



80TH FIGHTER SQUADRON

HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



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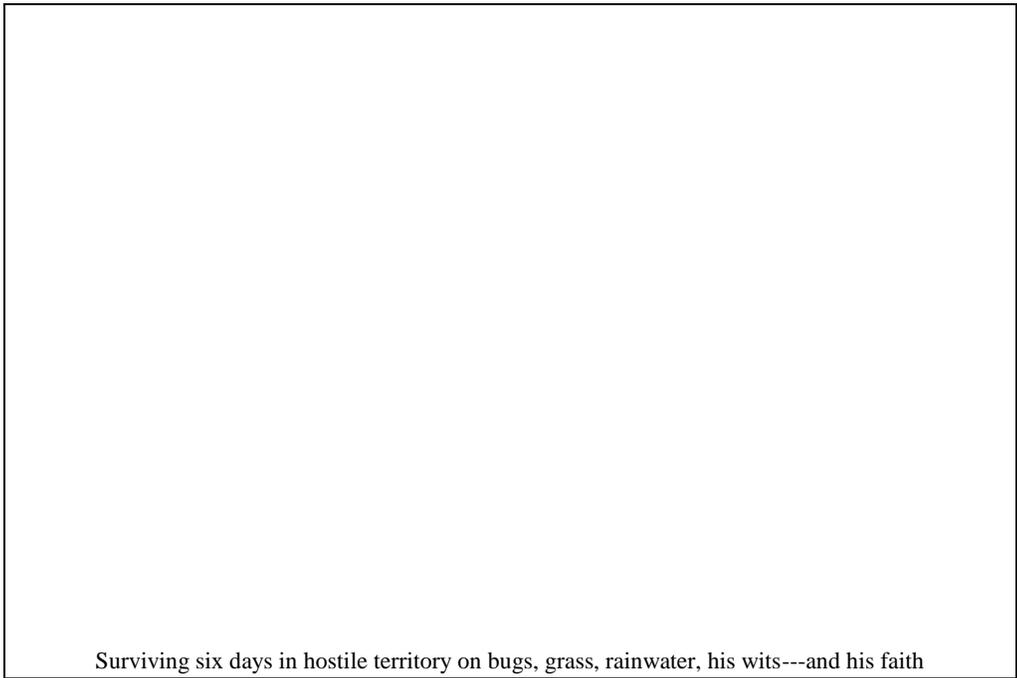
Volume V Number 18 "AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT" September 1, 1995

Greetings, Fellow **HEADHUNTERS!**

Bonnie & I hope this Newsletter finds all of you in the very best of continuing health and happiness at the beginning of this beautiful Fall season!

Capt Scott O'Grady safe from BOSNIA!

Photo from *U.S. News & World Report*, June 19,



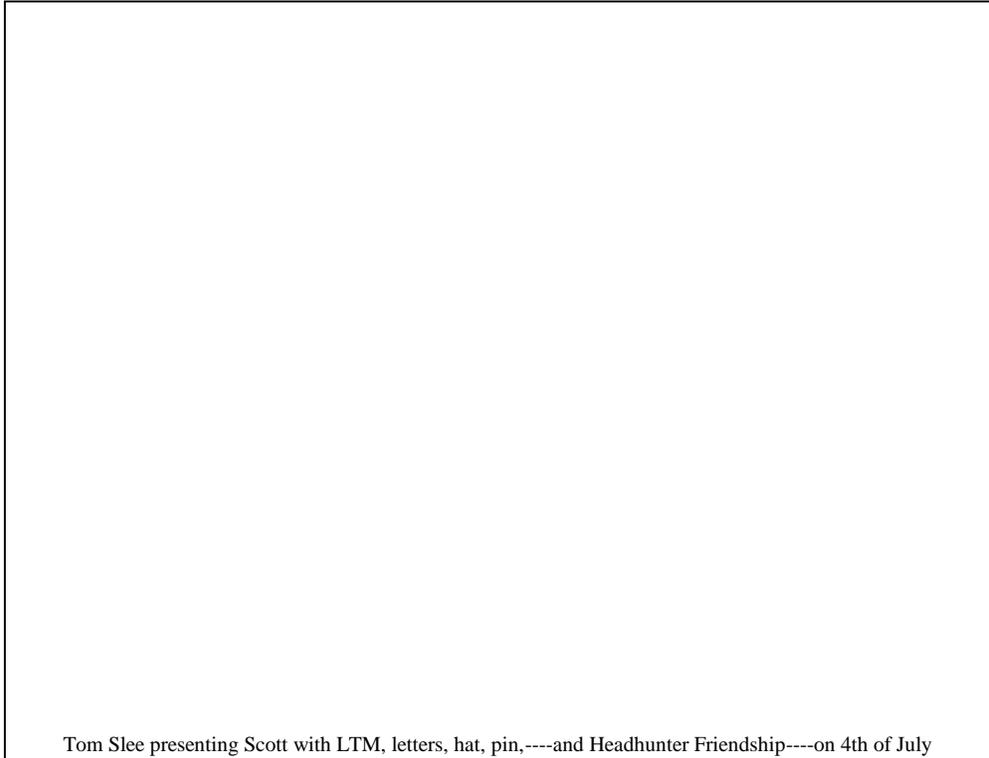
Surviving six days in hostile territory on bugs, grass, rainwater, his wits---and his faith

1995

Capt Scott F. "Hoover" O'Grady, as I'm sure you all know by now, had a very trying June! His F-16 was shot down by an SA-6 surface-to-air missile (SAM) on 2 June while on a mission over Bosnia. Although his plane was literally blown in half and no chute was seen as the wreckage fell into the undercast, "Basher 52" did manage to eject and land

safely! He evaded capture for 6 days and was picked up by a rescue team on 8 June (please see the **headhunter headlines** Special Edition dated 15 June for details.)

Since 15 June, Scott has been invited to the home of two Presidents, made many appearances, has talked to the USAF Survival School at Fairchild AFB, WA, (We were very relieved to see that you didn't sleep through your survival training classes when you were at Fairchild a few years ago!), had a great



Tom Slee presenting Scott with LTM, letters, hat, pin,----and Headhunter Friendship----on 4th of July

Photo courtesy of the Tacoma Event Photographer

homecoming in Spokane, WA, on 23 June, and had a great 4th of July celebration in Tacoma. One of our Korean-era LTMs, Tom Slee from Tacoma, welcomed Scott home on behalf of all of us. Tom presented Scott with his LifeTime Membership (LTM) card, hat, pin, an E-mail letter from Lt Col Robert Coe, then-Commander of the 80th FS, and a letter from "JayBird" Riedel officially welcoming him home on behalf of all **headhunters**.

Hoover, you not only gave the **headhunters** something to be proud of, you boosted the spirits and became a hero of the entire Nation. In the past few weeks, you've decided to leave the Air Force and publish a book due out in November; however, you'll continue your love of flying in the Guard. May God continue to watch over you in your chosen profession.

headhunter reunions!!

Our next reunion will be in Cincinnati, OH, 19 - 22 September, 1996. Don & Susan Wykoff will be our hosts. They already have it well underway! Don has a question for the ladies: when the golf tournament is underway Friday, would you prefer to have lunch at a famous downtown restaurant followed by a tour of the Taft museum guided by the curator, OR lunch in historic Mt. Adams with a great view of downtown and the river. Please let Don & Susan know your wishes, or they will choose one for you! Their address is: 6475 Wilderness trail; West Chester, OH 45069-1306. Or call (513) 779-6064

There are many great things to do in the area and plenty of free time to do them! There is wonderful downtown shopping (safe and easy to get around on the skywalk system); numerous

restaurants to enjoy; Over the Rhine historic district--micro breweries and jazz & blues clubs; Oktoberfest--second largest in the world--right out the main door of the hotel; zoo; Krohn Conservatory; baseball & football games; riverboat cruises; and the Air Force Museum. Don adds; "We have a nice hospitality suite, and the hotel itself is on the National Historic Landmark register. It's shaping up to be a great reunion." We agree! See you all there! More details later!

The next reunion after Cincinnati will be in the Seattle, WA area in the April - May 1998 time period. Our hosts for this one will be Tom & Angelina Slee. It's well under way, also!!

JUVAT BOYS CHOIR SINGS AT REUNION!!



Reardon

Photo by Capt Cathy

The Juvat Boys Choir sings for our reunion in Fort Walton Beach, FL via tele-conference call April 30.

The *Juvat Boys Choir (JBC)* "reached out to touch someone" 30 April at our reunion banquet Saturday night. The JBC, a group of 80th Fighter Squadron pilots, sang several songs to the reunion group 9,000 miles away as part of the festivities. According to Lt Col Rob Coe, Squadron Commander at the time, the opportunity to participate in the reunion was almost as good as being at the actual event. He told the Headhunters, "we're very excited to be part of the party and we're honored to be a part of and continue the traditions of the Juvats."

The Choir has its own history and prestige within the Squadron. Members of the Choir must have six months on station, and they must audition for the privilege of singing with the JBC. The group is highly regarded, and their performances are always in demand.

The JBC sang several songs including, “Twin Tail Lightning,” which was written at Kunsan in 1982 by Capt Robby Robbins, whose dad, retired Lt Gen Jay T. “Cock” Robbins was Sq Commander 1943 - 1944. The song is a tribute to the Aces of WWII, many of whom attended the reunion. They included Jim Ince, Don “Fibba” McGee, Paul Murphey, M.F. Kirby, and Robbins.

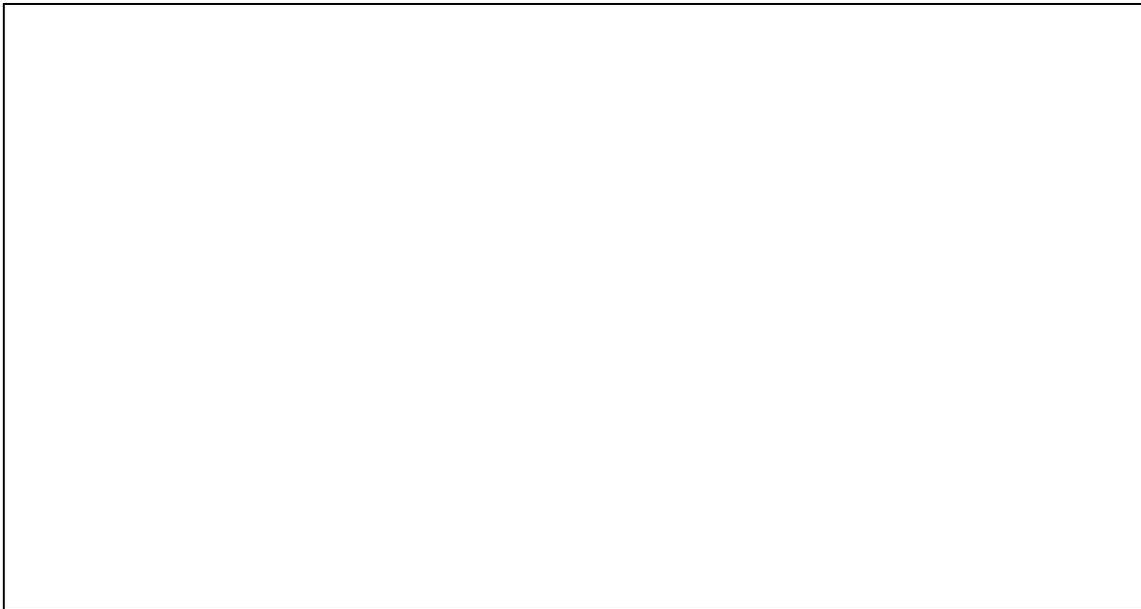
Each of the Aces took turns praising today’s Juvats over the speaker phone. “We really enjoyed the performance and only have one feeling for all of you there at Kunsan flying those F-16s,” said Fibba McGee, “it’s jealousy. Jealousy because you’re flying and we’re not.” This brought loud cheers from both sides of the globe.

Kirby told the pilots, “we wish you all were here to enjoy this.” The immediate and unified response from the 25 members of the JBC was, “SO DO WE!”

(This is a condensed version of an article by Capt Cathy Reardon, 8th FW Public Affairs, which appeared in the Wolf Pack Warrior, Kunsan Air Base newspaper, May 5, 1995)

JUVATS HOST “HOLLANDIA” TRAINING

An F-16 Fighting Falcon flies with a P-38 Lightning.



Both types of aircraft play large parts in 80th FS history.

Our 80th Fighter Squadron hosted this annual training event in Korea back in May. Hollandia is the name of a small town on the Northern coast of New Guinea. During WWII it was a major supply port for the Japanese and the site from which they pressed the air war against Gen Douglas MacArthur’s Fifth Air Force.

In late March 1944, MacArthur launched a series of major assaults against the Hollandia area, finally capturing it April 23, 1944. The 80th FS fought the air battle over Hollandia, perhaps the Squadrons finest hour (to date) in aerial combat.

During this four-day period, the **Headhunters** accounted for 33 aerial victories (a Pacific theater record), became the first U.S. fighter squadron to ever score 200 kills, and Maj Dick Bong scored his 26th, 27th, and 28th victories surpassing Rickenbacker as America's "Ace of Aces."

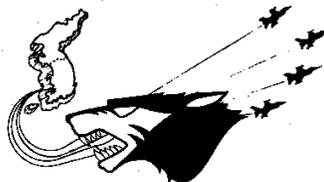
F-16 Vipers from the 80th flew a flight of four against territory guarded by four Marine F-18s from VMFA 212 Iwakuni, Japan--much like the P-38 Twin Tailed Lightnings that flew over Hollandia 51 years ago. Over the course of the week, there were 12 of those air battles. Points are tallied in many areas, and outstanding performers identified in several categories.

The Robbins Award, named for Jay T. Robbins who commanded the 80th in 1943, and is the Squadrons leading living Ace with 22 victories, is given to the overall Top Gun--the pilot with the best score. The top element, a flight leader and wingman, receive the Ed Gragg Award, named for Capt Edward Cragg, who commanded the Squadron two separate times in 1943.

Winners were to receive their awards at a banquet May 20. The banquet not only highlights the top performers during the exercise, but also serves to continue the traditions and heritage of one of the most storied fighter squadrons in aviation history.

(This is a condensed version of an article by Capt Cathy Reardon, 8th FW Public Affairs, which appeared in the Wolf Pack Warrior, Kunsan Air Base newspaper, May 12, 1995)

Squadron has change of command!



The Commander, 8th Operations Group of the 8th Fighter Wing "Wolf Pack" at Kunsan, Kunsan, Korea, Col Ronald E. Fly, was proud to announce the Change of Command at which Lt Col Robert A. Coe relinquished command of the 80th Fighter Squadron to Lt Col Jerry T. Slaughter on 12 July 1995.

Lt Col "Kubla" Coe has gone to the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) Senior Service School in Washington. We all wish you the very best of luck, Bob, and thanks for a job well done. We hope both you and Janet can get to Cincinnati!

Lt Col Slaughter came over from the 35th FS where he was the Operations Officer. Welcome to the 80th, Jerry, and we all wish you the same good fortune as your predecessors. Our Squadron has a great history, and we're all proud that you're now part of it! JUVAT!!

The real secret of happiness is not what you give or what you receive--it's what you share.

MASTER HEADHUNTER ROSTER!!

Enclosed, please find the new Master Roster! Please look it over. If you have any corrections/additions that you would like made, please let me know & I'll update. This roster replaces the one sent to you with the 1 November 1993 Newsletter, plus Changes 1 - 6 that were sent quarterly since then. All of those are outdated and should now be used to start a nice evening fire in your fireplace (instead of being thrown out intact!)

"Time-in-squadron" record challenge!

Manuel J. Pedroso would like to post a challenge to all **HEADHUNTERS!** He checked his official records, and it shows he is credited for 3 years & 27 days in the 80th Squadron. An unofficial polling of a few members shows this to be a record!! Any challenges? Please let us know! If it's close, we'll check dates on documents!
"Manny"

80TH HISTORY update!

We received a letter from Mr. Theo W. Van Geffen; 598 Romerostraat; 3573 AW Utrecht; The Netherlands. Mr. Van Geffen is a Member of the Netherlands Aerospace Writers Association. He is very interested, and is doing research, on the F-105 Thunderchief--better known as the "Thud." He is asking anyone from our Squadron who flew the Thud to please contact him with any information you may have. He would be very appreciative to receive this information. You may send to him direct, or send to me and I'll forward from here. Theo has also offered to upgrade our Squadron history during the period we flew the Thud. Thank you for supporting this request.

Please keep working on your memoirs, and send them in to Lt Mark Madaus; PSC 17 Box 172; APO AE 09214. He has incorporated all of the information that's been sent to him so far--and it's lookin' GOOD! Please keep those cards and letters coming in! Thanks.

80th FS memorial suggested

There has been some informal talk of establishing a Squadron Memorial either at the Air Force Academy, Wright-Patterson AFB, Arlington National Cemetery, or "Punch Bowl" National Cemetery in Hawaii. With the draw-down of the military, the possibility of closing Wright-Pat and/or combining the military academies into one has been mentioned. Therefore, probably the most stable place to put it would be either of the two National Cemeteries mentioned. Seeing that our 80th has always been in the Pacific, Punch Bowl may be

the logical & most fitting location. It is a beautiful spot in Honolulu inside an extinct volcano. Ernie Pyle, the famous WWII news correspondent killed in 1945 by a sniper, is buried there.

We've already had a pledge of \$100 from one of our Korean-era members, who wishes to remain anonymous, to get this project underway. **Please let me have your ideas & suggestions on the enclosed form--return envelope enclosed for your reply.** If you all like the idea, we'll ask for contributions to make it happen--where ever the majority of us want it. Many other Wings, Groups, and Squadrons with far less history than ours have their own memorials. We should, too.

*** **Please reply!!** ***

80th fs wins combat spirit '94

The 8th Fighter Wing from Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, won top honors at Combat Spirit '94. The wing's 80th Fighter Squadron finished first in the PACAF-wide event hosted at Osan AB in Korea. Its 35th FS finished second. The competition tests pilot skills in a timed first-run attack followed by four passes in a conventional bombing pattern and two strafe passes. The 51st FW from Osan AB and the 432nd FW from Misawa, Japan, also took part in the competition.

(Article & photo from Air Force Magazine, April 1995)

Capt Don Butler, Greg Dodson, Kevin Kelly, and Jed Morton (clockwise from left) of Kunsan's 80th Fighter Squadron took first place in *Combat Spirit '94*.



Photo USAF

Did you know: We've checked 457 car glove compartments, and still haven't found any gloves....

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!

Ever wonder how Scott O'Grady in the 80th? Although he is in a squadron, the famous 555 highly reliable sources have informed from sucking up all the trouble in the him where ever he went! Maybe he's some of the old "Hoover" luck was still we all hope your vacuum cleaner



got the callsign "Hoover" while he was now known as "Zulu" in his new "Triple Nickel" Fighter Squadron, our us that "Hoover" O'Grady got his name squadron--a little black cloud followed known as "Zulu" now, but it seems around that day in early June! "Zulu", syndrome is long gone!!

e-mail listings!

For those of you who have modems on your computers, here is an alphabetical list of "all" our **Headhunters** that are on-line with their respective service. **If anyone knows of any others not listed here, please let me know so I can keep this list current.** Thank you!

<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
Aunapu, Kevin	kaunapu@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Bilodeau, Pete	pbilodea@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Bostick, John R.	JRBostick@smtpgate.read.tasc.com
Christman, Harry	EXFJ@aol.com
Coe, Robert A.	rjcoe@aol.com
Collins, Jeff	jcollins@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Conklin, Tim	tconklin@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Deano Jr., Charles	deano@eglin.af.mil
Elder, Chuck	celder@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Elliott, Brian	bellriott@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Emmons, Todd	temmons@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Engelson, Bill	bengelso@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Evenson, Ronald C.	rcevenson@aol.com
Fink, Merrill	mfink@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Gantt, Mike	71371.3506@compuserve.com
Gentile, Nick	ngentile@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Hannus, Tim	thannus@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Kan, Robert S.	RSKan@smtpgate.read.tasc.com
Kirby, M.F.	74163.3314@compuserve.com
Korbass, Anton	akorbas@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Lewis, Jr., Clay & Ginger	GG541@aol.com
McIntyre, Chris	cmcintyr@emh.kunsan.af.mil

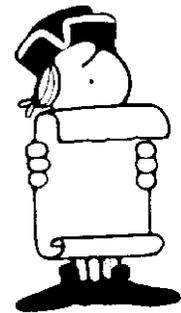
Muir, Dan	dmuir@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Pack, James B.	76725.1244@compuserve.com
Pollio, Tom	tpollio@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Ramsey, Stu	sramsey@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Reardon, Cathy A.	reardonc@hq20fw.shaw.af.mil
Reed, John C.	jreed@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Reinhard, Scott	sreinhar@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Riedel, Jay E.	JayBirdOne@aol.com
Riza, Shane	sriza@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Rothstein, Michael D.	102560.1422@compuserve.com
Schrader, Steven C.	PIGPENF16@aol.com
Slaughter, Jerry T.	Jslaught@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Slee, Thomas M.	F86PILOT@aol.com
Steffens, Aaron	asteffen@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Trinchitella, Mike	mtrinchi@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Valentine, W. Mark	wvalenti@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Vernon, Dan	dvernon@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Walker, Jon	jwalker@emh.kunsan.af.mil
West, R. J.	rjwest@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Whiting, Greg	gwhiting@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Wimmer, Van	vwimmer@emh.kunsan.af.mil
Wycoff, Donald W.	70224.1252@compuserve.com

These are all the **Headhunter** guys and girls (Cathy Reardon & Chris McIntyre) that we know of on-line. Any others out there? Why not beam over a message to these folks?!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

It gives us great pleasure to welcome these **12 new members** to our organization for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 June). **Equally rewarding** are the many members who have **renewed** after 1, 2, 3, or even 4 years absence! Welcome back! The roll call of **new** members are:

Dr. Terrell J. Osborn	Lt Col Robert P. Steel
1/Lt David W. Kulaas	Col Frank Plescha
Col Charles B. Hennessey	John & Bobbie Istle
Capt Catherine A. Reardon	Capt Robert N. Polumbo
Howard J. Sheehan	Capt Monty L. Brock
Keith A. Rosenkranz	



Friends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster (enclosed) and give 'em a call, or write 'em a letter. Or better yet, tell them you'll meet them at the next reunion in Cincinnati! Great to have you all back in formation--and what a great one it is!! **Welcome!**

P.S.--As of this date, we have **355 Yearly + 261 LifeTime (LTM) = 616 Members!!**

head headhunter corner



First of all, I would like to thank Anita Cummins for taking, and letting us use, her photo of Robbins, Ruff, & Kirby that appeared in the 1 June newsletter. I inadvertently omitted this info from the picture--first mistake I've made since 1947!! Thanks, Anita, for a great picture!

Again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the wives for answering a lot of the mail, renewing dues, and sending in news-worthy information. If it weren't for you, there would be about 12 members renewing their membership each year!!!

Thank you, ladies!! Please keep up the great work!

Jaybird's on-line!!

Well, by now it's old news, but for those of you with computer modems that haven't heard from me yet, I leaped into the 20th Century on 26 June and went "on-line" for electronic mail (e-mail). Many of you wanted to see me on *CompuServe*, and you even said, "Don't worry--if Kirby can do it, anyone can!" However, two of our sons are close by, and both are on *America on Line*, so I decided to follow them to get "free unlimited in-home technical support" 6 ! Questions?! My e-mail address is: JayBirdOne@aol.com

We also have Fax capability at the same (706) 324-7360 number. Please call first so I can get the machinery fired up!! Thanks!

THE STORK CORNER!



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

Capt John "Rhino" & Shaunna Reed are very proud to announce the birth of a beautiful baby girl, Hunter Caitlyn Reed, on 4 June. TOT was 1812 hours, with a pay load of 8 lbs 10 ozs! John is now in the middle of his second tour in the 80th at Kunsan, but he was able to be home with Shaunna for the birth in Utah on his mid-tour. John's first tour in the 80th was Dec 88 - Dec 89. Mom, Dad, & Baby are all doing great! Congratulations!!

Capt Dean R. & Kimberly Fair are equally proud to announce the birth of their son, Dean Robert "DJ" Fair, Jr., on 23 June. DJ weighed in at 7 lbs 2 oz. Dean says he "keeps me busy between work and my Masters!" We believe it!! Congratulations to Dean & Kim on their new family addition!

HEADHUNTERS AT REST

Last, 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:

Merle S. Else	WWII	3-4 Yrs ago
Col John L. Gregory, Jr.	BTW/CC/LTM	25 Apr 95

On 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.



The next **HEADHUNTER HEADLINES** will be dated 1 December 1995.

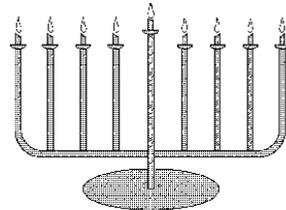
CINCINNATI, HERE WE COME -- 19 - 22 SEPTEMBER '96!!

✓6,

Col Jay E. "Jay Bird" Riedel, USAF Ret

P.S. Please don't forget to:

- * **Fill out & return the enclosed Memorial Form**
- * **Send your memoirs to Lt Madaus!!**
- * **Send your E-mail address to us!**



HANUKKAH



80th Fighter Squadron
"HEADHUNTERS"
905 Arapaho Ct
Columbus, GA 31904

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS

**80th Fighter Squadron
Memorial
Information Form**

___ **YES**, I support an 80th FS Memorial at the following location:

___ USAF Academy, CO

___ Wright Patterson AFB, OH

___ Arlington Nat Cemetery, DC

___ Punch Bowl Nat Cemetery, HI

Ideas for design: _____

(Please use other side for more ideas)

Other Information: _____

(Please use other side for more information)

___ No, I do not support a Squadron Memorial. Reason: _____

Name (optional): _____

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Other Information: _____

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Name (optional): _____