

The Berlin Airlift 1948-1949

If you are not familiar with this historical event, click on the links below and you will have a much better understanding of our Aviation Day candy drop reenactment, and why this moment in history should be remembered and celebrated. For some context, please remember that most of the pilots, crews, soldiers, citizens and others, both German and Allied forces were in a death struggle. The bloodiest and most destructive war in history had taken place just a few short years prior. Most had lost friends or family, among the estimated 75-80 million killed by violence, accidents or disease, during the hostilities. When duty called, somehow the former adversaries were able to find enough forgiveness within to successfully fulfill this remarkable and dangerous mission.

The first two links below are some history; the third, the Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation, are the folks who will be at the SOAR Aviation Day event, and have made it their life's work to ensure the story of the airlift will not be forgotten on their watch. If you are looking for some summer reading, consider picking up this book [*The Berlin Candy Bomber*](#), basically the diary of a C-54 transport pilot, Gail S. Halverson, who flew many missions during the airlift. It's a great book and dirt cheap if using a Kindle app.

[The National WWII Museum](#)

[PBS The American Experience](#)

[Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation](#)