



Domani
Vision
Film
Society

promoting domestic filmmaking

presenter of

VISION
FEST08

the other festival

Alan Armstrong's

PREEMPTIVE STRIKE

WINS the Vision Fest 2008

Best Of Category:

Feature Screenwriting Competition



Preemptive Strike features Lieutenant General Claire Lee Chennault (6 September 1893 – 27 July 1958). Chennault was a United States military aviator who commanded the "Flying Tigers" during World War II

In the tradition of blockbuster political thrillers, "Hunt for Red October" and "Patriot Games", author/historian Alan Armstrong cleverly weaves historical fact, intrigue, and vivid characterization into his thrilling novel and companion screenplay, "Preemptive Strike"

ALAN ARMSTRONG

Pilot / Writer

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VISIONFEST 08: The Other Festival

Bruno Derlin, Co-Director

Tel. 718.837.5736 Fax. 718.554.0030

www.visionfest.org



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Alan Armstrong's **PREEMPTIVE STRIKE** WINS the Vision Fest 2008 Best of the Feature Screenwriting Competition

"...a crowning achievement" - Bruno Derlin, Co-Director, Visionfest

New York City, (September 22, 2008) - VISIONFEST 08: The Other Festival, ended its five-day run at the Tribeca Grand Hotel Screening Room, with its "closing night" Official Selection of award-winning films, producers, actors and screenwriters. *Atlanta writer and trial attorney, Alan Armstrong, won first place for his screenplay, **Preemptive Strike**, taking victory over more than 150 entries.* All of the works showcased at the festival are created by U.S. filmmakers, screenplay writers and production entities that are based solely in the United States. The projects may be shot on international locations and have globally relevant storylines, however, their origin must be rooted in the U.S. Most importantly, the VisionFest brings the best of domestic independent cinema to the forefront by showcasing original, unique works and "bringing you tomorrow's visionaries today."
(www.domanivision.org)

Alan's inspiration to write the screenplay began with his interest and many years of extensive research on the American Volunteer Group (AVG). Alan confirms the reality that The Flying Tigers, was a group of military aviators and ground crewmen who had volunteered to serve as members of the Chinese Air Force. Their ultimate objective? To bomb Japan before the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Preemptive Strike Screenplay Snapshot:

••• *A World in turmoil - 1941. Germany had conquered much of Western Europe. Japan had conquered Manchuria and all of the coastal ports of China. The World was poised to descend back into the Dark Ages with mass executions, genocide and tyranny - - but America was still officially neutral and most Americans wanted to keep it that way. President Roosevelt's hands were tied. Or...were they? What if America quietly allowed pilots and technicians to resign from the U.S. Military and fly and fight for China as she sought to stave off the Japanese invaders? In a shroud of secrecy and intrigue, the American Volunteer Group was born. Adventurers, soldiers of fortune and idealists, these rough and ready men are known in the annals of history as the "Flying Tigers."*

In the tradition of blockbuster political thrillers, "Hunt for Red October" and "Patriot Games", author/historian Alan Armstrong cleverly weaves historical fact, intrigue, and vivid characterization into his thrilling novel and companion screenplay, "Preemptive Strike". Preemptive Strike follows icon Claire Chennault, the AVG commanding officer and his soldiers of fortune. Forced into early retirement, Chennault finds employment with a foreign warlord and flies combat missions in the undeclared Sino-Japanese War, eventually enlisting assistance from Roosevelt's cabinet members, establishing a guerilla air corps with the money laundered through a series of "front" corporations. The catch? The guerilla air corps will be manned by American pilots flying in combat without the protection of the Geneva Convention, with the ultimate objective of bombing Tokyo and other Japanese cities - all BEFORE the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor. Their story and exploits are woven into the fabric of American folklore as a shining example of men who did "the right thing" in PREEMPTIVE STRIKE

Alan has written hundreds of articles on aviation law, which have been published in professional journals and periodicals. He has also been featured in many aviation related magazines, radio and TV shows. He is an avid guest speaker who is well versed in aviation military history specific to World War II. He flies a replica Nakajima B5N2 Kate bomber in airshows across the country. This particular airplane was a prop plane that flew in the Hollywood blockbuster, "Tora, Tora, Tora,"

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Alan is available for interviews, appearances and lectures.

www.preemptivestrikethemovie.com • www.alanarmstronglaw.com



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WHAT IS VISIONFEST?

Domani Vision Film Society, Inc. (DVFS), is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded to encourage, represent, promote, and cultivate independent film and other media production throughout the United States, through film festivals, educational forums, project planning initiatives, and networking opportunities. Dedicated to "bringing you tomorrow's visionaries today," DVFS will bring forth production resources and make those available to its members and to all participating entities in order to introduce and expand upon the many opportunities that exist in film and media production. The quasi-public objective for which the corporation was formed is to encourage economic development through independent film and media production

SIGNIFICANCE OF WINNING FIRST PLACE

"It is my great pleasure to congratulate Alan Armstrong on this year's first place achievement in our Feature Screenwriting Competition. Our Screenwriting Competition is fairly new, as it was started in 2004, and has been growing steadily with each passing year. This year we received 155 submissions over two phases of our competition (Winter and Spring deadlines)

- Bruno Derlin - Co-Director, VisionFest

- The jury panel was comprised of 7 judges including Bruno Derlin, Co-Director, VisionFest, and led by Ms. Jill Yablon, Director of Submissions - an actor/writer/producer based in New York, an entertainment attorney, a film/video editor, a writer/director of both film and theater, and (2) production development executives from an independent production entity in New York.*
- PREEMPTIVE STRIKE was selected as our first place contender with a 6 to 1 majority vote (although it must be added that the single vote that didn't list PREEMPTIVE STRIKE as the top choice, did qualify the script in second place).*
- The prize for this honor includes a commemorative Visionfest certificate, an InkTip.com Web listing for 6 months, and a staged and videotaped public reading of the screenplay in New York, which will be available on DVD*
- The screenplay will also be submitted for consideration to 7th Floor Entertainment, a development and production company whose past credits include the Sundance 2002 feature, MANITO, the Independent Spirit Award-nominated film, ROOM, and the 2007 feature directorial debut of Mary Stuart Masterson, THE CAKE EATERS.*

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Background

Alan Armstrong is based in Atlanta and is a writer, pilot and trial attorney. In addition to the screenplay, *Preemptive Strike*, Alan has written nearly one hundred articles on aviation law, which have been published in professional journals and periodicals. He is presently a contributing editor to the Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association Journal. He has served as editor of the National Transportation Safety Board Bar Association Newsletter and has written articles published in the Journal of Air Law and Commerce, the Transportation Law Journal, Air Law, Aviation Consumer, IFR Magazine, Air Classics, Plane & Pilot, and Southern Aviator

• • • Alan Armstrong is among those lawyers listed in the Bar Register of Pre-Eminent Lawyers, which is published by Martindale Hubbell, and he also appears in Who's Who in American Law (11th Ed.), Outstanding People in the 20th Century, and Strathmore's Who's Who.

Alan's passion for flying and aviation history led him to investigate one of the more intriguing and obscure chapters of American military history, the formation of the American Volunteer Group (AVG) or Flying Tigers. Around 2001, Tom Pandolfi, an AVG historian and collector of artifacts, gave Alan a collection of papers which were found in a desk at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola. As he studied the documents which had been marked "secret" or "confidential," Alan began to put the pieces of the puzzle together in terms of the formation of the AVG and Chennault's ambitions in forming his guerilla air force for China at a time when America was supposedly neutral in the Sino-Japanese War. Documents obtained from the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library confirmed plans were underway to bomb Japan before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. After coming to the realization that America did have an offensive strategy for Japan using China as our agent in a war with Japan, Alan wrote the book, *Preemptive Strike, The Secret Plan That Would Have Prevented The Attack on Pearl Harbor*, published by *The Globe Pequot Press* in 2006, followed by his screenplay *Preemptive Strike*.

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