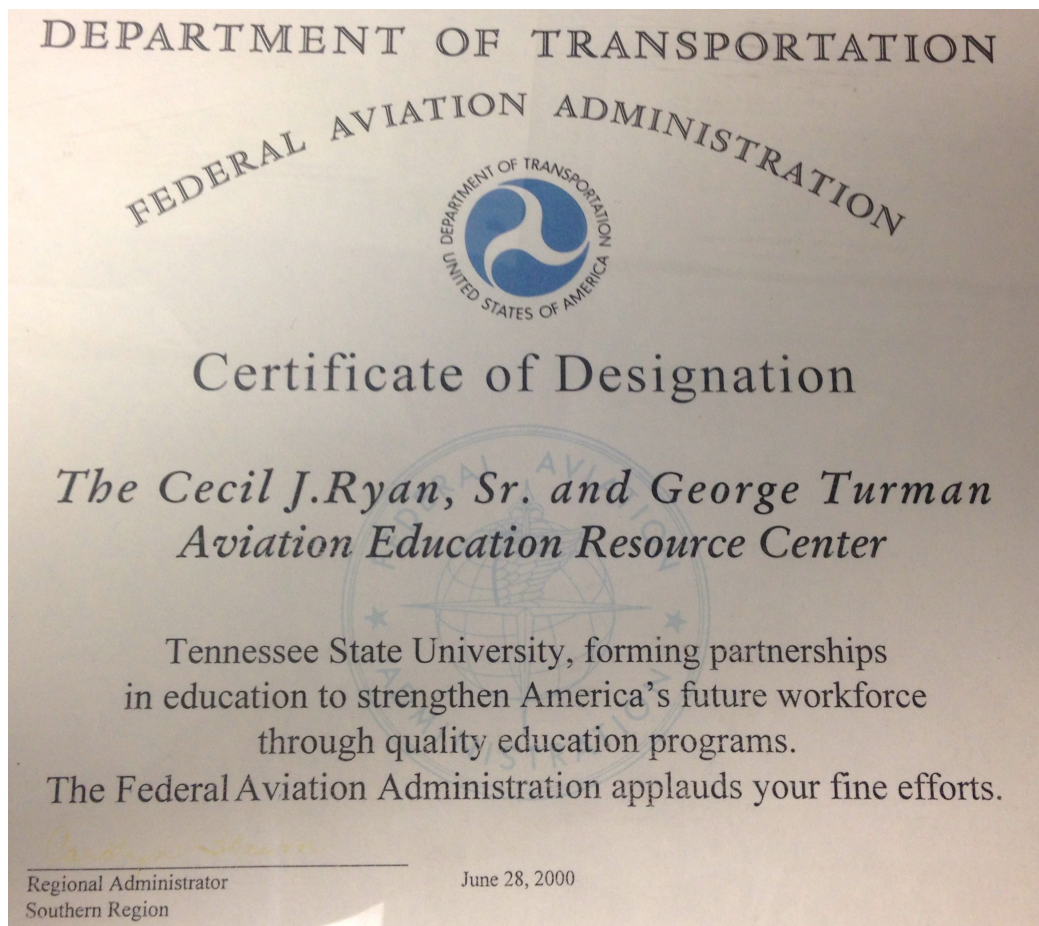


What do the Tuskegee Airmen have to do with TSU?

During the 1940s Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial State College gave birth to a successful program: Aeronautical and Industrial Technology. This program was added to the College of Engineering at Tennessee Agricultural & Industrial State College under the direction of Cecil Ryan, a Tuskegee airman. Many engineers as well as pilots went through this program. Students that finished the program went on to achieve their goals internationally.

After World War II, hundreds of Tuskegee pilots as well as other Negro aviation personnel desired to work at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to expand aviation education and training among the Negro population. The Aeronautical and Industrial Technology program did not have a building. Despite the lack of adequate resources the students were determined to begin their training in aviation.



***FAA Certificate recognizing the efforts of Mr. Ryan and
Mr. Turman at Tennessee State University***

When Tennessee State University added to its offerings, an Aviation Education Program and an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), Cecil Ryan was given the job as head of the department of aviation. For more than 30 years, he produced excellent pilots. He was a friend and much like a father to his students. Many times he would give common sense admonitions such as, **“You can’t borrow your way out of debt.”** He believed in staying within the law, obeying the rules. One of his favorite sayings was, **“You can live a long time in this business if you stay within the rules.”**

Before his employment at Tennessee A&I, Cecil Ryan and several other black civilian pilots were employed by the government to train the Tuskegee airmen who went on to constitute the famous fighting units known as **the 99th Pursuit Squadron and the 32nd fighter group.** Ryan instructed such aviation notables as **Daniel “Chappie” James, George S. Roberts and Benjamin O. Davis, Jr.,** all of whom distinguished themselves as military pilots.

Cecil Ryan frequently told his students, **“Kill yourself, but don’t scratch the airplane!”** This was important since the school was meagerly equipped to train student pilots. His students have served as pilots in the Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. Several of his students flew with major U.S airlines such as Pan American, Eastern and American.

Cecil Ryan died on May 29, 1986.



MOTON FIELD TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA



Some of the original Tuskegee Airmen

George Turman, formerly with Capitol Airways, taught aeronautics at Tennessee State University under **Cecil Ryan**. George B. Turman was an instructor and airplane mechanic. The post-war aviation programs soon lost their zeal, but 55 years later, the Tennessee State University Aeronautical and Industrial Technology program had 110 students.

Prominent Tuskegee Airmen at TSU

Colonel Howard Lee Baugh-Following his World War II service, Colonel Baugh served as Professor of Air Science at Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee. He retired from the United States Air Force in 1967. A distinguished aviator, Colonel Baugh was the recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. He was awarded the French Legion of Honor in 2004.



COLONEL HOWARD BAUGH
Professor of Air Science

Colonel Hannibal M. Cox, Jr.-Before his retirement from the United States Air Force in the 1960's, Colonel Cox was assigned as the Professor of Air Science at Tennessee State University, Nashville, Tennessee. He received a Bachelor's Degree in Aeronautics from Tennessee State University, a Master's Degree in Industrial Relations from the University of Chicago and a Doctorate in Psychology from Western Colorado University.

Aerospace Studies



Lt. Colonel Hannibal Cox, USAF is completing his first year as professor and head of Tennessee State's Department of Aerospace Studies.

Another Prominent Graduate of TSU

GENERAL LLOYD "FIG" NEWTON, RETIRED

General Newton was born in Ridgeland, S.C., where he graduated from Jasper High School. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in aviation education from Tennessee State University, Nashville where he was commissioned as a distinguished graduate through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program in 1966.

After completing pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, Arizona in June 1967, he attended F-4D qualification training at George Air Force Base, California. He flew 269 combat missions from Da Nang Air Base, South Vietnam, including 79 missions over North Vietnam. The general was selected to join the U.S. Air Force Aerial Demonstration Squadron, the Thunderbirds, in November 1974. He held several positions including narrator, slot pilot and right wingman. From 1978 to 1982 he was assigned as an Air Force congressional liaison officer with the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. He has commanded three wings and an air division, and held numerous staff positions. From 1993 to 1995 he was director of operations, J-3, United States Special Operations Command. The general is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in the T-37, T-38, F-4, F-15, F-16, C-12 and F-117 stealth fighter. He assumed his current position in March 1997.

