



80th FIGHTER SQUADRON

HEADHUNTER HEADLINES



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Vol. VII, No. 26

"AUDENTES FORTUNA JUVAT"

August 1, 1997

Greetings, Fellow **HEADHUNTERS!**

Bonnie & I hope this Newsletter finds all of you in the very best of health and happiness during this summer vacation season!

VEGAS REUNION DETAILS!!

Our Vegas reunion hosts, J.J. & Anita Cummins, have firmed up these details for us—it will be in the beautiful, recently renovated (\$87 million!!), **Harrah's Hotel & Casino out on the "Strip"** Harrah's is across the street from Caesar's Palace. If you remember from the last newsletter, April time period; however, **26 - 29 MARCH 1998**, *Las Vegas, here we come!!* we were looking at the the dates are now firm—which is our standard Thursday check-in through Sunday departure schedule. Please enter these new dates on your calendars. The room rate of **\$89 per night** is quite reasonable. Unfortunately, Las Vegas and Nevada have different liquor laws than we're used to. Therefore, our Hospitality Bar must be a **Pay-as-You-Go Bar**, which will please our non-drinkers! More details to follow in next newsletter!

US AIR FORCE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The 80th Fighter Squadron was well represented at the Air Force Association's 50th Anniversary of the US Air Force Celebration held in Las Vegas and Nellis AFB this past April. Some of the **Headhunters** from the Korean era that attended were: John Shannon (1952); Robert "Bob" McDermott, "B"Flt, (1953-54); Tom Slee, "D"Flt, (1953-54); Vince Baki, "D"Flt, (1954); Art McNay, "D"Flt, (1954); and Harold Fischer (1951-52) who also attended the Sabre Pilot's Association reunion. There were several from the Vietnam era who were attending the River Rats reunion. In addition, there were three Juvats and a couple of "Pantons" (35th FS) who

what a celebra-
Slee)

HEADHUNTER COMES BACK TO LIFE!!

tion!!! (Report by Tom

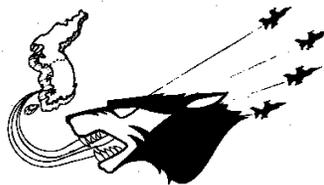
In our 1 December 1995 newsletter (you all still have it in a 3-ring binder on your desk, right...), we listed Gail H. Wilson, from between the wars (BTW) having died on 9 January 1994. Well, at 7:45 p.m. on 26 May 1997, guess who called me on the phone from Albuquerque? You guessed it—Lt Col Gail H. “Willie” Wilson, (Ret), who was in the 80th from June ’59 - June ’62 (BTW)!! He was out West visiting friends who told him of his demise! I don’t recall where we got the information on his passing, but Willie says he’s alive and well—I believe him!! He’s listed on the enclosed Change #6. We apologize for any inconvenience it may have caused. Welcome back, Willie—great to have you with us again!!

LATEST INTELLIGENCE FROM AROUND THE WORLD!



Our highly reliable sources in strategically placed key positions around the globe have informed us that our 80th Squadron Commander from 2 June ’93 to 1 June ’94, Col Phil “BWANA” Breedlove, has just completed two years on the Joint Staff up in the “Puzzle Palace” (spelled “Pentagon” in some circles!) in June, went to recurrency training in the F-16 until 15 July, before taking command of the 27th Operations Group (OG) at Cannon AFB on 25 July! The 27th OG presently has three F-16 squadrons (with several **Headhunter** Alumni), one EF-111 squadron, and the Operational Support Squadron—a little over 2000 folks and hundreds of millions of dollars in equipment. We all wish Phil and Cindy the very best of success in this most important position.

Squadron has change of command!



The Commander, 8th Operations Group of the 8th Fighter Wing “Wolf Pack” at Kunsan Air Base, Korea, Col Atkins, was proud to announce the Change of Command at which Lt Col David J. Scott relinquished command of the 80th Fighter Squadron to Lt Col Kevin E. Williams on 3 July 1997.

Let Col “Limo” Scott is attending Air War College at Maxwell. We all wish you the very best of luck and continued success in the future, Dave, and thanks for a job well done. We’re looking forward to seeing both you and Lisa at the Las Vegas reunion—AWC permitting!

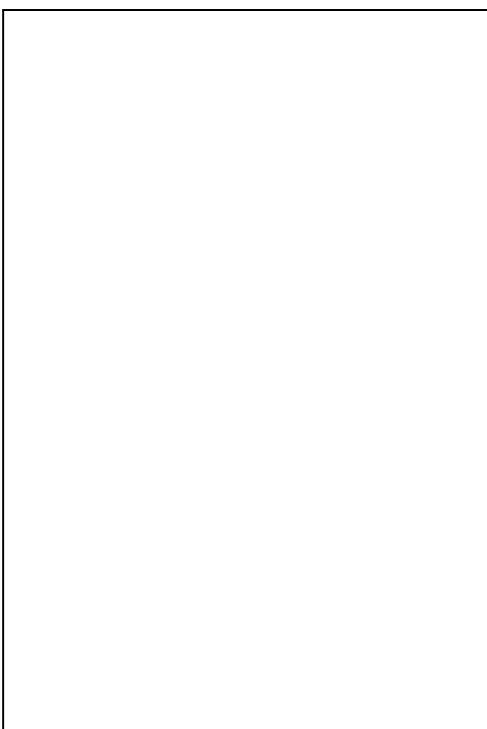
Let Col “Snake” Williams and his wife, Joyce, came over from Cannon AFB, where he was

**HEADHUNTER ACE TO MEET CHINESE ACE—
WHO SHOT HIM DOWN!!**

the Chief of Safety. 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 and Joyce are now part of it! JUVAT!!

Col Harold E. Korean-era Aces has recently re-to China with the Ameri-the Flying Tigers, who prior to Pearl Harbor. cable TV will be hosting the event. In an e-Col Fischer stated, “Later Chinese General Chai De ace during the Korean concept...]. He has credit the Chinese record.” Col is some information about He is now reportedly

‘Han Decai of North public of China: In an Air Force School was only 16 years 1952, together with graduated from the Air Force School at Shen Yuang. He served in the 3rd Division as the youngest pilot in the Chinese Air Force. Later being a Fighter Pilot, he downed and damaged 6 airplanes including Capt Harold Fischer’s. Capt Harold Fischer also downed 10 MiG’s [all MiG-15’s]. Han Decai became internationally known as the youngest hero pilot, earned a title of a Rate 2 Fighting Hero, and was promoted to the rank of Captain.”



Fischer (Ret), one of our and LifeTime Members, ceived an invitation to go can volunteers known as first fought the Japanese The History Channel from the visit and will be film-mail message of 1 July, we will be meeting with a Han, who was a fighter War [Ed note: interesting for shooting me down for Fischer continues, “Here the Chinese General Han. head of China Airlines.

East Peoples Re-1950 he attended at which time he old. In November Jiang Taoping,

Col Fischer was in our 80th Fighter Bomber Squadron from March 1951 to March 1952 in the Air-to-Ground role before going into F-86’s in the Air-to-Air role with the 39th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 51st Fighter Interceptor Wing—the same Squadron in which Capt Joe McConnell became the top scoring fighter Ace of the Korean War (16). It was during this tour that Col Fischer became an Ace on 24 January 1953—one of only 39 Jet Aces, and one of only a very few to become a Double Jet Ace (10) from the Korean War, before being shot down on 7

April and spending the rest of the war, plus two more years, as a POW. Col Fischer was finally released by the Chinese in 1955. *(Information & photo from Col Harold Fischer and the American Fighter Aces and Friends Bulletin; Spring 1995.)*

MASTER ROSTER CHANGE #6

Enclosed is **Change #6** to the Master Roster. You're not on it? Not to worry! You haven't been deleted from the roster! Remember, this is only a change of information from Change #5 sent with the May newsletter. If none of your information changed since 1 May, you're not in this listing. A new, updated Master Roster will be coming out this Fall. If you have/want any changes to your information, please send to me, and I'll update prior to publishing.

HEADHUNTER STORE

Several items are now available for sale in our "HEADHUNTER STORE"! Most are available at slightly above cost. The "**Blazer Emblem**", "**Squadron Unique Tie**", and "**Ladies Floppy Bow**" were designed and made especially for our Squadron—with our inputs!! The Emblem has our **HEADHUNTER** logo surrounded by a ring with 6 bi-colored spikes (representing our Presidential Unit Citations from WWII & Korea) and twin lightning bolts ("Twin Tail Lightning") over a banner with our motto—all in full color!! The Emblem has clasps. The ties & matching floppy bows have stripes of WWII & Korea to the present colors. Each comes with a complete explanation of the design & colors. Get them now, and be ready for the reunion!! Unless purchased at a reunion, a small fee of **\$3 should be added** for postage to all orders:

Blazer Emblem (men's or ladies)	\$35	Golf Shirt (temp sold out)	\$25
Squadron Unique Tie	\$30	T Shirt	\$11
Ladies Floppy Bow (matches tie)	\$30	Squadron Print	\$20
Squadron "Nickel" Coin	\$ 4	White Hat	\$10
* <u>Personalized</u> Sq coffee mug	\$17	Black Hat	\$ 5
* <u>Personalized</u> Sq beer stein	\$20	Memorial Plaque	\$10
*Mug & Stein set as above	\$35	Korean-era Sq Patch	\$ 5
Current Squadron Patch	\$ 5		

* Please include **name and/or rank** desired on your mug/stein (up to 20 letters), and **right/left** handed with your order. **Unless otherwise stated**, the Squadron logo & your first name in Old English will be on the front (handle left for right-handed drinker), and an F-16 will be on the back.

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

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!



t gives us great pleasure to welcome these **7 new members** to our organization for the **first time** (in the order of "signing up" since 1 May). **Equally rewarding** are the many members who have **renewed** after 1, 2, 3, 4, or even 5 years absence! That Member AWOL for 5 years? The bloodhounds dragged him in at 0300 one morning! "You can run, but you can't hide!" Seriously, **Welcome back to all!**

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

Capt Jeffrey I. Wood
Elmer A. Kufro
1Lt Cary N. Culbertson
Capt Stephen J. Hickey

Thurman H. Deen
Maj Kurt F. Neubauer
1Lt Daniel K. Bunts



Friends of yours? You bet!! Look 'em up in your new Master Roster Change #6 (enclosed), 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 26-29 March!** Great to have you all back in formation—and what a great one it is!! **Welcome!** Do you have **Headhunter** friends that aren't members? If so, please let me have 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, "Cleared to rejoin with us!!"** Thank you!

THE MAIL BAG

We receive many notes and letters over the months from our members, but many times this information doesn't get out to the rest of our readers. We would like to share some of these with you.



Lt Col Charlie "Strut" Simmons wrote, "Last month 30 Apr - 17 May, my squadron, the 160 FS [Alabama ANG], deployed to Eielson AFB, Alaska and flew with "Limo" Scott and the Juvats [our 80th FS]. It was a great time, and I got a chance to sing with the [Juvat Boys'] Choir again in the Club on a Friday night. It was a kick. A good time was had by all. It really brought back some memories from '81-'82. I am really glad the Choir is back."

Capt E.T. "Gotno" Moore sent an e-mail message: "[My wife] Michelle (Muffy—Juvat Chick) separated from the AF last week (1 Jun) and landed an excellent job here in Hampton as a Manufacturing Engineer at an Electronics Developing Company. Our daughter, Kaitlyn Grace just turned six months old and is doing fine."

Last, but certainly not least, this e-mail message came in on 15 June:

"Doesn't seem like a year, but it has been—must have been all the exercises, inspections, and deployments. It has certainly been a great year and one I will never for-

get—best scene to date and have no doubts none in the future will compare. What a great bunch of aviators and maintainers—they truly are the best, and you and the rest of the Headhunters from old would be proud of their accomplishments over the past year. ...No squadron I have been in has done more in less time with less manpower than this one—awesome. ...It has been an honor to be a JUVAT and to be part of the Headhunter Association—looking forward to meeting you at the reunion in April—would not miss it for the world—thanks again, and once a Juvat, always a Juvat. Very respectfully—Cheers & check 6, ‘Limo’[Lt Col David Scott]—Juvat Lead.”

There’s a linking thread in all these notes, messages, and letters—the memories we have of our times in our 80th Squadron stay with us for the rest of our lives, and the **Headhunters** we come in contact with will always be our family, no matter where we meet—ask our WWII Members from 55 years ago. That’s pretty nice, when you think about it. That’s what this is all about.

Don’t resist growing old---many are denied the privilege.

head headhunter corner



Iwould like to take this opportunity to **thank all the wives** who have renewed the memberships for their hard-to-pin-down, very slippery husbands (I’ve been tracking some for years, and they keep jinking!!) If you weren’t so conscientious, we’d have about 12 renewals so far!! ☺ **Thank you very much, ladies—please keep up the good work!!!**

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

e-mail listing CHANGES!

Here is an alphabetical list of **headhunter** e-mail address **changes**. Please note this is only a **change**, and not a complete list as we have published in the past. The list was getting so lengthy that it took up over one-third of the total Newsletter. Since we have

almost 700 members, but only about 220 “on-line”, we’ll include changes only to allow more news for everyone’s newsletter. A “complete” list will be published periodically. These new and/or changed addresses from the last (1 May) listing are flagged with vertical lines to the left of the names. Thank you!

<u>Name</u>	<u>E-Mail Address</u>
Alexander, Robert M.	boba@writeme.com
Buchanan, Robert	Harleybutt@aol.com
Byrd, Butch	BByrd2@compuserve.com
Carbaugh, Neal	F16flier@aol.com
Christopherson, Pat	christop@52fw12.spangdahlem.af.mil
Comstock, Phil	comstock@jwfc.js.mil
Culbertson, Cary N.	culbertc@pop3.kunsan.af.mil
Dodson, Greg R.	(none at this time)
Fee, Jeff	feej@wegnet.tyndall.af.mil
Fischer, Harold E.	hfische2@ix.netcom.com
Foley, Louis & Suzanna	lounsuz@sumter.net
Ford, Shawn	TwsF16@aol.com
Friesel, Earl	Earlf4@msn.com
Gantt, Mike	mgantt@datasys.net
Gaspar, Jay	jgaspar@lib.brenau.edu
Hannus, Tim	IndyF16@aol.com
Hickey, Steve	stick@inet.att.co.kr
Huggins, Larry	hugquay@twave.net
Indermuehle, Art	AEINDY@juno.com
Lester, Gary	lesterg@goodnet.com
MacQueen, Scott	MacQueeS@cts414.nellis.af.mil
Manifold, Matthew J.	matt.manifold@spangdahlem.af.mil
Marshall, Pat	tinstarphm@aol.com
Moore, E.T.	Etmoore@aol.com
Murphy, Caryn	Wheels80@msn.com
Neubauer, Kurt	Neubauek@relay2.langlely.af.mil
Nikolai, Douglas J.	105153.3357@compuserve.com
Nuzzo, Carl W.	cnuzzo@ebicom.net
Pattison, Jerry G.	ScubaJP@aol.com
Polumbo, Bob	PolumboR@execnet.hq.af.mil
Rea, Denny	DRea0022@aol.com
Redmond, John W.	JBREDRAT@aol.com
Rickard, Bob	BobalooR@FTC-i.net
Riza, Shane	riza@sumter.net
Rosepink, Ronald K.	RonRsepink@aol.com
Siebenthal, Robert	rlsieb@kiva.net
Smith, Paul G.	SmithP@JSF2.edwards.af.mil
Snoy, Joe A.	jsnoy@du.edu
Stice, Bob	sticer@af.pentagon.mil
Sullivan, Gerard R.	LaserSully@aol.com

Thorpe, Dion	DATHORPES@compuserve.com
Whisenhunt, Buc & Trisha	BUCWHIS@aol.com
Whiting, Greg	whiting@datasys.net
Woodward, Richard	70263.2252@compuserve.com
Worth, Andy	Crumb@compuserve.com
Wright, Bob	WilburF16@aol.com
Youtsey, Dave	YoutseyD@og347.moody.af.mil

Don't forget—check out our own **HEADHUNTER Web Page**, compliments of Jeff Collins, at:

<http://www.mindspring.com/~jaybirdone/headhunters>

Thanks again, Jeff—an outstanding job for all of us!!

To go forward,
to turn around.

HURTIN' HEADHUNTERS

sometimes we have



Esbern “Es” Johnson had open heart surgery in his home town of Sioux Falls, SD on 15 May. Seems that he needed a new valve in his main hydraulic pump! Es is one of our original ground crew personnel from 1942 in New Guinea and is now a LifeTime Member and “regular” at our reunions. We all wish you a speedy recovery, Es, and we look forward to seeing you and Mary in Vegas next March!!

HEADHUNTERS GETTIN' HITCHED!



Al “Chops” Wimmer & Kelli Renee Wright joined up at Shaw AFB on 9 May in front of the 79th anniversary F-16 on the flight line. This jet was the celebration of the 79th anniversary of the 79th Fighter Squadron. We wish you many smooth flights together in close formation, Kelli & Al!! Congratulations!!

Don't marry a person you know you can live with—
(Check 6!!) marry someone you know

THE STORK CORNER!



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

Andy “Crumb” & Patty Worth are very proud to announce the birth of their first child, Deidre Anne Worth! After 26 hours of labor, Deidre made here debut at 1015 local time on 25 Mar 97 in Oklahoma City. Her roll out ramp weight was 9 lbs 4.5 oz. Andy says, “Everybody is doing great!” Patty, they tell me the second baby is a lot easier—isn’t that reassuring?!!! ☺ To Patty, Andy, & little Deidre—we wish you all our heartiest congratulations!

Marina Lynn Wright arrived at 2300 on 4 April—the beautiful new baby girl of Bob “Wilbur” & Sharon Wright. She weighed in at 8 lbs 3 oz, with a wing span of 20¾”. In a 10 May e-mail message, Wilbur writes, “Her big brother Jett (2 on July 1st, 1997) has taken her under his wing, but doesn’t understand why she doesn’t catch the Nerf ball, yet!” Yep, he’s probably thinking she’ll never make the big leagues, like he will!! Our fondest congratulations go out to Bob, Sharon, Jett, & Marina!

The stork has been quite busy. He flew another “Higher Headquarters” mission over Clovis, NM, on 30 May, and dropped a “shack” on 1761-D Normandy Loop—the home of Capt Dave “Hustler” & Cynthia Pedersen. The TOT (time on target) was 1817L, and the ordnance had a 6 lb 7 oz warhead, and, according to Dave, was equipped with a short nose fuse...! Dave continued, “There was no collateral damage, and Mom & John Preston Pedersen are doing great!” We all congratulate Dave, Cynthia, & “Hollywood” on their new **headhunter** wingman, John Preston!

Congratulations to all new Moms, Dads, & “Wingmen”!!!!
All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today.

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



Labor Day - 1 Sep



Columbus Day - 13 Oct



Halloween - 31 Oct

LAS VEGAS OR BUST!!

✓6,

Col Jay E. "JayBird" Riedel, USAF Ret

The "Head Hunter"



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

**ADDRESS CORRECTION
REQUESTED**

FIRST CLASS