moser Scholarship fund may do so at the Foundation’s website: <http://www.bravo369.org>, or via mail to the BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation, P.O. Box 2933, Ferndale, WA 98248.

*The BRAVO 369 Flight Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to Education, Aviation History and the Preservation of Historic Aircraft. Our main objective is to offer unique educational opportunities for students, teachers and the general public to actively participate in a series of interactive flights and educational aviation projects.*

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