



UN-SCRAMBLE



The Official Newsletter of the Valiant Air Command, Inc.
6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780 - (321) 268-1941
website: <http://www.valiantaircommand.com>
email: warbirds@valiantaircommand.com

4th Quarter Review - October, November & December 2016

Veterans Day Weekend at the Warbird Museum



Left to right - Lorraine Juhl, Sandi Boswell, Genie Owens, Lynn Foraker, Patti Champion, Linda Hammer, Marilyn Eldredge, Bob Foraker, Norm Rathborne, Barb Rathborne,



Anyone missing an alligator?



Petting zoo & horseback rides.



As advertised...planes, trains and cars.



Fly the simulator.



View from the runway - busy place!

MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK - 9AM TO 5PM

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day

Adults \$20.00 - Senior or Military \$18.00 - Students 13 to 18 years old \$10.00

Children 5 to 12 years old \$5.00 - Children under 5 years old FREE - Special Tour Rates Available

Statement of Purpose

The Valiant Air Command was formed to perpetuate the history of aviation, to encourage gathering of men and women in camaraderie, research and Warbird restoration, to serve as an educational tool for young and old alike; and to assure that the memory of those who gave their lives in service to their country shall not perish.

501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization Museum Recognized by the Internal Revenue Service

Future Events • 1st Quarter • 2017

Jan 1	New Year's Eve Day - Museum closed	Mar 10,11 & 12	VAC Warbird AirShow
Jan 14	Fly-in Breakfast	Mar 11	VAC Membership Dinner
Jan 17	Board of Director's Meeting	Mar 13-14	AirShow Clean-up Days
Feb 11	Fly-in Breakfast	Mar 13-14	Taxiway "A" returned to airport use at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, 14 March
Feb 21	Board of Director's Meeting	Mar (TBA)	Board of Director's Meeting
Mar 5-9	AirShow Airfield set-up	Check the VAC website for late, breaking dates & cancellations	
Mar 9	Media Day at VAC 9 am to noon	http://www.valiantaircommand.com	
Mar 9	Dirty Flight Suit BBQ		



Commander's Report

Norm Daniels, Commander
 Email: Commander@valiantaircommand.com
 (321) 268-1941

Members, volunteers, sponsors and friends of the Valiant Air Command. The first order of business is to thank all the volunteer guides and restoration team members for their outstanding performance this past year. The visitor feedback has been extremely positive. I am proud to be associated with this group of dedicated people. A special thanks to our member donors and corporate sponsors whose support allows us to present our airshow to you.

As mentioned before, the 40th Tico Warbird AirShow is on schedule for March 10,11 and 12/2017. A Friday night show will be spectacular as will Saturday and Sunday daytime performances. We have booked the best of the best performers. Please get your tickets early so you do not miss this annual opportunity to be part of a once a year experience the whole family will enjoy.

Much progress has been made in our restoration projects. Our English Electric Canberra is almost complete and will be ready for display at the airshow.

The F-100 Super Saber is well underway in the restoration

process. We have determined that the paint scheme will duplicate the current flying Thunderbird colors.

We have been chosen by the California Science Center to restore an early model Grumman F11F-1 Tiger. The US Navy has approved the Valiant Air Command to perform the restoration. Once completed and shipped to the California Science Center Museum, it will be hung from the ceiling in an inverted position. We received this aircraft a few weeks ago, where it was a gate-keeper for decades at the Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg, Fl. If it has been awhile since your last visit to the museum and our gift shop, you are in for a treat.

Additionally, we have almost completed the interior restoration of the B-52 cockpit including paint, electrical, seats, hatches and instrument panels. This is one exhibit you want to climb into and experience.

Your volunteer Board of Directors hope you and your families had a happy holiday season and wish you a great new year.



Once again the VAC Volunteers were treated to a Hot Dog lunch.



Lorraine Juhl, Patti Champion & Bob Foraker tending to the food.



8th Air Force Roll of Honor
 Stop in and see our latest display. On loan from the 8th Air Force Historical Society.



Executive Officer's Report

Karl Holly, Executive Officer

Email: ExecutiveOfficer@valiantaircommand.com

(321) 268-1941

I hope you are all having a terrific Holiday Season right now, sharing in the fun with family and friends. This year, the holidays managed to sneak up on me, leaving me with way too much to do, and too little time to do it in. As many of you are already aware, this year became a bit challenging on a personal level, as I recuperate from my second knee surgery within 3 months. There are a couple of things I'd like to pass on in regards to this.

Many of us feel the need to rush and get things done...we step it up a notch and keep the motor running. That's precisely what I was doing when I had my first incident, tearing my quadriceps tendon. Precisely 3 months later, I spotted a friend across the hangar that I hadn't seen in a while, so I rushed (okay, hobbled quickly) across the hangar to catch up with him. Eyes forward and on the objective, I never even glanced at the hangar floor, which explains why I succeeded in slipping on some engine oil and water, causing me to land directly on my bad knee, breaking the kneecap. So now I get to start the recovery again.

The reason I mention all of this is that many of us tend to rush through our lives, looking at some objective down the road. Remember "keep your eye on the ball", "visualize your objective, and then obtain it" and other tidbits of wisdom we've all heard over the years? Having goals and objectives are important and help give our lives direction. However, we should also remember to take a breath and take in the sights and

sounds around us. I should have spotted the danger presented by the slick floor if I had taken the time to look around. For those of you who work the flight line, or who served on the carrier deck, you are well aware of the many risks present there and if you didn't keep your head on a swivel, you could easily lose it in an accident. Take a moment to look around you; it may just save you from unneeded suffering and pain. You may also save a friend or coworker as well if you spot something hazardous and do something about it. Safety is a responsibility that we all need to take seriously and it requires us to not just notice something wrong, but to also do something about it.

We have been through some challenging times together, but it looks like our perseverance and hard work will be paying off for our museum. Our AirShow lineup is just about complete with our Director, Bob Boswell, putting on our most complex and exciting show ever. After all, it is our 40th anniversary, which coincides well with the USAF's 70th-anniversary celebrations. We should have some exciting news coming up within the next couple of months, which will give us a better view of our own organization and the tools to help us become even more successful.

At some point, we seemed to have lost our focus on how and why our organization started and what we are all about. We actually did start as a form of "flying club" with our original members being pilots and mechanics *continued on page 4*



11-5-2016 Tour Guide Meeting



Anita Varela, Lorraine Juhl and Norm Daniels accepting a Gift Bag from the Titusville Chamber of Commerce.



10-20-2016 - Patti Champion and Lorraine Juhl man the VAC table at the 17th Annual TRIAD Senior Fest.



The Ur-Scramble Team

Phyllis Lilienthal, Editor

Lynn Foraker - Lorraine Juhl - Louise Kleba - Genie Owens

1st Quarter - Jan, Feb & Mar
Submission deadline - Mar 27th NL Published - April 1st
2nd Quarter - April, May & June
Submission deadline - June 25th NL Published - June 30th
3rd Quarter - July, Aug & Sept
Submission deadline - Sept 25th NL Published - Sept 30th
4th Quarter - Oct, Nov & Dec
Submission deadline Dec 24th NL Published - Dec 31st

Please note:
Items submitted after the submission deadline will not be published or will be published the next month if applicable.
The Editor reserves the right to not publish submitted items.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

that wanted to share their passion for flying old Warbirds with those around them. However, we've grown larger than just a flying club. Our flight operations do bring publicity, income and more involvement from people in areas around us; but that is only part of what we are now. Our restoration group has done some superb work in bringing beauty and order out of the chaos found in a jumbled heap in a shipping crate. After seeing the amazing work that we've done on many of our aircraft (and specifically our newly restored F-11), another museum group just hired us to do a restoration for them. That is such an honor and a testament to the quality work our people do. Now we will earn some valuable funds, doing what we enjoy doing.

We also have many people come through our facility who have limited knowledge of the history of our aircraft and the people that flew them. That's where our Tour Guides make a huge difference. At this point, our aircraft displays are rather jumbled and confusing, but with the help of a good guide, visitors walk out of our museum with a much better understanding and respect for our nation's aviation history.

We must not forget how all of these different focal points make us a stronger and more viable facility. But at the same time, we must work at making this a more enjoyable location for all of us. Many joke that the NFL stands for the "No Fun League," but that is not in our vernacular. We exist

thanks to our volunteers and if it isn't fun why should they bother to volunteer? We need your thoughts and ideas to help make this a place where we enjoy working as well as visit. Bring me your ideas.

We have officially relaunched our Tico Belle flights, that are now based on a champagne flight experience. While more expensive (\$300/person), it is also much more interesting and exciting with the full experience we now provide. Sound like a Valentine's Day gift idea?

Would you like to be part of the volunteer restoration crew or how about becoming a Tour Guide?

Fill out an application on our website or stop at the Gift Shop and get an application.

Some of our wonderful Tour Guides!



L to R: David Hart, Mike Messner, Curt Whitman, Larry Anders, George Moruska, Gordon Hewitt, Gaston Webb, Mike Handrahan, Don Henry, Jem Golden, Randy Wheeler, Doug Brooks, Cecil Berry, Bill Brown, Larry Champion, Randy Bushee, Jerry Kerr

Kneeling L to R: Jim Cochran, Neil Allen, Todd Stewart, Al Voss, Deshonte Battle



Facilities Officer's Report

Tom Etter, Facilities Officer
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(321) 268-1941

This quarter has raced by so fast I hardly remember it all. The damage to the North wall of the main hangar from the hurricane was interesting; requiring us to lift the wall as we pushed a 40 foot section back about a foot onto the slab. Pete Peterson was the spark plug to get that job done and the wall is once again anchored to the slab. We had some door damage and our internet dish flipped over punching a hole in a skylight. Joel thought to clean out the door lock post holes prior to the storm; saving the VAC more damage.

We held the Brevard Coalition meeting in the Vietnam hangar after removing most of the aircraft. We held a Wedding Convention in the main hangar. We did many aircraft movements as the C-47 Hundred Hour and Carb repair had to be checked out. Stan found a cracked cylinder so we now know how to change one, but lost the Dunellen jump mission - at least we did not find it over there.

We patched the roof(s) again and replaced some exit lights/emergency lights.

October was mostly taken up with the hurricane and C-47 work with a few events on the side.

November consisted of more roof repairs and launching the C-47 for the Stuart Air Show. Joel McGinley and Jim Towe fixed the broken crane support leg (worn out packing) and over time will do the other 3 legs preventively. We started the ramp crack repairs for the AirShow. Joel and I helped John move the downed trees to the road for pick-up. The C-47 jacks worked

well on the Canberra. We had some confusion on the N2 tanks and have placed labels on how to use them and did some training on the subject.

The two day open house seemed to go well with many happy people enjoying the museum.

December is starting well with our focus starting to turn to the AirShow. We did more crack repairs. Joel is rebuilding a forklift cylinder and Charlie did an excellent job using the crane to lift the latest F-11 off the truck. Jim Towe is fixing up a portable hydraulic pump. Joel is working to have all the movable equipment ready. Terry Nies and Roger Johnson helped Pete Peterson build strut clamps for the F-8 so that we do not ruin the tires and bearings moving it for the AirShow. We went after a small light plane (free - if picked up in Orlando) that we can sell and a small jet will come later that use to be based at this museum.

A difficult-to-repair-roof leak no longer leaks but I still have two emergency lights out that need to be fixed. Our crews helped John and Patti get the VAC Christmas

float ready for the Titusville Parade along with great help from Jem Golden and Joel. We used the old forklift Joel repaired earlier to get the float down from storage.

Gem Industries had their Christmas Party in the Vietnam hangar. As always, we have many aircraft movements to allow room for these events. Terry and Roger have become the major movers of planes of late. I would be remiss if I did not mention Jim and Joel have put in a lot of extra time and more than many do, in essence, becoming the VAC's right and left-hand hands helping us keep up with the facility needs.

We staged aircraft for the Fly-in Breakfast and I then attended the AirShow meeting and got my assignments. The big movement of aircraft will once again be done by the C-47 crew and the restoration crew in a manner similar to before; we are counting on our cheerful volunteers without whom the AirShow would have to change this operation greatly.

We staged the Main Hangar for the VAC Christmas Party and got the C-47 ready to drop Santa on the beach December 17th.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!



Santas everywhere!



Finance Officer's Report

Tracy Bohrmann, Officer
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The New Year is upon us! Hope everyone had a happy and safe Holiday. With the turn of the year, AirShow time is just around the corner. The annual AirShow is a centerpiece of our year here at the VAC. It will take efforts from many many people to make the 2017 AirShow a success. Many members have already generously

given donations to support the event, but the VAC also needs members, and friends of members, to also volunteer to help out during the AirShow. Please sign up to volunteer to support this major event. All skills are welcome and needed. Volunteer for the whole event; one day of the event, or for set up before and clean up after;



Maintenance Officer's Report

Charlie Hammer, Maintenance Officer
Email: MaintenanceDirector@valiantaircommand.com
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2016 was a great year for the Tico Belle. Prior to the Stuart Air Show Tico Belle flew 2 revenue flights: one in February and one in March. We also supported a parachute drop at this airport (KTIX) for the Phantom Airborne Brigade and on February 26th Tico Belle flew to Dunnellon and completed 17 take offs and landings in 3 days supporting the National Parachute Test Center.

This is always a great experience: fun for the crew and the jumpers, who love parachuting from this old warbird. Once the 100 hour inspection was completed the Belle spent 3 days at the Stuart Air Show supporting the parachute operations there. The plane is in great shape and ready for the 2017 AirShow and we are hoping for a busy and exciting new year.

any amount of time and effort will sure help.

Now is also a great time to get friends and family tickets to the AirShow, on sale at our website. Tickets can be purchased at our website at a discount through Valentine's Day.

Tax season is also just around the corner as well. File early and get it out of the way.

A big thank you to all the members who support the VAC! And a Happy New Year, 2017!!

Forget this day

OR

forget to get one of these

AND

this will be your new HOME!



Procurement Officer's Report

Robert Frazier, Procurement Officer
Email: ProcurementOfficer@valiantaircommand.com
(321) 268-1941

CHRISTMAS PARTY - We just enjoyed a very pleasant Christmas party and dinner. It was a touch on the original VAC parties and attended by 50 or so members and guests. Thanks to Bob and assistants.

NEW AIRCRAFT - A museum display (The Pietenpol Air Camper) has been donated to the VAC. The 1920's era personal

airplane was donated by Wayne Lord of Orlando. The airplane was



Wayne's personal airplane that he flew for many years and then

put it in storage; it is pretty. Thanks to Tom Etter and crew for getting it.

USN F11F AIRCRAFT - The USN's and West Coast Museum's Tiger aircraft has arrived at the VAC Museum. The program is to restore the old Navy airplane to display condition for their museum. We will be reimbursed for our technical support.

VAC 2017 AIRSHOW - We continue to support the preparations for the 2017 AirShow.



Operations Officer's Report

Mark Adema, Operations Officer
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(321) 268-1941

It's flying weather here in Florida!!!

We had a very fun and successful Santa Jump onto Cocoa Beach. Thanks to both the C-47 flight and ground crew and also to the Santa's with their fun and professionalism. The C-47 performed excellently and it's good to see her flying so regularly. One of the reasons she looks sooooo good and flies sooooo well is through the very hard work of several VAC volunteers. Thanks to Charlie Hammer, Jim Towe, Tom Etter and the "Death Grip" himself, Chris Bohan. They have all worked very hard during some very hot and humid Florida summer months.

As I said earlier it's flying weather.....after the Christmas celebrations we will be heading

into the Airshow season. Most importantly our own 40th AirShow. 40 years! That's legit!!! Thanks to Boz, Karl and Robert we are putting together a very important and strong line-up for our show, including another Friday Night Show.

Did I mention it's flying weather? The VAC has approved and encourages stepping back into formation clinics. Our museum was started by a group of individuals wanting to fly together and I'm going to press forward with that camaraderie. We were and need to remain a museum that educates, flies and plays together. As of right now we are inviting T-6 and T-28 pilots for our 2 day, pre-AirShow, knock the rust off, start the Air Show season, formation clinic.

This is not exclusive and if there are other aircraft types that have a group, I will be moooooooooore than happy to arrange and include. We also have a fair amount of returning snowbirds. Glad to see you out of the cold and back at your Florida home. Welcome back!

We also had our first set of volunteer students from Eastern Florida State College, Airframe and Powerplant school. Sean, VAC tour guide and A&P instructor has organized a way that his aviation students can get hands-on experience with our Warbird aircraft. We encourage this and will continue to push into education and developing additional ages educational programs.

I hope everyone took the time to enjoy the season and spend some much needed time with family and friends. I hope you all have a very Happy New Year.

Count 4 blades, ignition on...
Cheers, Mark

Also up and coming...

**Jan 14th VAC fly in breakfast - Feb 10-12 Dunnellon Parachute Drop
Mar 8-9 TICO Formation Clinic - Mar 10-12 TICO Warbird AirShow**



All set-up, just waiting for the rest of the people so we can start the party



The VAC float is almost ready to participate in the Titusville Christmas Parade





Public Relations Officer's Report

Bob Boswell, Public Relations Officer
Email: PublicRelations@valiantaircommand.com
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Happy New Year!

2016 was a busy year for the Valiant Air Command. There have been a number of personnel changes on the Board of Directors and everyone has been working to adjust to their new position. As always, our number one challenge is to raise money for the Warbird Museum. To that end, we have mounted a campaign to place the Museum in the forefront of many of the leading publications, not only in Brevard County but worldwide. Our goal is to bring in additional tourists who are already planning to visit other local attractions. We are rebranding the Museum as the Warbird Air Museum; depicting the Museum as a "must see" aviation destination. We have had some success and are seeing a gradual increase in the number of visitors.

We continue to host a variety of special events at the Museum. One of these events is the monthly fly-in breakfast on the second Saturday of each month. Chef Matt provides the pancakes, omelets and all the sides. You don't have to fly-in on Saturday to enjoy the breakfast and meet the pilots from 8 to 10:30 am; you can also drive in. Our largest turnout so far has been just over 100 participants. Our Veteran's Day Open house was a great success, the largest crowd in many years. Virginia Taylor continues to cater multiple activities each month and has booked events into 2018. Our VAC Christmas Dinner in the main hangar was also catered by Chef Matt. The food was very good as was the location set-up and

the decorations provided by our ladies under the leadership of Patti Champion. Each attendee received a ticket for a Christmas Gift drawing arranged by Sandy Boswell. There were 20 lucky winners.

The 2017 VAC Warbird AirShow will mark 40 years of this extraordinary family event. The USAF Thunderbirds Demonstration Team will headline the show held March 10, 11 and 12 at the Space Coast Regional Airport. Friday the gates open at Noon and will feature an exciting afternoon and twilight show with spectacular illuminated aerial acts and fireworks. Saturday and Sunday will offer our traditional daytime show. The gates open at 08:30 to the best in modern high-performance aircraft, spectacular acrobatic routines and vintage warbirds from every period of flight. Our large aircraft static display area, dozens of vendors and a full children's carnival will combine to fill the day.

Early purchasers can save a

significant amount by buying their airshow tickets on-line now. Adult admission tickets are \$18.00 each through Valentine's Day, compared to the gate price of \$25.00. Youth tickets are better than half priced for the same period at only \$5.00! Be sure to send all your friends and co-workers to <http://www.valiantaircommand.com/airshow> where they can purchase now and save. There are convenient links to upgrade to reserved seating or to one of our superb flight line chalet accommodations. Remember that parking is always free at the Tico Warbird AirShow and that our Warbird Ready Line is open to the public at no additional cost whenever flight operations are not taking place.

Member involvement is the key to AirShow success. Thanks to the many highly talented core volunteers who return each year. The AirShow continues to be one the "Best in Florida". We still need many more Volunteers! Solicit your friends and neighbors to become an active member of the VAC Team and go to our website listed above to volunteer.



Bob Boswell holding a well attended AirShow Meeting

Gift Shop News

Anita, Louise, Lorraine, Rich
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Where has the year gone? The old saying "The older you get the faster it goes" is so true.

Seems like we just had the AirShow a couple of months ago and now we are gearing up for the next one that is just around the corner.

Need a last minute gift for that someone special? We have a lot of new gift items for you to choose from...stop in and browse. You may even see a gift for yourself! A hat with your favorite warbird on it or even a mug for your favorite beverage. How about a Metal Earth model to build?

Heading North...we have a great selection of jackets to

keep you warm; remember your member's discount.

If you like to read, we have lots of books. We probably have the one you have been looking for and it might even be autographed by the Author.

Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Consider getting your special someone a travel bag or the gift of jewelry. We have a selection of items for men and women. Prefer a gift for the family? Check out our assortment of puzzles and board games.

Be sure to stop in...we will be looking for you.

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Anita, Louise, Lorraine, Rich

Unique one of a kind leather bomber jackets

L
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These beautiful, unusual, metal wine bottle holders are now on display in the gift shop, sans wine.



\$52.00



\$52.00



Members get a 10% discount off everything in the Gift Shop

\$62.00



\$ 106.00



\$60.00

Wheeled Canvas Backpack

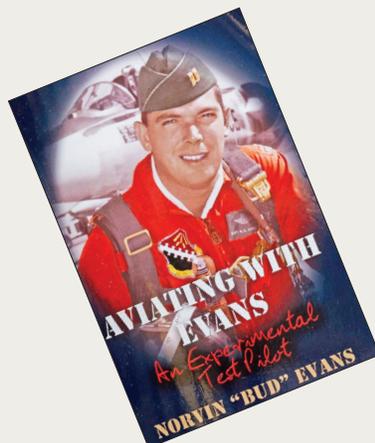


Front View

Back View

Your Choice in Khaki or Olive
 Wheel it or put it on your back
ONLY \$94.95

Autographed Book by Author/Test Pilot



"Bud" Evans, Past Executive
 VAC Officer

AirShow Patch Collectors



Be the 1st to get yours. They will be in stock the 1st week of 2017

Letters to the Editor

Oct. 26,2016

Letters to the Editor
AOPA, November 2016 Issue

Re: "FIGHTER PILOTS ONCE AGAIN"

As a retired 81 year old Dentist with 3000 plus hours in my log book, I was very fortunate to be asked to volunteer to work part time at The Valiant Air Command Museum at the Space Coast Regional Airport (KTIX), formerly known as the TICO Airport, Titusville, Florida. My assignment has been to work with other volunteers to restore a "SUPER SABER" F-100D, serial number 56-3434.

What a thrill it was to open the November 2016 issue of AOPA PILOT featuring four former F-100 pilots and read their stories. The aircraft we are restoring for static display came to the Valiant Air Command in unbelievably poor condition. The wings had been removed along with the entire tail assembly for transportation from Arkansas. There was extensive corrosion on many external and internal surfaces, and virtually all control cables, electric lines and hydraulic lines had been cut. It had been on static display for approximately 32 years with no apparent effort at preservation.

It is an extremely labor intensive effort to restore this aircraft to what will eventually be a beautiful static display of a historic aircraft for present, past and future pilots to admire. As I work on this aircraft, I can only admire the engineers, builders and especially the pilots that flew it.

The Valiant Air Command has some 47 military aircraft, both American and foreign, some in airworthy condition, some still in restoration and some as beautiful static displays. The museum is open to the public with guided tours. Additionally, The Valiant Air Command sponsors a major air show at the Space Coast Regional Airport every March.

We would welcome any additional input from the Super Sabre Society Members that could enrich our history of the aircraft and add to the information that can be included in the tours at the museum.

Respectfully,
Eli E. White, D.D.S. AOPA No. 00258859
drelir@aol.com. Cell 321 543 1230



Our F-100 Super Sabre in the restoration hangar.

2016 VAC Christmas dinner candid shots



Patti Champion collecting tickets and signing you in for the raffle.



The place to be at the party.



Honestly Norm, I didn't see the tip jug. :<))



I want to come in and join the party.

AVIATING WITH EVANS

This doesn't happen too often.

This is one of those very unusual occurrences when a United States Air Force Captain's decision overruled those of a Country's Air Force and a large international manufacturer; I know this to be true as I was that Captain.

In the late 1950's I was a test pilot at Edwards Air Force Base at the United States Flight Test Center. The United States Air Force was assigned the job of running the test program for the Lockheed Company's F-104 Star Fighter and I was assigned as the test pilot for the program.

I had flown test flights on all previous models of the F-104 and was very experienced in the aircraft and its systems. The new F-104G was a much-updated model from the previous models and the additional systems required more instruments and switches; but, the newly added Martin-Baker ejection seat made the pilot's ability to easily use all of the new instruments and switches more difficult, in addition to being uncomfortable for the pilot. After flying several flights, I complained about the seat as I was also flying the same model with the Lockheed ejection seat being manufactured for the other six countries receiving the same aircraft. The decision that the Germans made to put the seat in their model of the F-104G was made as part of the reparation agreement from World War II that I won't pretend to explain.

My flight test reports caused a large uproar in the upper echelons of the U.S.A.F, a

British Company and the German Government. It finally resulted in a meeting of all the parties involved at the Lockheed plant in Palmdale. I was asked to come to the meeting and address the obviously hostile group to explain my complaint. My evaluation caused many arguments, mostly against my honest evaluation of the extremely difficult job of the pilot to effectively do their job. The two German officials were both high ranking fighter aces from WW-II and carried a lot of weight in the decision. I was feeling that my evaluation was going to be over-riden until I brought out the fact that the seat placed the pilot so far forward that when he ejected his knees and toes would not be

clear of the windscreen. Lockheed suggested that I sit in the cockpit of an aircraft and they would hook up a crane and lift the seat up and off the ejection rails to see if my knees and toes actually would impact the windscreen frame. With the crowd gathered around the aircraft they proceeded to pull me up in the ejection seat and when my knees reached the windscreen frame my knees were under the windshield frame. If I had ejected, my toes and my shoes would have been left in the aircraft. As hard as it was for the affected agencies to accept my recommendation, they modified all the F-104G's by installing the Lockheed ejection seat.

Several years after the German Air Force had been operating their F-104-G's they re-installed the re-engineered Martin-Baker seat in all their "G" models.
N. C. "Bud" Evans



F-104G JTF, Edwards Air Force Base -1961

Jannsen, NADF • Geordert, GAF • Evans, CDR USAF • Ayres, RCAF
AI Crews, USAF • Birkenbeil, GAF • Bonazzi, ITAF • Cailleau, BAF

TICO  **WARBIRD**
2017 AIRSHOW
MARCH 10, 11 & 12

FRIDAY
AFTERNOON & EVENING SHOW
SEE THE USAF THUNDERBIRDS

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
DAYTIME SHOW

DISCOUNT TICKETS AND AIRSHOW INFO ONLINE AT VALIANTAIRCOMMAND.COM

USAF 70 YEARS

Gates Open 12:00 noon
Afternoon & Evening show
ending with Fireworks

Gates Open 8:30 am

OUR 40TH AIRSHOW
Advance tickets - Adults \$20, Youth (5 to 12) \$5
Gate Tickets - Adults \$25, Youth (5 to 12) \$10
Discount tickets & AirShow information online at valiantaircommand.com
Space Coast Regional Airport - Titusville, Florida

Use the VAC's website and Facebook page to stay up to date on current events, new events & cancelled events

Valiant Air Command, Inc.

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