



80<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON

# HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



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*Vol. VII, No. 24*

*"AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT"*

*February 1, 1997*

Greetings, Fellow **HEADHUNTERS!**

Bonnie & I wish you all a belated Happy New Year and hope this Newsletter finds all of you in the very best of health and happiness!

## **NEXT REUNION IN LAS VEGAS!!**

**T**he exact dates and hotel haven't been firmed up yet, but our hosts, J.J. & Anita Cummins, are looking at either 2-5 or 16-19 April 1998. They're working with the Las Vegas Convention Authority to select a hotel on The Strip. Although where and when isn't in concrete yet, one thing is—our first Vegas reunion will be one of our greatest!! Stay tuned for details, and block out those two weekends on your calendars NOW! You won't want to miss out on this one!!!

## **HEADHUNTER NOMINATED FOR AWARD**

**M**aj Ron "Slab" Evenson (Ronbo in other circles) was recently nominated for the Harold Brown Award. This is the USAF's highest award for research and development. He was nominated for this award for the work he did while on a staff tour at Wright-Patterson AFB. While Deputy Chief of the Fighter Branch, he did analysis and exploitation of foreign fighter aircraft. He was nominated for his work in improving the ECCM capabilities of the F-14, F-15, and F-16 radars against a foreign airborne jamming system. Slab is currently flying the F-117 at Holloman AFB, NM. Great work, Slab—keep it up!!



You don't get much done by starting tomorrow.

## HEADHUNTER TEST PILOT

We had a note from Bill era LTM's, on 6 Nov. 1 issue [of mentioned the passing of Bill would find the enclosed info "Bill was in the 80<sup>th</sup> during my bers of the SETP [Society of was a remarkable guy and a Thanks for the note and the important part of our Squadron



Photo from Jan-Mar '97 SETP "Cockpit"

Yoakley, one of our Korean- vember. Bill writes, "In your *Headhunter Headlines*] you Park. I thought, perhaps, you interesting." He continues, tour, and we were also mem- Experimental Test Pilots]. He very talented professional." formation, Bill. It's an im- heritage. Here it is:

"The Society is saddened to announce the passing of Mr. William C. Park on 17 March 1996. Mr. Park joined the Society on 12 November 1964.

William Park's fame as a test pilot was delayed by the highly classified nature of most of his accomplishments. He was the first pilot to fly the 'Blackbirds' (A-12, YF-12, and SR-71) at the design speed of over MACH 3 above 80,000 feet.

Mr. Park served in the Air Force for 10 years including during the Korean War when he flew 112 combat missions. After Korea, he joined Convair Aircraft Corporation as a test pilot flying the F-102. In 1957, he joined Lockheed Aircraft Corporation as an engineering test pilot and did the early development testing of the F-104 *Starfighter*.

In 1960 he transferred to Advanced Development Projects where he performed extensive developmental flights on the *Blackbirds*. He was the first to fly Lockheed's high altitude reconnaissance airplane, the U-2R, and 'HAVE BLUE' stealth fighter prototype. Mr. Park served as Director of Flight Operations on the F-117A program. He retired as Project Director of Flying Operations in 1989.

Mr. Park was honored with the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with cluster, and *Aviation Week's* 1988 Laurels Award. He was a co-recipient of the Kincheloe Award for his testing of the *Blackbirds*, received the Octave Chanute Award, a second Kincheloe Award, and the Aerospace Walk of Honor.

Mr. Park is survived by his two children, Jeffrey and Val."

(From the Jan, Feb, Mar '97 Issue of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP) "Cockpit.")

It is the little difference in each of us that is the big difference.

## LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!



Our highly reliable sources in key positions have informed us that our active Squadron in Korea had great Holidays with many wives and children spending this special time with the **HeadHunters**. “We had an outstanding Thanksgiving with a grand performance by the JBC [Juvat Boys Choir]. Brunigan’s [Our Squadron party room] was full of turkeys and a special **Headhunter** family mix of friends and loved ones! The Juvats celebrated Christmas by some dorm caroling by the JBC throughout the week and a big Christmas dinner on the big day. The **HeadHunters** also threw a big New Years party.”

Also, our special agents covering remote areas of the globe reported that PACAF [Pacific Air Forces] gave our Squadron a Quality Inspection the first two weeks of December. “The **HeadHunters** got an EXCELLENT with many OUTSTANDINGS by the crew chiefs and pilots.” “The new year brought us another PACAF Aircraft Generation Inspection, and we kicked its \_\_\_, too!!” More inspections and deployments coming up—should be an awesome 1997!!! We all agree!! Congratulations to all of you—keep it up!! “**Juvat Standard!!**”

## e-mail listings!

**F**or those of you who have modems on your computers, here is an alphabetical list of “all” **HeadHunters** that are on-line with their respective service. Any new and/or changed information from the last (1 June 1996) listing is flagged with a vertical line to the left of the name. **If anyone knows of any others not listed here, please let me know so I can keep this list current.** Thank you!

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**T**hese are all the **Headhunter** guys and ladies that we know of on-line. Any others out there? Why not beam a message over to these folks?! **If you notice**, many addresses have been dropped. The people have moved, and their "business" address is no longer valid. **If you have a personal address, please beam it over to me!**

**HURTIN' HEADHUNTERS**



**B**oth Jim & Lois Ince haven't been feeling all that well, and have been grounded for awhile. They missed going to the Cincinnati Reunion—"first one we missed in quite a long time." Jim concluded his 12 November letter, "We'll try to see you and all the 80<sup>th</sup> gang in Las Vegas." We all hope to see you both there, too, Jim! Take good care of yourselves, and it'll happen!! Their new phone number is (210) 590-7408.

**HEADHUNTER STORE**

**S**everal items are now available for sale in our "HEADHUNTER STORE"! Most are available at slightly above cost. The "Squadron Print" is a beautiful picture of our Sq F-16 with a brief HEADHUNTER history, awards earned, and our logo—Squadron unique. These are being controlled by our active Squadron at Kunsan, but can be ordered here. Unless purchased at a reunion, a small fee of **\$3 should be added** for postage to all orders except the "Nickel":

Blazer Emblem	\$35	Golf Shirt (temp sold out)	\$25
Squadron Unique Tie	\$30	T Shirt	\$11
Ladies Floppy Bow	\$30	Squadron Print	\$20
Squadron "Nickel" Coin	\$ 4	White Hat	\$10
Personalized 10oz Sq coffee mug	\$12	Black Hat	\$ 5
Personalized 20oz Sq beer stein	\$17	Memorial Plaque	\$10
Mug & Stein set as above	\$28		

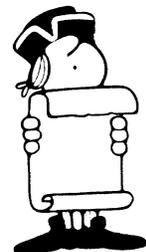
Please send check to "The Headhunters"; 905 Arapaho Ct; Columbus, GA 31904-1242

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

**I**t gives us great pleasure to welcome these **5 new members** to our organization for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 November). **Equally rewarding** are the many members who have **renewed** after 1, 2, 3, 4, or even 5 years absence! **Welcome back!**

Here is the roll call of our **new** members:

- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Dale Walker          | Maj John E. Pilkington |
| 1Lt John C. McDaniel | 1Lt Jon D.R. Stone     |
| Capt Steve J. Hickey |                        |



**F**riends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster Change #4 (enclosed), and give 'em a call, write 'em a letter, or beam an e-mail message to them. Or better yet, ask them to meet you at the next reunion—in Las Vegas! Great to have you all back in

formation—and what a great one it is!! **Welcome!** P.S: As of this date, we have **383 Yearly + 293 LifeTime Members (LTMs) = 676 total Members!!** Do you have **Headhunter** friends that aren't members? If so, please let me know their addresses, and I'll send them a "Please Join Us" letter. **How about all the Juvats in our active Squadron in Korea--come on, Y'all--join up with us!!!! Thank you!**

**head headhunter corner**



**A**s you all know from the last newsletter, our next reunion will be in Las Vegas in April 1998. We are now looking for someone to host the follow-on reunion in the Washington, DC – Langley AFB area in the September—October 1999 time period. If you would like to have the coveted honor of hosting the last, great **HEADHUNTER** reunion of this millennium, please let me know in the next two weeks, so I can quit wringing my hands! We even have a detailed "How to do it" Reunion Checklist for you to follow, so it isn't all that bad!! I've printed out a list of all **HEADHUNTERS** in that area—105, so maybe two or three of you would like to do it together. Check your Master Rosters for a **HEADHUNTER** near you! ☺ **Thank you!**

**I** had a great surprise 27 December! Capt Ned "Flanders" Linch was in town here visiting his family, and stopped in to meet and say hello for a short time. He just completed his second tour at Kunsan (this time he did it right!), and he's on his way to Luke AFB in Phoenix, AZ to be an instructor pilot. We aren't on the main Juvat intersection of the world here, so it truly was a treat to have Flanders drive in our driveway! Thanks! If any others of you are passing through, please stop in and say hello—glad to have you—and I'll show you my "I Love Me" room, too!!

Please note our e-mail address changed to:  
**JayBirdOne@mindspring.com**

**HEADHUNTERS GETTIN' HITCHED!**

The really happy person is one who can enjoy the scenery when on a detour.



Capt Brian D. “Pyro” Silkey has entered the married ranks! He and Jacqueline Sue Sparks, MD, joined up on 24 August. She’s from Arlington, TX and is finishing up her General Surgery Residency. Pyro’s e-mail message says; “Imagine that, a doctor marrying a low-down fighter pilot. Punks rule!” Yep, we all agree, Pyro—the “*Sparks*” must have really flown when you gave her your “*Silkey*” smooth line!! ☺ Congratulations!!

In an e-mail message from Al Wimmer on 16 December, he writes, “...The really big news is that I have recently gotten engaged to a beautiful lady named Kelly Wright. We met here in Vegas [where Al just completed Fighter Weapons School], and she and her son Taylor are returning with me to South Carolina...” Al and Kelly, we all wish you a long life together in the very best of health and happiness—Congratulations!!

Let Matt “Picasso” Manifold also has great news! Not only did he have the honor of becoming the new Juvat Boys Choir Lead a few weeks ago, but he’ll be ending his solo status on 19 July while on his way to his next duty assignment at Spangdahlem AB, Germany! All the best for a smooth formation together, Matt! Congratulations!!

## THE STORK CORNER!



We take great pride in announcing the birth of the world's youngest **HEADHUNTERS!**

We received an e-mail msg on 9 December: “E.T. ‘Gotno’ Moore, Juvat Viper Maintenance Officer (1994-1995), and his wife Michelle (Formally known at the Kun as ‘Muffy...Juvat Chick’), were just blessed with the birth of their first child, Kaitlyn Grace. Muffy’s TOT was perfect, pickling exactly on her due date, 7 Dec. Gotno assisted with the download and even got to cut the Comm Cord after the sortie. The newest **HEADHUNTER** weighed in at 6 lbs, 14oz, and both mother and child are doing extremely well. Dad’s not bad either.” We congratulate you both on your new wingman—many happy sorties together!!!

Dave “Hustler” & Cynthia Pedersen have a new **HEADHUNTER** in production! Roll-out date is scheduled for mid June. Exact size, shape, and on-board equipment are still being finalized. Stay tuned for further developments as each production milestone is reached!! JUVAT!

**J**ust had a 21 January note from Capt Eric “Gator” & Tessa Maurer. They are the proud new parents of a new son, Bradley Robert Maurer, who made his debut on 27 Dec 96. Our newest **HEADHUNTER** had a takeoff gross weight of 7 lbs 10 ozs, and a wingspan of 20”. “Mom & Baby doing great!”

Congratulations to all!!!!

**HEADHUNTERS AT REST**

**L**ast, but certainly not least, we would like to take this opportunity to pass on to all members the names of those **HEADHUNTERS**, who we know of, that have made their last takeoff in this lifetime since our last newsletter.

**Col Gordon E. Jonas**

**Korea/LTM**

**4 Nov 1996**

**L**orraine Robertson sent an e-mail msg on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of January: “My 101½ year young mother passed away peacefully in her sleep on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December.” We were very sad to hear that, Lorraine. We all send our condolences on your loss.

**B**onnie and I also lost our Mom on 24 November. She had been in good health and very sound mind, but she had a stroke on the 18<sup>th</sup> and couldn’t talk. By that evening she could recognize us and say about three words. The next morning she sang “Happy Birthday” to me! She continued to improve, and was scheduled to come home Monday the 25<sup>th</sup>; however, that Friday night, she suffered another stroke from which she never recovered. She took her last breath at 3:20 that Sunday afternoon, and her heart stopped at 3:25 at the age of 92 years, 6 months, and 20 days. After about 3,891,801,600 heart beats during her lifetime, it was very sad to witness her last. She was a great person, and our family will miss her. She enjoyed helping us put address labels on these newsletters. Rest in peace with God, Mom. We love you.

**“To love and be loved is to feel the sun from both sides.”**

**O**n behalf of the entire Squadron, we wish to officially pass on to their families our deepest sympathies and sincere gratitude for the outstanding contribution each of these individuals made to the Squadron and our Country.

**May God bless and keep them in His Flight forever.**



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The next **HEADHUNTER HEADLINES** will be dated 1 May 1997.



LAS VEGAS, HERE WE COME!!

✓6,

Col Jay E. "JayBird" Riedel, USAF Ret  
The "Head Hunter"



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**ADDRESS CORRECTION  
REQUESTED**

**FIRST CLASS**