

Dodo

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A Cadet Publication For Cadets

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS

We hope that the Cadet Wing enjoys this first issue of the Dodo. We feel that the Wing needs a publication which speaks to the cadets on subjects of interest to the cadets. No slam at the Talon is intended, and I want to stress the fact that we are not in competition with the magazine. The Talon is a monthly publication, and as such, it cannot cover the daily incidents which occur throughout the Wing. The Dodo will attempt to cover those events which presumably would not be of special interest to outside readers of the magazine, but would be of interest to you.

Our people have worked hard on this signal issue. I realize that in its present form the Dodo resembles a standard poop sheet more than it does a newspaper, but we are a brand-new organization. We have to justify our existence before we ask for the support necessary to produce a full scale standard newspaper. We would certainly appreciate any comments or suggestions which you, as readers, might feel would improve our paper.

In time we expect the Dodo will attain its position as an indispensable part of the Cadet Wing. Someday it will be one of the finest -- we hope the very finest -- newspapers of its type in the country. Until these things transpire, please bear with us. Please send any comments, good or bad, to Cadet Reeves, Dorm 874. If you think you have some news the Wing as a whole hasn't heard, bring that too.

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FIFTH COLUMN

BY
BURCH

As an original feature in this signal issue of our newspaper, I would like to comment on the scope of this column. The column is planned to reflect your opinions on most any subject, both in and out of the Academy. If you have any amusing anecdotes, or anything else you think someone might be interested in, send it to: Dodo, Dorm 874.

Upon being asked for a current event, a fourth classman informed the ramp that the Sixth Fleet was steaming towards the Mediterranean at 20 knots. Asking the same troop for a current event a few days later, we got a bit of really ripe information -- "Still steaming Sir."

Overheard on the parade ground during drill the other day: "I don't care if it is a cloudburst. We can't go in until we've had flight drill." Also overheard: "Gentlemen, this is an all-weather Air Force."

The following enlightening conversation took place at the ramp: "What type aircraft do you want to fly, Mister?" "None Sir." "Why not?" "Because with all these missiles, there won't be any Sir." The funny thing was, no one laughed.

Did you know that the first Chief of Staff of the Air Force was an Army Captain? That wasn't really suprising though. The Air Force consisted of a few balloons and a couple of enlisted men. Hmm, probably a photo recon type operation.

We've come a long way since the balloons. Armed Forces Day kicks off the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Air Force -- from a balloon to an ICHM in fifty years -- not bad. What staunch pilot says not bad?

I don't think we got the straight poop from Wing Commander MacDougall. I hear that at RAF Dining-In parties there is more passing out than staying in.

The word has gotten out. Mission 246 is "DR confused by sun-line." My instructor in FT the other day called us "spec artists??" Wonder what he meant?

This flying business is getting pretty rough. Used to be that a troop would finish in a PT-22 going twenty knots. With Northrop's T-38 t' student pilot ends up going Mach 2. Ends his training that is.

MIT has announced the development of an electronic device which makes possible the introduction of human logic midway in the solution of a computer problem...reportedly, this allows the human to converse with the mechanical monster...I wonder if it talks back?

For those of you who wrote a report on the F-84 type birds and concluded they wouldn't fly, Republic Aviation has announced that their F-84 Thundercraft have logged more than three million hours of flight time.

Hope you enjoy this first issue of the newspaper and the Fifth Column. We've tried to give you a variety of comments, notes, anecdotes, and where we can find room - news. At any rate, I'd like to repeat that this is your column. I'd like to hear from you, and you may be assured that anything you write will be carefully filed away in case we are ever sued for libel. As one well-known author about the campus says on the last page of the Talon, "Sine qua non." I don't know what it means, but dig that culture.

Cynic's Corner

It is said that a cynic is one who sees things as they are and not as they ought to be. This, by the way is said by Ambrose Bierce, an unparalleled cynic. This column shall devote itself to bitterness. This was chosen because there sometimes appear to be some bitter people around here. Take the one who recited a brief monologue recently that went like this:

"My monthly DP is here, I'm proud!!!! No car, I take a bus, she wants to give me a peck on the cheek, I'm proud. I stop her, I'm prouder. We go to the show and ignore the balcony set, I'm proud. Afterwards we go to a nightspot. She orders scotch. Cokes my drink, I'm proud. Its a taxi home, I'm still broke, but still proud. she wants another kiss. The OC is nearby. I'm proud, that is to say I don't. I pop my chest up, throw my shoulders back and walk away. Who me proud? I'm mad!"



Elvis just finished all shook up and my thoughts have switched from DP to jazz and to the cooler side which leads finally to the distinctives. The accompanying drawing depicts the approved solution for DP, etc. where one might mingle with the GAP. Note the charcoal and pink, the shade 84 glasses, shouldered weapon, and the switchblade swagger stick. This is certainly realistic as the purchase of summer uniforms for the 1st class summer. The large class tie is now the style since it is rumored that the Ring Committee has gone Cranwellian. They now call themselves the tie and socks committee.

Must go, spring is coming and the ramp's wide open spaces are calling. Many friends are being purged at the moment. Some are getting up to 2 months. Haven't had a good six month-er or better in quite a while.

As long as Col. Cassidy has bent wings, Cmdr. McDougal drooping ones, cadets ancient ones, why not give the ATO's broken wings? You might have done well to have read this with a cube of sugar on your tongue or better yet not read it at all.

Yours until my leather heels wear out,

ALFRED E. NEUMAN

Who knows what about the Aero Club? A few notes have been published in the Cadet Bulletin concerning this going venture. Latest is that they're getting a few T-34s for the use of the club members. Price of getting in looks steep at first, but when you divide by the flying time that you might get, if you are willing to go out for it, things come out cheap in the long run.

True Course : CAREER

"Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your ears...", as a certain professional soldier once said. The reason for this bit of journalistic endeavor is herewith presented. Some of us, Class of '59 specifically, felt that there was dire need for a source of info to cadets about matters pertaining to life as a commissioned officer in the Air Force. True, we get all kinds of "hot poop" from Military Training about the operational commands, combat missions of same, etc., but very little of it is aimed at orienting us toward the life we will encounter in the regular service. So, with this in mind, yours truly, got the nod to do the deed in this column. We will attempt to keep abreast with what is transpiring out in the world that might affect the life and career of an Air Force officer, and after accruing all this knowledge in our hot little minds, will attempt to pass it on to you, along with a few personal reflections and sidelights. Colonel Cassidy has assigned the task of providing information from the house of command to Major J.W. Enos, so we are all set up. For the column to be a success, we must know if we are answering the questions you have about the Air Force. So, no matter what the query, fire away. We'll try to get the poop for you if at all possible.

All you SAC men lift up your heads. Air Force Chief of Staff, General Twining recently told congress that it would be ten-fifteen years before long-range missiles replace the manned bomber, and that then it would be a gradual replacement. It seems the senators are pressing the question as to when the "rockets with brains" will replace aircraft such as the B-47, B-52, and the up-coming B-58. The Director of Procurement and Pro-

duction-Air Force, Brigadier General W.A. Davis stated: "The guided missile will replace aircraft only in those areas where it has been determined that... (they) are the most effective, and that....missiles and manned aircraft will overlap until the operational capabilities of.... missiles can be established..." It would appear that there might be a future in this man's Air Force, after all. At least for those of us who decide to fly the aircraft with character, the Bomber. I await the fury of all you fighter pilots.

Again in the SAC vein, it was recently announced in Washington SAC's spot promotions are on the way out. Reductions in spots will begin this year, with the entire program passing out of existence in 1960. The reason for discontinuing this method of recognition for outstanding combat flying readiness was given that the spot promotions reduced the number of temporary promotions available to other officers in the Air Force. One might wonder if Uncle Sam is creating a problem for himself by eliminating this tremendous incentive builder. The airlines will have jets in full scale operation by 1960, and just between you and me and the paycheck, there's not a world of difference between flying a B-47 and a 707. Maybe the U.S. should begin giving a little more thought to its airmen and their future as defenders of the nation, yes?

That's about the size of it for now. Bigger and better things to come, provided you let us know what you think and/or want to know about this Air Force we live in.

BOOK REVIEW



Air Force: In the short space of 232 pages and four hundred-odd pictures, Martin Caidin depicts the anatomy and growth of the American concept of Air Power. The Air Force's illustrious history, from the time when two brothers personally constructed America's air arm to the present age of operational F-100s and B-52s, is handily condensed within these bound covers, and it is quite easy to see the truly logarithmic growth that our branch of the Armed Forces has undergone.

The World War II coverage is particularly dramatic, and justifiably so, for it was during these five years that the Air Force learned more about strategic and tactical air employment than the sum total of its knowledge up to then. Industrial know-how did its part also, for we had better aircraft.

"Never during the great air battles over Europe did there arise any question as to the superiority of the three American fighters which met the best of the Luftwaffe in air-to-air combat, and decisively destroyed the opposition. The trio included the big twin-boomed Lightning; the sturdy deep-chested Thunderbolt; and the swift and maneuverable Mustang. These were the fighters which outfought the Messerschmitts, Focke-Wulfs, Heinkels and Junkers. Carrying their tremendous fuel and ammunition loads, the AAF fighters met German planes which were kept to a minimum weight, which fought under ideal defensive conditions, and whose pilot could almost always abandon their planes over friendly territory. It is interesting to note that the German air industry, unable to build a long-range fighter like the AAF big three, considered the task impossible. Unhampered by such thinking, American industry did the impossible. Further, not only

were the P-38, P-47, and P-51 outstanding in air fighting, but they proved themselves conclusively the best fighter-bombers in the world."

Thus one sees the embryo, the adolescent, the young gallant defending his front yard, and the mature young service - with no decline in sight.

♥ *Velma's Advice* ♥

Dear Velma,

I am a very old woman-forty-nine last month, and I am also very lonesome. All my life I have been lonesome. Even in grade school, when all the other girls were dating boys, I preferred to stay at home and work on my fingernail-clipping collection. Now I have one of the largest fingernail-clipping collections in the World, but they are not much comfort to an old lady. I am easy to get along with, have most of my teeth, a Cadillac convertible, a cabin in the Rockies, and two motels on Colfax. Do you think any of those nice Cadets would date me?

Nervous

Dear Nervous,

Yes.

The Dodo wishes to salute those heroic members of the baseball team who volunteered to remain in L.A. when there were not sufficient a/c available to bring the whole team back to the Academy Sunday night.

Murphy Says: "I wonder if the WCTU or some sister organization will condemn Academy athletes for wearing such shockingly short shorts. They ought to put screens around the tennis courts."



SPORTS



An up-to-date, Falcon's-eye report of sports news at the Air Force Academy is what you'll be getting bi-weekly on this page of the Dodo. During the past winter months, and with increasing frequency during the spring, rumors have been flying through the Cadet Wing...rumors concerning intercollegiate and intramural sports.

* *

Is there any truth in the speculation that the Academy will add a fencing instructor--a man who was once the World Olympic Saber Champion--to our varsity staff? Such an addition would give the Falcon swordsmen a definite boost towards a national championship. Higher echelons disclaim any knowledge of such a plan, and it must be supposed that the idea is indeed, a rumor.

* *

Will lacrosse be added to the fifteen intercollegiate sports now representing the Academy? Lack of colleges fielding lacrosse teams is bound to slow down, at least for a year or two, negotiations in favor of this sport, but some cadets express high optimism. Thus far, New Mexico University has been the lone school within practical playing distance to mention interest in lacrosse - and that mention was an unofficial one.

* *

The little word that does penetrate to the Wing is occasionally in the form of half-truth and rumor. An enlightened audience is always a more receptive one. In keeping the Wing informed as to the inside stories behind the teams, including squibs about visiting teams and their stars of exceptional interest, we hope that the interest in our teams, while always on a high level, will reach even greater heights.

THE SPORTS WEEK IN REVIEW

Baseball, tennis, and track--all suffered from the wet weather we've been having lately. The baseball team was the only team fortunate enough to escape the weather long enough to have a contest--they had to travel to Los Angeles to hack it. Their good luck ceased with the weather too. The first game was a very close 4-3 loss. Eddie Rosane hurled for the first two innings, and did a fine job. Jim Gunter relieved him, and he also did a real fine job--as the score evidences. The

Bruins improved with age. The second game was very depressing. We weren't there to cover the game, but the reports we've gotten from team members seem to indicate that the Falcons were plagued by excessive errors. We were evidently plagued by something. The score was 17-4. We'll give you better coverage on our home games. I don't see why I can't go to Los Angeles.

The European jaunt for the interested third class has proved to be a mixed blessing. We had the inoculations (the first ones, anyway) during the latter part of last week. The groans heard issuing from the dispensary were terrible. The groans issuing from the dorms later, were worse. One staunch heart in Fifth Squadron did a fading act in the hall of 89. At any rate, the needle-room has acquired no small amount of notoriety. What price glory?

The Cadet Forum is sponsoring an informal address by Maj. Gen. Briggs at 1500 on Sunday, 19 May. The address will be made in the ballroom of Arnold Hall. General Briggs is going to make an address similar to the one made by the late General Harmon last year to the class of '59. All cadets interested in an excellent preview of what lies ahead of them in the Air Force will find that this address is just what they need. All cadets are invited, and guests are more than welcome.

The new fourth class lounge went over with a resounding clash of cymbals ten days ago. About ninety couples made use of the facilities and found them more than adequate ...at least for the present. Pool sharks weep for lack of a billiard table. Aside from this, it is reputed to be the peer of Arnold Hall.

Col. McElroy, our new Chief of Staff, may be totally unknown to the fourth class, but he is not new to the third classmen. I'm sure we all remember a particular, very SAC-like Colonel-the one with the .38, at Barksdale Air Force Base last summer. One and the same man.

Hailstones the size of bee-bees bombarded the Academy on the fourteenth. No casualties were reported.

Bob Siteman has officially bought the farm. He gave his fiancee the ring on the third squadron picnic. Burton and Givens, also of third squadron, are rumored to be tottering on the brink of the precipice which claimed Siteman. Too piercing man. Grudgingly the Dodo extends its congratulations to Bob, but sincerely we wish him the best of luck.

The New Cadet program has undergone several noteworthy changes. The most startling of these will be the manner in which the New Cadets are received. Instead of the shock treatment meted out to the classes of '59 and '60, the class of '61 will have a three day period in which to observe cadet life--without being subject to the rigors of cadet life themselves. That is correct. They will have a three day orientation period during which they will be spoken to only by the non-commissioned officers who will be indoctrinating them, and the Group Air Officer Commanding. The Group AOC will be Major Gauthier. More next issue.

A rumor has been heard stating that our fences will be electrified. We seriously doubt that this is true since the budget does not allow for the cost of such a project, but we advise all cadets to hide surplus flashlight dry cells.

Discriminating Cadets

Prefer

the

CADET STORE