

## SPANHOE AIRFIELD & THE 315<sup>TH</sup>

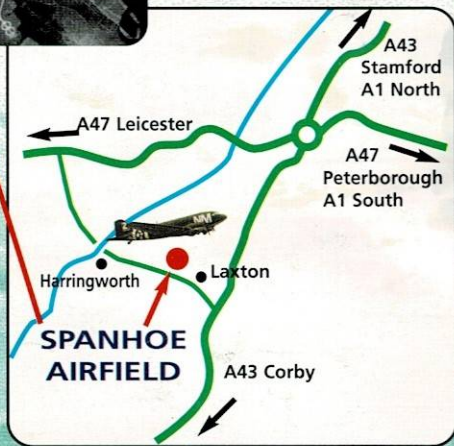
Sunday September 17th 1944 was a bright sunny morning and in the sky above them in the East Midlands, East Anglia and southern England, the greatest air armada ever seen was winging its way to Holland.

The 315th TCG lifted off from Spanhoe the first C47 out of a total of 45 at 1039 hours. They were carrying paratroopers from the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, a total of 1,240 plus 473 para-packs. Their drop zone was 'O' which was some three miles south west of Nijmegen and about one and a half miles north of the River Maas.

The Group suffered their first loss on the mission when C47 #308 piloted by Captain R E Bohannen was hit by flak just after reaching the Dutch coast. The crew chief managed to bail out of the stricken aircraft together with 15 paratroops, several of them wounded. They were all captured. As the formations were approaching the drop zone they were met by heavy flak concentrations and several of the 315th aircraft were hit. 78 of the Group's aircraft dropped their paratroops close to the target and the paratroops were able to capture their objectives within 3 to 4 hours of landing. Immediately the C47's returned to Spanhoe. The next day would see the Group carrying British paratroops.



Operations carried on until the 26th September saw the final phase of Operation Market Garden with a mass air landing of US and British personnel and equipment on to a landing strip located two and a half miles west of the town of Grave.



### DIRECTIONS

Spanhoe Airfield, near Corby, Northants NN17 3AT  
Spanhoe Airfield is located between the villages of Laxton & Haringworth easily accessible from the A47 & A43.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

General Enquiries: Stephen Barker  
01780 755514 (day) 01780 756862 (evening)  
Email: enquiries-opmarketgarden@hotmail.co.uk  
Visit the website for up to date information, booking forms & admission details:

[www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk](http://www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk)

The event is strictly non-profit making and all proceeds will be given to three main charities, being The Royal British Legion, Help for Heroes and The Warwickshire & Northamptonshire Air Ambulance together with various locally based charities



# OPERATION MARKET GARDEN

2008

## 1940's WEEKEND AND AIR SHOW

September 13th & 14th

SPANHOE AIRFIELD, Nr. CORBY,

in association with the  
**315th Troop Carrier Group**



Day Entrance Prices  
Adult £10.00 Adult Concessions £8.00  
Children under 14 years £5.00  
Family ticket (2 adults & 2 children) £25.00  
Weekend camping available,  
visit the website to get your booking form

[www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk](http://www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk)

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**FlyPast**  
Magazine



## OPERATION MARKET GARDEN

The event is in honour of those people who fought, lost their lives and survived during the Operation Market Garden campaign in Holland in September 1944. The event is being held at Spanhoe Airfield, a former Second World War airbase which was home to the 315th TCG during which time they were involved in D-Day, Market Garden operations and the Rhine crossing.

Veterans from the 315th TCG that were based at Spanhoe are being flown over from America by current serving troops in the 315th in a C-17 Globemaster. Veterans from the American 82nd Airborne, British 4th Parachute and Polish 1st Parachute Brigade that flew from Spanhoe will also be in attendance at the event.

### AIR DISPLAY



- Spitfire • P-51 Mustang •
- C-47 Dakota •
- B17 Flying Fortress •
- C-17 Globemaster •
- Auster & Piper Cub •
- Static Aircraft Displays •

### ARNHEM RE-ENACTMENT BATTLE



A re-enactment battle based on the Arnhem pocket between British and German re-enactors will take place on both days.



### ATTRACTIONS

- Military vehicles •
- American-British-Polish & German living history displays •
- Museums & memorabilia •
- Vintage vehicles •
- Vintage agricultural working exhibits & tractors •
- Tank rides • Trade stalls •
- 1940's entertainment both days •
- Disabled facilities •
- Free car parking •



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## GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA <sup>UK</sup>

Relive the wartime years with the incomparable sounds of classic Glenn Miller hits and 40's chart toppers directed by RAY McVAY

**SAT 13th SEPTEMBER 7.30**

Dance tickets are now available priced at £13.50 (each) in advance or £15.00 (each) on the day (subject to availability)

**Call 01780 756862**

or email enquiries-opmarketgarden@hotmail.co.uk

to book yours in advance. Booking forms are also available on the web site  
General admission tickets do not give admission to the Glenn Miller Saturday night dance

**Experience the sights, sounds & atmosphere of the 1940's once again**

with

## THE OCKBROOK BIG BAND

&

## LOLA LAMOUR



SATURDAY ONLY

A remembrance service will be held on Sunday at 10am with the British Parachute Regiment Band followed by a memorial flypast.







## **Join the 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift in England for**



**The 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing has a proposal in to fly a C-17 from Charleston AFB, SC to Spanhoe Airfield in England to participate in Operation Market Garden in September.**

*The proposal, if approved, will allow veterans of the 315<sup>th</sup> TCG to fly along and participate in the events.*

**\* Military retirees able to fly space available will be allowed to fly, other veterans must be approved to fly by the Secretary of the AF.**

**[www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk](http://www.operationmarketgarden2008.co.uk)**

**Proposed itinerary:**

Depart Charleston AFB: 11 Sept 08

Arrive at Spanhoe: 12 Sept 08

Depart Spanhoe: 15 Sept 08

Arrive Charleston AFB: 15 Sept 08

**Members interested in flying  
must contact Capt. Wayne Capps at  
(843) 963-2035 or  
[wayne.capps@charleston.af.mil](mailto:wayne.capps@charleston.af.mil)**