



Once an Outlaw, Always an Outlaw



OUTLAW MONTHLY BULLETIN



ALSO ON 924 WEBSITE

*Distance and time may separate us
but friendship and memories won't*

Dedicated to those who have invested their lives to the cause of Freedom in America! God Bless our Men and Women who are (or Have) in any way or manner served to protect our Great Nation and the freedom we have. And God Bless the United States of America



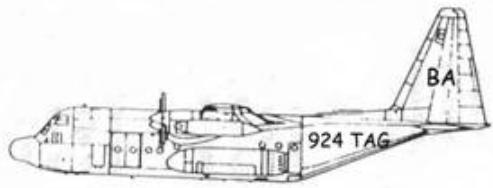
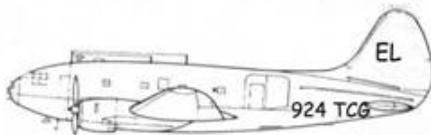
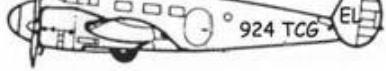
2013

11th Year Edition

Established March 2002

VOL 1 Issue 136

Ed Copher, Editor, "924 Keeper of the Flame"



924 th



Birds of a Feather...Flock Together



Listen to music as you read the newsletter

The Warrior Song...

[Click Here](#) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTs6a0ORdQU&feature=player_embedded

To all of the United States Armed Forces, with thanks. - Marching Snare Drums

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2pfCFU3Mqww&feature=related> “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy” by The Andrew Sisters, then click on the Minimize minus sign (-) at the top right corner of your screen. It will then go back to the newsletter with music playing. When finished listening to music, go to desktop home page, on the bottom tool bar, right click The Andrew Sisters... then select close.



924th Air Force Reserve
The Unit That Refuses to Disband



924th



[924 Photo Albums \(Sets\)](#)

36 Albums....1883 Photos.....14,095 Views (as of 03 August 13)

Click here: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/924outlaws/sets/>

Click on each photo to enlarge

*****FYI***** www.Flickr.com charges \$24.95 per year to keep the **OUTLAW Photo Albums** on their website.

****Paid the one year fee on 15 Nov 2012****



OUTLAW WEB SITE:

www.924tfg.com (password: *outlaws*)

8,020 Visitors since Jan 09

[History](#), [Latest Info](#), [Photos](#), [In Memoriam](#), [Miscellaneous](#), [Newsletters](#), [Links](#), [Recall Roster](#)

924th Webmaster Says....



924 FLOWER FUND

The purpose is to send a nice flower arrangement to all 924th funerals. *Each arrangement cost over \$100*

The ribbon will read; "**924th BAFB**". A flower arrangement has been sent to the last **27** funerals.

Jim Chapman is the POC for collecting funds and sending the flowers. jchapman90@austin.rr.com

Send donations to: Make out check to Jim Chapman

Jim Chapman

Cedar Creek, TX 78612

145 Oak Ridge Dr.



Ruth Kirkland Retirement:

I retired from the Reserve's officially on Jun 30, 2013 w/ almost 26 years of service in. Here is a picture of me w/ Husband and Daughter for my Retirement Ceremony 7 Jun 2013. I will still be in Civil Service for many years to come!

Ruth...Robins AFB





How many of us remember this Weapons Loader "kid" from the 924th, Bergstrom AFB.

Gen Lytle's son:

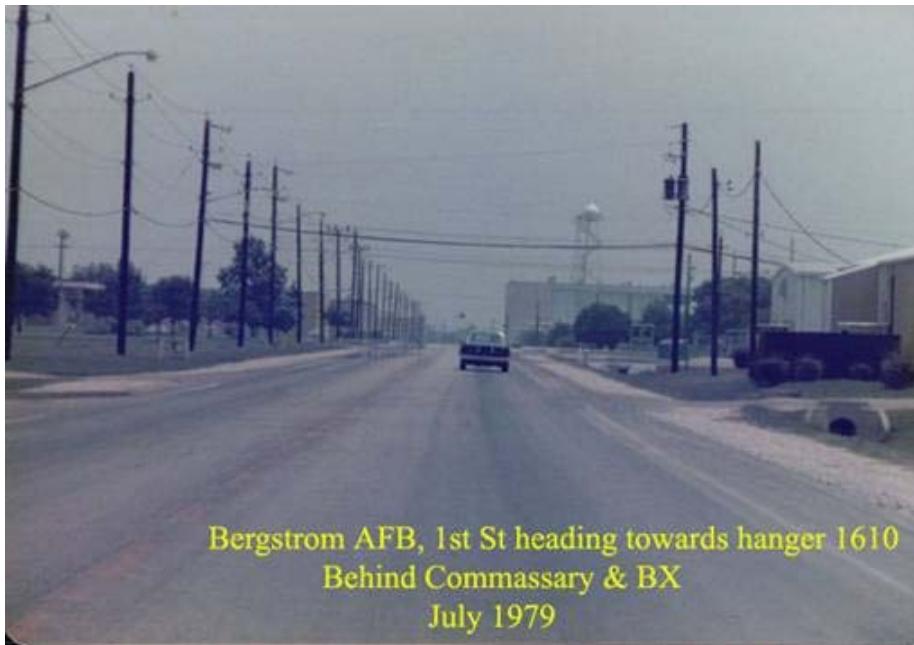
Maj. Robin Lytle began his [#AirForce](#) career as a weapons loader in 1989, but soon realized he had higher aspirations for his life. After finishing his bachelor's degree in aeronautics, Lytle applied and was accepted into pilot training. Today, he's an F-16 pilot with the 93rd Fighter Squadron at [Homestead Air Reserve Base](#), Fla. Read about his journey from loading munitions on the flightline to flying F-16s: <http://1.usa.gov/18gKIdl>

Through Airmen's Eyes: Airman reflects on journey from maintainer to pilot

You can view the original story at <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123355752>

HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE, Fla. (AFNS) -- "I remember the first time I climbed into an F-16 (Fighting Falcon) and the canopy closed," he said. "I had my mask on, and it was so quiet. I was amazed at how quiet and peaceful it was. At that moment, I knew the cockpit was where I was meant to be." To get into that cockpit, **Maj. Robin Lytle** had to navigate a long path. Lytle, an F-16 pilot with the 93rd Fighter Squadron here, was born in Laredo, Texas, and spent the better part of his youth moving around with his military family. His father was a pilot, but initially Lytle had no intentions of becoming a pilot. However, he did have a calling to follow in his family's long line of military service, which goes back three generations to his great grandfather. **Lytle joined the Air Force Reserve as a weapons loader at Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, after he graduated high school in 1989. Life on the flightline "I spent a day shadowing the weapons loaders at Bergstrom (AFB) and I knew it was the job for me," Lytle said. "I just liked watching them load the bombs and move the missiles around. I knew it was a vital job in the Air Force, and I wanted to be a part of it." Lytle worked on the flightline at Bergstrom AFB while attending college. For four years he developed his skills. "I loved taking something that needed repair, fixing it and being able to deliver a finished product to serve the mission," Lytle said. "I received a great amount of satisfaction from the job."** In college, Lytle majored in aeronautics, and during his Reserve career he aspired to become a maintenance officer. He said he earned a name for himself as a dedicated Airman. "I learned early on to let my work ethic speak for me," Lytle said. "The most important thing I learned from my time on the (flightline) is that a good work ethic is essential to earning the respect of others." Lytle graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1995 from the University of Oklahoma. One day, his director of operations asked him what he intended to do with his degree. Lytle told him he wanted to become a maintenance officer. But one day on the flightline, Lytle's career trajectory took a turn. Transition to the cockpit "One morning I was sitting on an F-16 fixing a gun issue that had been giving us trouble for a few days," Lytle said. "I watched the pilots walk out, get into their jets and take off. As I sat there, knee deep in a gun belt, I thought to myself that I wanted to do that." Lytle went back to his director of operations, let him know he wanted to apply for pilot training and started building his package to submit to the selection board. "I was sweating waiting for an answer," Lytle said. "There was a lot on the line. I really wanted it." While waiting to hear from the board, Lytle was offered a weapons loader position as an Air Reserve Technician at Homestead Air Reserve Base, Fla. It was an opportunity, at the time, he said he couldn't pass up. He accepted and began moving. Shortly after moving to Homestead, Fla., Lytle received word he'd been accepted into pilot training. "I was so excited when I found out I had been accepted into pilot training," Lytle said. "Then the gravity of it all hit me, and I knew I couldn't mess up." But before pilot training, Lytle had to first find a base that needed a new fighter pilot. He was planning on filling a pilot slot back at Bergstrom AFB, but the base was on the verge of closing so he had to search for a new place to begin his life in the skies. "I remember calling around to every fighter base, but I couldn't find a base that would take me," Lytle said. "The director of operations at my base spoke with the commander about my situation." As luck would have it, the commander at his previous base was about to become the new wing commander at Homestead

ARB. Because of Lytle's reputation for his dedication and work ethic, the commander said he'd make sure Lytle would have a spot at Homestead ARB. "I was meant to be at Homestead," Lytle said. **Life in the cockpit** "I kid you not, pilot training was the most intense thing I have ever been through because they're throwing so much information at you all at once," Lytle said. "All my free time went to studying. Being a pilot is hard work, but it's highly rewarding knowing you're keeping the guys on the ground safe." According to Lt. Col. Timothy Rusch, the 93rd FS director of operations, due to his diverse experience, Lytle truly understands what the maintainers go through, which gives him a unique perspective as a pilot. "My heart is on the (flightline)," Lytle said. "I really enjoy the chief of scheduling role because I get to interact with the maintainers and it brings me one step closer to the (flightline)." During a recent operational readiness inspection, Lytle was key in the 93rd FS's communications with maintenance, Rusch said. "He efficiently and effectively gets the job done and considers his people while he does it," Rusch said. Lytle said he still loves being out on the flightline and finds every possible opportunity to get out there. He still looks back on his time as a weapons loader as a vital asset in his career experience. "I know about the long hours that are involved in keeping this jet armed and mission ready," he said. "This experience helps me be a better pilot because when there's an issue, I have unique insight as to what might have gone wrong. I've definitely been involved in situations where I drew from knowledge I acquired as a weapons loader."



Bergstrom AFB, 1st St heading towards hanger 1610
Behind Commissary & BX
July 1979

Bergstrom AFB Trivia:

1. Flora Turi

I was there at the switchboard when ALL of you were there! Retired from 1882 Comm Sqdn after 28 years at Bergstrom. Loved my job. Must have put calls through for some of you! Operator 14.

2. Larry Wildman

Things I remember about President Johnson using Bergstrom a lot was that a fleet of cars for use by the Secret Service were parked in the Motor Pool and while the makes, models, colors etc. were different, the License Plates were numbered consecutively, for example, 2143, 2144, 2145 and so on. There were two stories attributed to **Lady Bird**, one was that she had the dried up and brown **grass in front of Ops dyed green** and the other was that the Fire trucks that followed Air Force One were not Red. They were painted green or such so as not to upset the passengers on board when the fire trucks moved in and behind following the plane as it came to a stop.

3. Ronald G Hammonds

I was stationed at Bergstrom in 1967-1968 with the 75th civil engineering squadron as a masonry specialist. My initial duty was to move dirt so forms could be made for concrete to be installed for various projects on base. My Saturdays were spent walking the runways and filling in small holes. I was a part of a team that went to LBJ's ranch to lay irrigation pipe alongside the runway there. We went there in unmarked vehicles, wore civilian clothes, and stayed at a motel near the ranch. It took about a week to lay the pipe and when we were through the pipe was stained with some liquid fertilizer. The reason I was told is that the reporters and visitors flying with the President would not be able to tell that the pipe was new. As I understand the operation, used pipe was supposed to be purchased for the project but new pipe could be purchased at a cheaper price.

American Hero from Vietnam War....EX-POW....escaped for 2 weeks...Earned the Medal of Honor

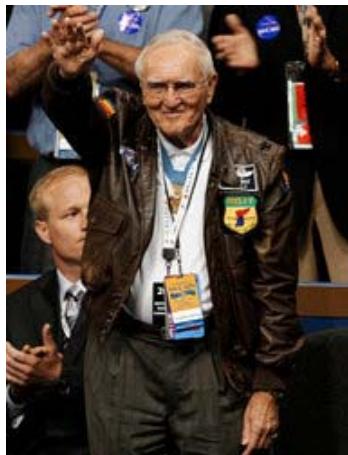
His POW prison mates were in my Navy Squadron when shot down and made POW's.....Stockdale and McCain
--Ed

If you were not previously familiar with Colonel Day, the following summary will give you all the evidence you need to understand that he was a great man and a legitimate hero.

Col. Bud Day, Vietnam War Hero, Dies at 88

July 28, 2013

Col. Bud Day, an Air Force fighter pilot who was shot down in the Vietnam War, imprisoned with John McCain in the notorious “Hanoi Hilton” and defiantly endured more than five years of brutality without divulging sensitive information to his captors, earning him the Medal of Honor, died on Saturday in Shalimar, Fla. He was 88.



Col. Bud Day waved to the crowd at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., in 2008.

His death was announced by his wife, Doris. Colonel Day was among America's most highly decorated servicemen, having received nearly 70 medals and awards, more than 50 for combat exploits. In addition to the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for valor, he was awarded the Air Force Cross, the highest combat award specifically for airmen. In a post [on Twitter](#) on Sunday, Senator McCain called Colonel Day “my friend, my leader, my inspiration.” Colonel Day's life was defined by the defiance he showed in North Vietnamese prison camps, where besides Mr. McCain, the future senator and Republican presidential candidate, whose Navy fighter had been downed, his cellmates included James B. Stockdale, also a Navy pilot, who became Ross Perot's running mate in his 1992 presidential campaign. When he volunteered for duty in Vietnam and was assigned to a fighter wing in April 1967, Colonel Day, then a major, had flown more than 4,500 hours in fighters. **On Aug. 26, 1967, he was on a mission to knock out a surface-to-air missile site 20 miles inside North Vietnam when his F-100 was hit by antiaircraft fire. He suffered eye and back injuries and a broken arm when he ejected, and he was quickly captured. Major Day was strung upside-down by his captors, but after his bonds were loosened, he escaped after five days in enemy hands. He made it across a river, using a bamboo-log float for support, and crossed into South Vietnam. He wandered barefoot and delirious for about two weeks in search of rescuers, surviving on a few berries and frogs. At one point, he neared a Marine outpost, but members of a Communist patrol spotted him first, shot him in the leg and hand, and captured him.** This time, Major Day could not escape. He was shuttled among various camps, including the prison that became known as the Hanoi Hilton, and was beaten, starved and threatened with execution. His captors demanded information on escape plans and methods of communication among the prisoners of war, as well as on America's air war. In February 1971, he joined with Admiral Stockdale, then a commander and the ranking American in the prison camp, and other prisoners in singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” while rifle muzzles were pointed at them by guards who had burst into a prisoners' forbidden religious service.

He was released on March 14, 1973, having supplied only false information to his interrogators. He was promoted to colonel during his captivity, and on **March 4, 1976, President Gerald R. Ford presented him with the Medal of Honor at a ceremony in which Admiral Stockdale was also awarded the medal. Colonel Day received the medal for his escape and evasion, brief though it was, and his refusal to yield to his tormentors.**

“Colonel Day was totally debilitated and unable to perform even the simplest task for himself,” the citation read. “Despite

his many injuries, he continued to offer maximum resistance. His personal bravery in the face of deadly enemy pressure was significant in saving the lives of fellow aviators who were still flying against the enemy.”

Mr. McCain recalled in his memoir, “Faith of My Fathers,” written with Mark Salter, that Colonel Day “was a tough man, a fierce resister, whose example was an inspiration to every man who served with him.”

Telling how Colonel Day, in wretched condition himself, comforted him when he was near death from beatings, Senator McCain wrote that Colonel Day “had an indomitable will to survive with his reputation intact, and he strengthened my will to live.”

George Everette Day, known as Bud, was born on Feb. 24, 1925, in Sioux City, Iowa. He quit high school to join the Marines in 1942 and served with an antiaircraft battery on Johnston Island in the Pacific during [World War II](#).

He graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City, obtained a law degree from the University of South Dakota and then received an officer’s commission in the Iowa Army National Guard. After transferring to the Air Force Reserves, he was recalled to active duty in 1951 and received pilot training. He flew a fighter-bomber, tracking Soviet planes off the coast of Japan, during the Korean War and then remained in military service.

After coming home from Vietnam, Colonel Day underwent physical rehabilitation, regained his flight status and served as vice commander of a flight wing at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida. He retired from the military in 1977 after being passed over for brigadier general and then practiced law in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Colonel Day represented military retirees in a federal court case aimed at securing what they said were health benefits once promised by their recruiters. He campaigned for Mr. McCain when he challenged George W. Bush for the 2000 Republican presidential nomination. When President Bush sought re-election in 2004, Colonel Day worked with the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth organization in sharply attacking Mr. Bush’s Democratic opponent, Senator John Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran, over his antiwar activities after coming home. Colonel Day backed Mr. McCain’s presidential bid in 2008.

In addition to his wife, Colonel Day is survived by two sons, Steven and George Jr.; two daughters, Sandra Hearn and Sonja LaJeunesse; and 14 grandchildren.

Admiral Stockdale, his fellow prisoner of war, [died in 2005](#).

Looking back on the torment he endured as a prisoner, Colonel Day expressed pride over the way he and his fellow prisoners of war had conducted themselves. “As awful as it sounds, no one could say we did not do well,” he told The Associated Press in 2008.

Being held prisoner “was a major issue in my life, and one that I am extremely proud of,” he said. “I was just living day to day.”

NEWS RELEASE: Austin VA Outpatient Clinic moving to new location July 4; open for business July 9

TO ALL PATRIOTS—TODAY THE NEW VA CLINIC OPENED. I WENT TO THE OPENING LAST MONTH AND IT IS BEAUTIFUL—THEY SPARED NO COST.

Please note that the grand opening ceremony will be held at a later date, probably mid-late August.

**Department of Veterans Affairs
Central Texas Veterans Health Care System**

Austin VA Outpatient Clinic opening at its new location July 9

The Central Texas Veterans Health Care System wants Veterans to know the newly constructed Austin VA Outpatient Clinic will be open for business July 9, 2013, at 7901 Metropolis Drive in southwest Austin, Texas.

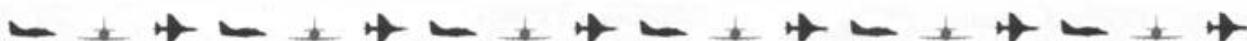
Normal clinic operations in Austin will be closed from July 4 through July 8; however, the Austin VA Outpatient Clinic at 2901 Montopolis Drive will be prepared to take a limited number of walk-ins Friday, July 5, and Monday, July 8, while the move is in process.

Starting on the July 4th holiday, movers will transport the remaining items from the current clinic on Montopolis Drive, as well as from leased space at the Southgate Building, to the new location on Metropolis Drive. When the move is complete, all of the Austin VA outpatient services will once again be consolidated under one roof in the new location.

“With over 184,000 square feet of usable space and plenty of parking, the new Austin VA Outpatient Clinic will be the largest free-standing leased clinic of its type in the nation, approximately three times larger than the current Montopolis Clinic,” said Dr. William F. Harper, Interim Director for Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

“Over the next year, we will phase in a number of expanded services at the new clinic to better serve Austin-area Veterans, including a 16-slice CT scanner, MRI, gastroenterology services, a mammography suite, and additional space for the Women’s Clinic and all current services, Harper said. “We’re excited to get into this new fabulous state-of-the-art clinic, because our Veterans deserve the best.”

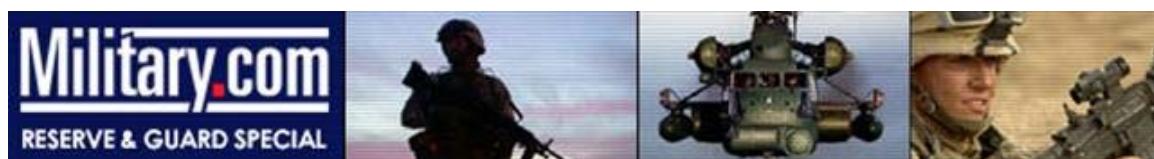
For more information on services at Central Texas Veterans Health Care System, see www.centraltexas.va.gov.
Media will be allowed to take photos and videos of the move from outside of the clinic, but you must contact Deborah Meyer at [254 534-2376](tel:2545342376) or [254-534-0304](tel:2545340304) by 3 p.m. July 3. Note: A grand opening will be held at a later date.



[Play video](#)

The March 2013 Groundbreaking Ceremony of the Texas Capitol Vietnam Veterans Monument. Please visit www.buildthemonument.org to learn more.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8J46vM8Onn4&feature=youtu.be>



http://images.military.com/NL_WK/1,14845,7684,00.html

MILITARY REPORT

The Military's Largest Benefits Update

Military Report is the most comprehensive military benefits and quality-of-life newsletter for military personnel and retirees. Make sure that you and your colleagues [subscribe](#) for this free update publication. <http://www.military.com/LeadForms/NewsLetterSignup?newsletter=13>

Reserve Retirement "New Rules": <http://askjune.military.com/2010/07/new-rules-about-guard-and-reserve-retirement.html>

Reserve Retirement Point Chart: (before age 60 folks only)

Reserve Personnel Contact Center 1-800-525-0102 or via the virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve website at

<https://arpc.afrc.af.mil/vPC-GR/>

Go to the AFRC link and it will direct you to Air Reserve Personnel Center-**Retirements/Separations**.

Everything you need including the point chart for 2010.

Reserve Benefits: http://www.militarybenefits.com/military_reserve.html

Reserve Benefits and other Information:

http://search.military.com/search?q=Reserve+and+Guard+Newsletter&search_string=&site=military&client=military&proxystylesheet=military&output=xml_no_dtd&access=p&filter=1&entqr=3&tabname=military&words=Reserve+and+Guard+Newsletter&dne=&rad=50&x=55&y=11&ie=UTF-8&ip=172.30.3.185&sort=date%3AD%3AL%3Ad1&oe=UTF-8&ud=1&start=0



1. Greetings all,

With us moving to Wyoming at the end of July, my email address is changing to the following:

jgmeronek@gmail.com

If you forget, my current email will be forwarded for a short time.

Take care,

Jeanne Meronek

2. Just to let you know that I have retired from civil service at Robins AFB GA and moved back to Spring, TX. My new e-mail address is 1marycleek@gmail.com. Thanks for keeping us all up to date.

Mary Ann Cleek

OUTLAW Newsletters in Archives: *To view the last 12 months newsletters*

Go to www.yahoo.com (click on the URL link in blue)

On the Yahoo home page, select **Sign-In**

Type in Yahoo ID: afreserves924th@yahoo.com

Type in Password: **outlaws**

After Signed In, back on the Yahoo home page, select **MAIL**

When you get into the mail box, select **Inbox** (on left side window)

Select the newsletter that you want to view.

To get out of Mail, under the top toolbar, find **Yahoo!** click on that to get back to the home page.

“ALSO”

Newsletters are on 924 Website: *Past month's newsletters*

Go to 924 Website, click on **Newsletters**, password (**outlaws**)

*****Websites of Interest*****

West Virginia University Marching band Salute the Armed Forces-AWESOME

I like the Air Force the best.....Enjoy

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=MjPmmCtHmfE

Luftwaffe Phantom Farewell

Maybe the best Phantom video I've seen! She was a great bird and will be missed!

Click here: [Phantom Farewell](#)



Over N. Vietnam - F-4 Phantom – Pardo's Push

If you've never heard of "Pardo's Push", you need to see this. If you have seen this before, it's worth watching again. This is exemplary thinking, action, selflessness, and guts in the face of combat.

Very, very cool true story. Sound up.

www.youtube.com/embed/RRNbcPS3A9c?feature=player_detailpage

FIRST AIRBUS A380 LANDING AT SAN FRANCISCO (SFO). THIS IS INTERESTING TO WATCH

The pilots sit away from everything, no yoke, etc. Captain pulls up a keyboard once in a while to enter info but the plane does most of the work.....It seems extensively automated. The air traffic controller gives them heading, altitude and speed, and they dial it in. Pretty interesting. For best results go "full screen" on your monitor. It will seem like you are in the cockpit.
<http://www.wimp.com/approachlanding/>

Israeli BBQ

What you are about to watch is an actual event. Israeli forces filmed this in actual time. What you see is a fully armored Syrian tank being hit by an Israeli laser-guided, steel-penetrating, phosphorous-filled "hand held" rocket. The rocket is small, very portable and is a tightly controlled weapon. Each one is accounted for when they are checked out and back in. There must be no fewer than 2 soldiers present to verify the use, one must be a senior officer with a minimum of 10 years military service. (The name and program is kept secret.) The ordinance inside the tank looks like fireworks. This Syrian tank was headed for one of Israel's settlements, there were four more Syrian tanks one mile to the rear of this tank. (They turned around before getting to this area.) You can hear the ammunition going off after the initial strike. No tank member survived this event. This event did not make the news. It is an everyday event for Israeli forces. Israeli's do not "embed" news sources with armed forces as the Americans do. This is for Israeli survival, not for news' entertainment.

/ <http://www.military.com/video/rockets/antivehicle-weapons/new-israeli-hand-fired-tank-buster/694720194001/>

Aviation Buffs:

Even if you are not into this you might want to pass this treasure trove on to others who are.
Click on any of the blues:

• Aviation	Pioneers
• World	War I Aces
• Hall	of Fame of the Air
• WW2	European Theater (ETO)
• WW2	Pacific Theater (PTO)
• WW2	US Marine Corps
• WW2	US Navy Aces
• WW2	Mediterranean (MTO)
• WW2	German Aces
• Korean	War Aces
• Russian	Aces
• Vietnam	Era Aces
• Airplanes	Pioneers
• World	War I Planes
• 1930s	Aircraft photos
• WW2	Fighters
• WW2	Bombers
• WW2	German Planes
• WW2	Airplane Pictures
• History	of Airplanes blog
• Nose	Art
• Postwar	Jets
• World	War Two
• WW2	Facts and Firsts
• WW2	Medals
• WW2	Museums
• WW2	Pictures
• WW2	Ships
WW2	Weapons

John Wayne and the Pledge of Allegiance

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Jf3MQpffBc>

Great Music Video: Military/Miami Dolphin Cheerleaders

The Miami Dolphin cheerleaders sent the US Troops in Afghanistan a music video and they sent one back...mimicking them almost to perfection. SO cool!!! Plus the Soldiers light off a four point deuce mortar as a point of punctuation. Soldiers win...hands down!!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O7zdr-82WAo>

Virtual Aircraft Encyclopedia:

<http://www.aviastar.org/index2.html>

General Dynamics F-16: http://www.aviastar.org/air/usa/general_f-16.php

McDonnell-Douglas F-4 Phantom II: http://www.aviastar.org/air/usa/mcdonnel_phantom.php

Lockheed C-130 Hercules: http://www.aviastar.org/air/usa/lok_hercules.php

RAO BULLETIN Update, 01 August 2013

Read the Articles go to the web site at: http://post_119_gulfport_ms.tripod.com/rao1.html



924 RECALL ROSTER

Known Whereabouts: (689 Names)

Revised 03 August 13

New & Changed Addresses:

See website roster

Complete Roster can be found on the 924th website – www.924tfg.com

(Password: **outlaws**)

Will email the Roster upon request

DA...DA...DAHAT'S ALL FOLKS

—Attachments:

August 2013 Retiree Newsletter.pdf

881 KB