

937th **SOONER NEWS**

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937th Military Airlift Group Res. Tinker AFB, Okla.
Continental Air Command

ES.O. to CREW

AIRCRAFT IN COMMISSION?

We hear through the grapevine about a very interesting situation which makes you wonder about the in-commission-status of one of our aircraft.

It seems there was an air evac mission which involved picking up several aero medical flight crew members at another airport. After landing, it was learned they had low torque and backfiring on one of the engines. The aircraft commander decided to cancel the air evac portion of the mission and return to home base.

At this point, the situation becomes somewhat questionable. If this engine is sick enough to cancel the air evac mission and not permit the aero medical flight crew members to come aboard, then it must also be sick enough to keep on the ground.

This does not appear to have been good judgement since a takeoff was made with a sick engine. Had this problem been discovered in the air and the aircraft was returned a short distance to home station, you may be able to justify it more easily.

It all boils down to one situation -- either your aircraft is in commission or it is out of commission.

Don't let "get-home-itis" influence you to make a poor decision.



Unit Training Assembly -- December 9-10



AN EARLY MERRY CHRISTMAS -- when members ate in the unit dining hall during the Nov. UTA. A big "Christmas Dinner" is planned for the December meeting.

The SOONER NEWS is a unit newsheet published jointly by the Information Section and the Administrative Section of the 937th MAG for personnel of the Sooner Group.

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CONGRATULATIONS—Col Huff, 937th Commander, gives a final handshake to two military men who represent more than four decades of service to the Air Force. Lt Col's Dexter J. Taylor, right, and Jack E. Newman, center, were honored in ceremonies during the November UTA.



Members of the family look on



Troops flank the honorees

PLAQUES, PARADE AND REVIEW AND CONGRATULATIONS HONOR TWO RETIRING 937TH LT COL'S

During parade and review ceremonies last UTA, the 937th honored two departing Lt. Col's.

November UTA marked the retiring date of Lt. Dexter J. Taylor, past commander of 305th Operations. He retires after 20 years of military service.

Leaving with him is Lt. Col. Jack E. Newman, past commander of the 937th Support Squadron. Lt. Col. Newman will join the 31st Air Division here at Tinker.

The retiring Lt. Col Taylor is an Air Carrier Operations specialist with the Flight Standards Division of the Federal Aviation Agency at Will Rogers Field.

He joined the Army Air Corps before the Air Force became an official branch of service and has served as an officer since.

He has won the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal and the Southeast Asia Expeditionary medal.

GEN HOFF VISITS "SOONER GP."

NEW WING COMMANDER PAYS 937TH FIRST VISIT

The Commander of the 512th Military Airlift Wing paid his first visit to the site of the 937th during the November UTA accompanied by 14 members of his staff.

Brigadier Gen John W. Hoff, commander of the 512th since July of this year, flew to Tinker with wing officers holding corresponding jobs to some 937th officers for a "get acquainted" tour.

Following a briefing, the Carswell based visitors took a quick walk through the 937th hangar.

After lunch, wing officers paired off with their corresponding group officer for a briefing in almost every section discussing mutual interests and problems.

OJT and attaining C-1 status were emphasized during the visit.



GENERAL HOFF, 512th Commander

GENERAL HOFF is greeted by honor guard, staff officers and the red carpet





TOP VISIT -- General Hoff greets members at work as he walks through the unit hangar. He took a look at most of the work sections with his 14 member staff who accompanied him on his first visit to the 937th.





Christmas

Not long ago a professor of psychology gave a word-suggestion test to his class of forty students attending one of our great universities. He asked them to write after the word "Christmas" the first thing that flashed across their mind regarding that festive day. When the papers were turned in, such words were given as "tree," "holly," "mistletoe," "gifts," "turkey," "holiday," "carols," "Santa Clause," -- but not one of the forty students had written "the birth of the Saviour."

Does this seem strange to you? I do not think that it should -- not if you are aware of the great forces of commercialism that have changed our way of life physically, morally, and spiritually.

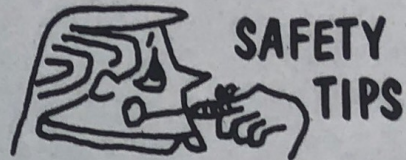
The huckster who must sell his Christmas wares is not concerned about any "meaning of Christmas," although he may talk about the "Christmas spirit," "the Holy season," and so on. If Santa Clause or a red-nosed reindeer or even a haloed Christ Child will make you dig into your wallet just a little more deeply, that's all for the better. If nothing else works, he will appeal to your religious sensibilities. "God" sells well on the open market.

It is not easy to fight this sort of thing. Too often at Christmas we are too much concerned with holly and mistletoe and parties and eggnog and "one for the road."

Too often Christmas does mean a concern for ourselves and our own particular brand of "good cheer." Too often we have let pagan customs dominate our celebration of this Holy festival.

HELP WANTED

Any personnel interested in forming a drill team contact SSgt Scott of SSgt McCown in the Supply Squadron at Ext. 6061. A brief meeting will be held immediately after Commanders Call, 9 December 1967.



HOLIDAY TIPS

You can help make this upcoming holiday season a safe and sane one. The 937th Commander urges all personnel to read and follow the tips below.

1. Please don't drink and drive. If you don't ruin your own holiday, you might ruin someone else's because of alcohol abuse. Have a good time, but remember -- you're just asking for trouble when you drink then drive.
2. Drive carefully on wet, icy, snowy roads.
3. Christmas tree lights should be checked to prevent electrical shorting. Shut lights off when out of the house or at night.
4. Keep Christmas trees moist by keeping water in the stand.
5. Outdoor Christmas lights should be for that purpose. Indoor lights are not insulated for outdoor use.
6. Use fire proof material in decorating Christmas trees.

To simply sloganize: "Let's put Christ back into Christmas" is not enough. We must really do this by an attitude of humility, thoughtfulness, and spiritual inventory. We must ask ourselves, "Why put Christ back into Christmas?" And if the answer comes back to us: "Because He is the Saviour of men," then perhaps we will celebrate the Nativity of our Lord in the right way.