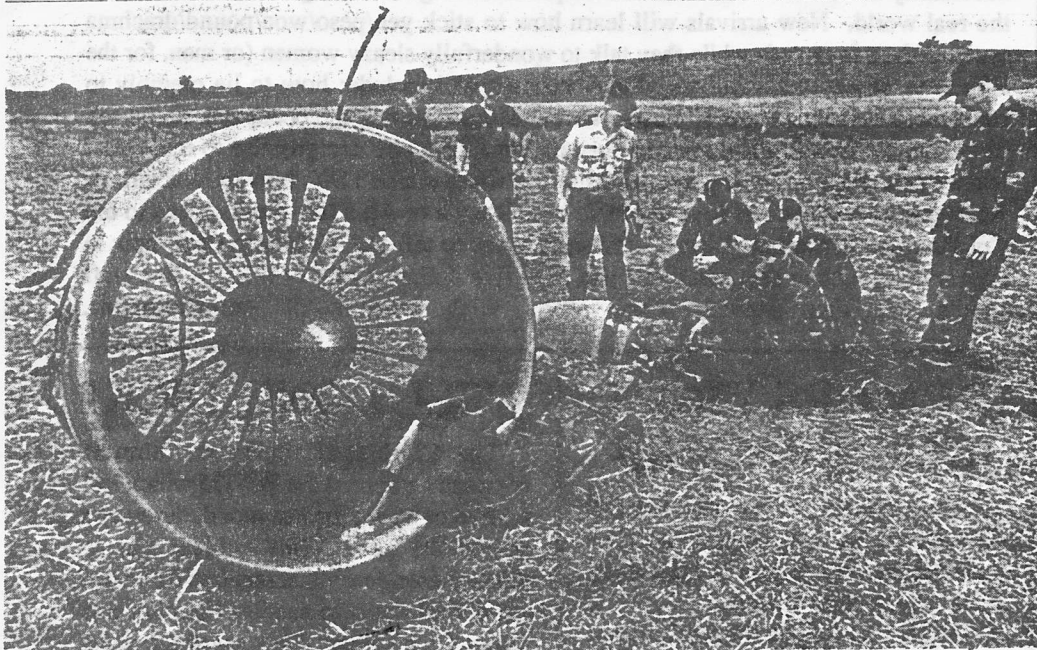


THE CREW DOG GAZETTE

"THE TRUTH UNFETTERED BY FACTS."

JUNE 1989

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Groundbreaking ceremony for new Looking Glass RBS site. (Jim Burnett/World-Herald)

Every Cloud Has A Silver Lining

In a startling departure from bureaucratic inefficiency, Headquarters SAC Safety Officer, Lt Col Bommprimadonna, today announced the combined use of electronic countermeasures personnel and safety experts to investigate last month's inflight loss of several engine parts from an EC-135. The ECM experts, three bomber ravens who couldn't shoot cel or make coffee, will study the feasibility of using engine pieces as large chaff, which will finally give Looking Glass crews a SACR 3-1 tactic to practice.

Meanwhile, a blue-ribbon panel of safety experts convened to investigate the incident's cause. The panel consists of Boeing representatives, maintenance officers, lawyers, SP's, three CBPO clerks, and a harelip. Before visiting the incident site, the panel is expected to reluctantly decide pilot error was the main cause. Shortly afterwards, MPC will announce pilot retention rates have climbed to historic highs.

ZUFFOLETTI LEAVES SAC FOR ESC JOB

Drunken Parties Jam Streets Throughout Omaha and Offutt
Kelly AFB Seeks Federal Disaster Funds

Spontaneous celebrations erupted throughout SAC as Major Steve Zuffoletti signed out of Offutt. In a particularly moving celebration outside Kadena, a local rabbi and the Temple B'nai Hanna congregation gathered at a bus station for a brief service to thank God and Greyhound Zuff's gone.

Steve is expected to arrive at Kelly later this month. The exact time is not yet known, but knowledgeable sources believe he will not arrive more than nine minutes early.

343rd Hail & Farewell

As the jailer's heavy tread echoes through the halls of Raven Haven and the door creaks slowly open, a lot of old timers will make their break as a few new guys drift in. Capt Matt Burkett is PCA to the 544th. Capt Darren Durkee will be flying EC-130s at Rhein Main. Maybe ESC can find an award Darren hasn't yet won. Capt Buddy "Hoddy Toddy" Browning is going to Maxwell to be an SOS instructor, and we apologize to everyone who hasn't been to SOS. Capt Norm MacClean is on his way to Alconbury. Capt Ken Cobleigh is going up to Eielson to add some sorely needed class to the Cobra Ball act. Capt Brian "I look mahvelous in Thousand Island Dressing" Bartel is going to Kadena. Will Brian get married in Kadena or buy stock in a local furniture store? Capt Curt Johnson expects to be flying C-130s in Rhein Main at a unit which needs a self help project manager. Capt Lane Bittick is going to Mather. What can we say? He'll be sorely missed - or maybe just sore. Capt Dave Barnard is going to medical school. Dave wants to be a plastic surgeon whose only patients are women. Lt Col Roger Poulin officially retires this month and has a genuine Braniff pilot name tag that says, "Citabria Kamikaze." Captains Whitey Bell and Butch Howard have also made it across the barbed wire. The 343rd proudly welcomes Capt Glen Gullekson and Capt Lew Graeff. Glen is coming in from rough tours in Osan and Greece. Lew, a Ball raven, finally made it to the 55th to see what real recon was like. As Pete Rose says, wanna' bet he'll be surprised?

To all you rumor-mongers who sent us mail - THANKS! If you have some good dirt, write us at: The Crew Dog Gazette, Suite#111, Avery Place, 431 N.Galvin Rd, Bellevue, NE 68005

ASK MONGO

Dear Mongo,

You know darn well I didn't hang all those S-model pictures in my office because I like them better than other RC's. Why don't you tell your readers the truth?

Tiny "I'll-Rip-Your-Eyes-Out"
Wolf

Dear Burning Midget,

OK. The truth is that the Temple of Tiny is only temporarily decorated. The Ball pictures will come down as soon as the autographed pictures of Cliff Jester, Lambo, and a 36-passenger bus arrive. Meanwhile, work is continuing on the AADO executive washroom - a slit trench eight feet long, four feet wide, and a half-mile deep. Now are you happy?

Dear Mongo,

Us schedulers are tired of being abused by you crew dogs. We're thinking about retiring and opening up a business. The idea of a fundamentalist moslem shoe shine stand in Teheran appeals to us. What do you think?

DOT Schedulers

Dear Spit-For-Brains,

I like your location, but you'll probably go broke. I don't think any of you clowns know Shiite from Shinola.

Dear Mongo,

Let's kiss and make up. I'm really a pretty good commander, and you know it. Admit it. People like to follow a leader like me.

Steve Popelka

Dear Steve,

OK, but no tongues. The leadership stuff is true, too. In fact, most of the crew dogs will follow you out of sheer curiosity.

WHAT DID YOU DO IN THE WAR, DADDY?

As the 55th SRW continued to react to Larry Mitchell actually pinning on his first star, Msgt Euell Gibbons announced the creation of a Crew Dog Survival Course, or CDSC. During the old Combat Survival Training, crew dogs crept through the woods trying to avoid poison ivy, Lyme's Disease, and Rick McQuiston - not necessarily in that order. CDSC will emphasize things crew dogs need to survive in the real world. New arrivals will learn how to stick yen/peso/won/pound/drachma notes to their foreheads while they talk to wonderfully sleazy women (or men, for the lady crew dogs) in cheap bars. Other courses will include: how to lie credibly to steward; how to puke out of a cab window without getting the occupants or the cab dirty; things you can trade your air medals for; things you can promise to trade your leather jacket for; a list of good names to use when you're TDY; how to look sincere when you get caught and have to blame it on Reggie or Al; a list of pilot jokes to tell Col Peterson in the bar; a list of navigator jokes to tell Col Rich in the bar; how to appear conscious at scat briefings; and how five dollars worth of crickets in a staff toad's car can provide crew dogs with months of entertainment.

RUMORS FROM OUR READERS

1. The wing's chief of airfield operations, Lt Col Gustin, will be awarded the Will Rogers "I Take It All Back" Personality Trophy.
2. Inspired by Reggie Stewart's recent public reference to a late-night game called "burglar," Al Feldkamp will decide to surprise his wife Sandy. After several drinks, Al will slip into a darkened house he thinks is home. Three days later police will rescue him from the Rock Hudson Half-Way House.
3. A civilian doctor will lobotomize Rick McQuiston before he becomes a full-time scheduler. Although Rick had this same operation when he become the Life Support Kommandant, Air Force flight surgeons bungled the job, and left him merely sterile.
4. Pat Ryan will receive the "Bring It Up Again And We'll Vote On It" award for showing ROTC cadets how real crew dogs drink. It seems Pat blew lunch (well, actually Happy Hour) in Tim Spaeth's sink. Tim later shot the sink to put it out of its misery.
5. Kermit the Frog will get drunk and try to force himself on an RC-135.
6. The Inflight Kitchen will design a Definitely Promote box lunch called the Karen Carpenter Special. It will have a can of water and a diet pill.

WELL DONE, DICK!

The CDG staff thinks the aircraft commander aboard the EC-135 which lost a piece of its engine last month deserves a pat on the back. The incident was an unusual emergency that required dammed good airmanship to handle. The pilot was Major Dick LeGas. Dick saved the plane and the crew from a catastrophic crash. Sierra hotel, Dick. When you get tired of flying in circles, why don't you drop by the 38th? Since you're good you might as well fly an operational mission.

Ten Rules of Aviation

1. Do NOT bust your butt.
2. Do not let anyone else bust your butt for you.
3. Remember the pilots and navs are always the first to arrive at the scene of the accident.
4. If in doubt - get out.
5. In instrument flying one peek at the ground is worth a thousand crosschecks.
6. Thunderstorms and ice are just like being pregnant - there is no such thing as just a little bit.
7. Forgiveness is easier to obtain than permission.
8. Remember airplanes fly because of Bernoulli, not Marconi.
9. If a crash is inevitable, hit the softest cheapest thing you can find as slowly as possible.
10. What you don't say you don't have to take back at the hearings.
11. Never forget Rule One.