

# COLD WAR SC

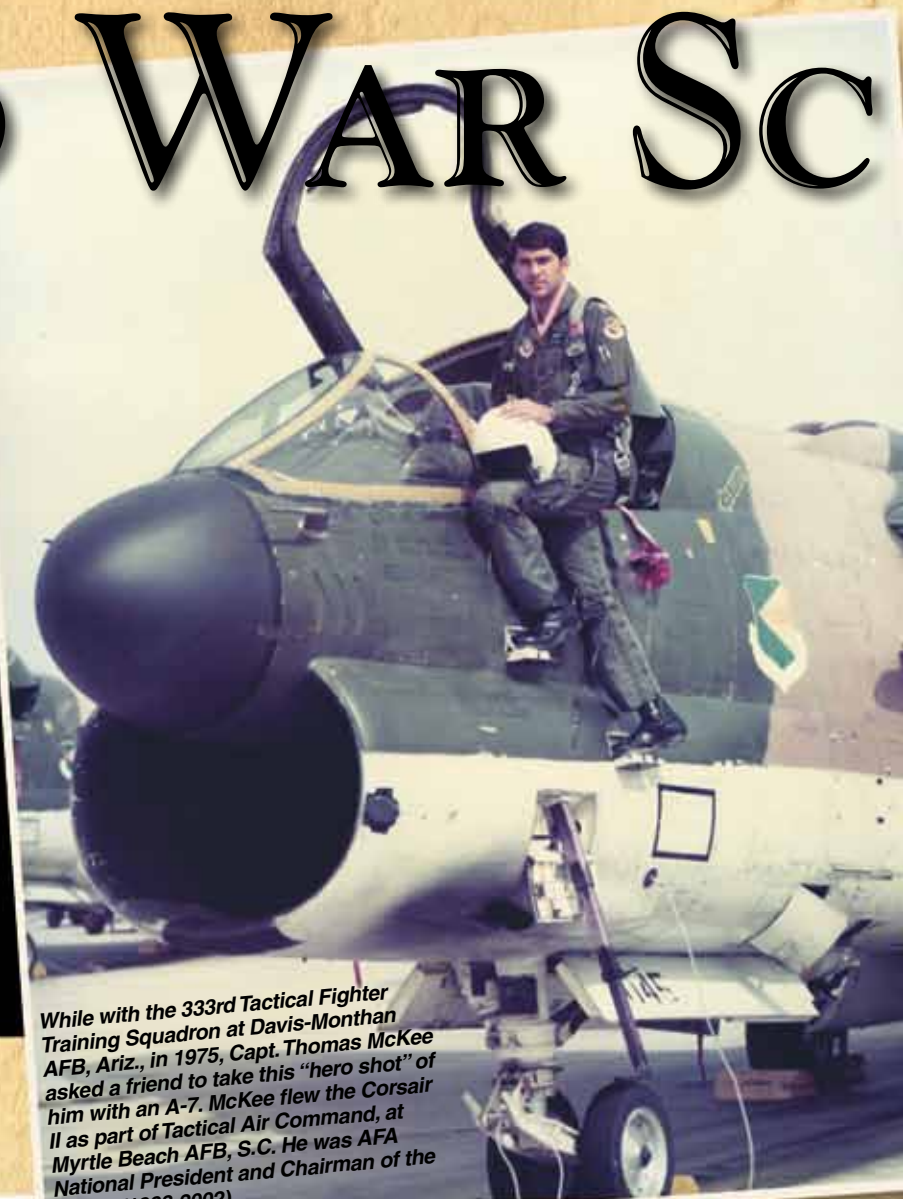
Compiled by Frances McKenney,  
Assistant Managing Editor

*The peace following World War II was short-lived. Soviet forces never went home, kept occupied areas under domination, and threatened free nations worldwide. By 1946, Winston Churchill had declared, "An iron curtain has descended across the continent."*

*Thus began a 45-year struggle between the diametrically opposed worldviews of the US and the Soviet Union. In 1948, the USSR cut off land access to free West Berlin, launching the first major "battle" of the Cold War: the Berlin Airlift.*

*Through decades of changes in strategy, tactics, locations, and technology, the Air Force was at the forefront. The Soviet Union was contained, and eventually, freedom won out.*

*Bentwaters. Bitburg. Clark. Loring. Soesterberg. Suwon. Wurtsmith—That so many Cold War bases are no longer USAF installations is a tribute to how the airmen there did their jobs.*



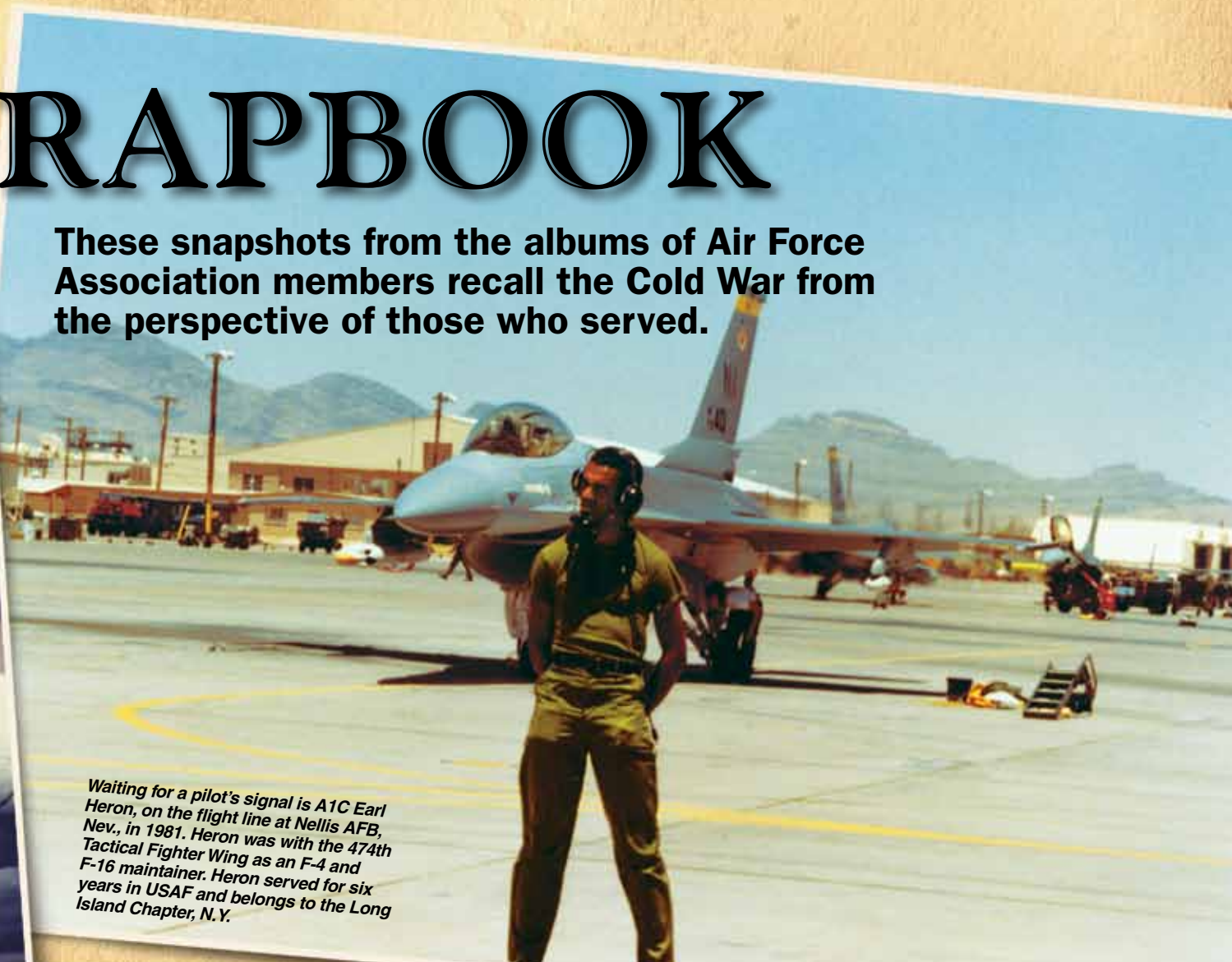
*While with the 333rd Tactical Fighter Training Squadron at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz., in 1975, Capt. Thomas McKee asked a friend to take this "hero shot" of him with an A-7. McKee flew the Corsair II as part of Tactical Air Command, at Myrtle Beach AFB, S.C. He was AFA National President and Chairman of the Board (1998-2002).*




*Assigned to the 1st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Beale AFB, Calif., RSO Maj. Thomas Veltri (right) and Maj. Duane Noll prepare for an SR-71 mission from RAF Mildenhall, UK, in the mid-1980s. Veltri's most memorable Blackbird sortie: "We lost an engine in the Baltic, north of Gotland Island, and ended up at 25,000 feet, with a dozen MiGs chasing us." Retired Lt. Col. Veltri is Government Relations VP for the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter, Va.*

# RAPBOOK

**These snapshots from the albums of Air Force Association members recall the Cold War from the perspective of those who served.**



*Waiting for a pilot's signal is A1C Earl Heron, on the flight line at Nellis AFB, Nev., in 1981. Heron was with the 474th Tactical Fighter Wing as an F-4 and F-16 maintainer. Heron served for six years in USAF and belongs to the Long Island Chapter, N.Y.*



*SSgt. Donald Goodwin shows off icons of an era: a B-47 and his brand-new VW in this 1956 photo at March AFB, Calif. He was with the 443rd Bomb Squadron as acting branch chief (with a flight line pass for the Bug). Eighty B-47s filled this flight line during the Cuban Missile Crisis, he recalls. Retired SMSgt. Goodwin belongs to the Palm Springs Chapter, Calif.*



*In this 1948 photo, 1st Lt. Gail Halvorsen shows how he drops candy attached to handkerchief parachutes to children on the ground in West Berlin. Halvorsen—who was nicknamed the Berlin Airlift “Candy Bomber”—sent this photo recently from Arizona, noting that the sacks shown at left held the official cargo in his C-54: coal. Retired Col. Halvorsen is a member of the Salt Lake City Chapter, Utah.*



*Sgt. August Manz (front row, third from left) was an electrical instructor for this B-50 training unit in 1949. Based at Chanute AFB, Ill., they traveled widely, instructing personnel in B-50 operations and maintenance. Manz served 1947-1954 and belongs to the Shooting Star Chapter, N.J.*



*1st Lt. O. R. “Ollie” Crawford, instructor pilot, posed for this photo in Midland, Tex., about 1950. He was with an Air Force Reserve squadron. An AAF World War II fighter pilot, Crawford was in the Reserve until 1959. He joined AFA in 1946 and became its National President and Board Chairman (1990-1994).*



*James Jackson first served in the Merchant Marine. Next came hitches in the Marine Corps—this 1949 photo shows him working as an aviation ordnance man on an F6F Hellcat—then he went on to an Air Force career (1955-1975). Retired MSgt. Jackson lives today near US Army Garrison Humphreys, South Korea.*



Lt. Gen. Curtis LeMay, SAC commander, attends his daughter Jane's birthday party in 1951 at Offutt AFB, Neb. LeMay led Strategic Air Command from 1948 to 1957, building it into the premier Cold War bomber-missile force. Jane LeMay Lodge sent this photo, noting it was her 12th birthday. She is a member of the Orange County/Gen. Curtis E. LeMay Chapter, Calif.



Holiday greetings from Soesterberg AB, Netherlands: In 1954, 1st Lt. James Henry of the 512th Fighter Day Squadron sent this card to his parents back home in Nursery, Tex. His squadron mates had arranged the photo op and then designed this card. Those are F-86s flying past the windmill.

Wearing a cap in the squadron color of the 85th Bombardment Squadron, 47th Bombardment Wing, B-45 tail gunner E. Glenn Musser stands near the flight line, RAF Station Sculthorpe, UK, in 1955. He later flew in RB-66s at Shaw AFB, S.C. Musser belongs to the Blue Ridge Chapter, N.C.



A2C David Cassidy found out in 1954 that the Air Force didn't always travel by air. When the 388th Fighter-Bomber Wing relocated from Clovis AFB, N.M., to Etain-Rouvés AB, France, he crossed the Atlantic aboard the Navy transport General LeRoy Eltinge. Cassidy was an aircraft electrician. He is a member of the Savannah Chapter, Ga.



M-1 at his side, helmet on his head, Air Force Academy cadet Norman Haller rides a bus to a field exercise at Lowry AFB, Colo., in 1956. Haller served until 1966 as an electronic engineer and navigator. He became a USAF civilian and later retired from the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. He is VP of the Northern Shenandoah Valley Chapter, Va.



Just so they could take this photo, surgeon Capt. Lester Dragstedt Jr. (far left) asked this Royal Canadian Mounted Policeman to wear his full dress uniform when he came to the Goose Bay, Labrador, clinic for medical care in 1956. Dragstedt served in the Air Force 1955 to 1957. He is a member of the Gen. Charles A. Horner Chapter, Iowa.



In the wheel well, Capt. Roland Speckman (background) preflights a B-47E at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, in the 1950s. He later transitioned to B-52s, flying SAC Chrome Dome missions from Amarillo AFB, Tex. On those 24-hour nuclear missions, "we kept one crew member napping in the down-filled winter sleeping bag rolled out over the flight deck," Speckman writes. "The bag was so used that it never was empty long enough to cool down." Retired Lt. Col. Speckman lives in California.



A2C John Eastman II leans against the barracks at Shu Lin Kou AS, Taiwan, in 1957. An Air Force Security Service linguist in Mandarin, he was with the 6209th Air Base Squadron, Det. 1, 6925th Radio Group Mobile. From this former Japanese World War II airstrip, he monitored radio traffic from mainland China. Eastman is a member of the Metro Rhode Island Chapter.

2nd Lt. Richard Baird deployed in 1956 with the 305th Bomb Wing from MacDill AFB, Fla., to Ben Guerir AB, Morocco. Shortly afterward, he snapped this photo from a KC-97. It shows a B-52 about to refuel from a KC-97, near Morocco, during Operation Power Flite. Gen. Curtis LeMay, SAC commander in chief, called this nonstop around-the-world flight a "demonstration of SAC's capabilities to strike any target on the face of the earth." Retired Lt. Col. Baird is a member of the Albuquerque Chapter, N.M.

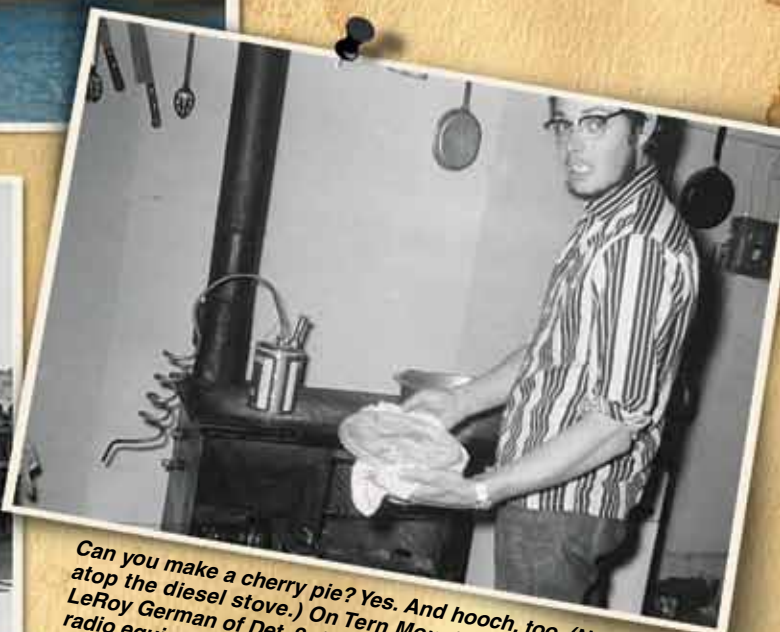




Navigator 1st Lt. Richard Heitman took this 1957 photo showing snow removal from 93rd Air Refueling Squadron KC-97s, deployed from Castle AFB, Calif., to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska. The crew threw a knotted rope over the tanker's fuselage. Airmen on each end of the rope pulled it back and forth along its length. Retired Lt. Col. Heitman is from the Palm Springs Chapter, Calif.



In 1958, A2C Robert Ripley (left) and a co-worker take a break at the 546th Ammunition Supply Squadron depot. They had been stacking bombs in this open revetment north of Kadena AB, Okinawa. Ripley belongs to the Palm Springs Chapter, Calif.



Can you make a cherry pie? Yes. And hooch, too. (Note the still atop the diesel stove.) On Tern Mountain, Alaska, in 1957, A3C LeRoy German of Det. 2, 10th Radio Relay Squadron, repaired radio equipment at this remote location on the Bering Sea coast. The two-man site relayed command channels for Alaskan radar facilities Cape Romanzof and Cape Newenham. German is a member of the Dobbins Chapter, Ga.

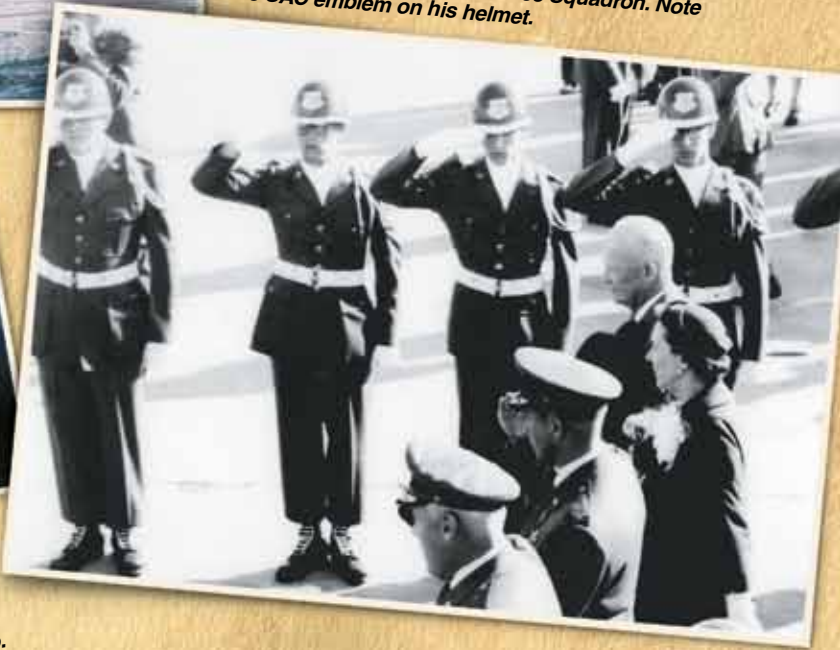


Lt. William Farrar photographed this B-36 Peacemaker, dominating the flight line at an open house at Ellsworth AFB, S.D., in 1957. He was assigned to a C-124 squadron and later served in the Reserve at Richards-Gebauer AFB, Mo. Retired Lt. Col. Farrar belongs to the Harry S. Truman Chapter, Mo.



1st Lt. Curtis Burns took this photo while preflighting this F-100 Super Sabre for Zulu Alert at Landstuhl, West Germany, in 1958. He was assigned to the 53rd Fighter-Day Squadron. Retired Maj. Burns is a member of the Aggieland Chapter, Tex.

A2C Donald Brooks (far right) salutes President Dwight Eisenhower and First Lady Mamie Eisenhower in 1958 at Schilling AFB, Kan. Brooks served in the honor guard for this Presidential visit. He was assigned to the 802nd Air Police Squadron. Note the SAC emblem on his helmet.



From his F-102 in 1958, Maj. Budd Butcher took this photo of other 327th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron Delta Daggers en route to Thule AB, Greenland. Butcher's unit was moving from George AFB, Calif., to replace F-89s in providing air defense and early warning. Retired Col. Butcher is a member of the Lance P. Sijan Chapter, Colo.



Raising a glass in a Cold War toast with Soviet military attaches is Capt. J. A. Saavedra (far right). He was assistant air attache and air technical liaison officer at the US Embassy in Paris, 1956 to 1960. Attaches gathered for monthly luncheons and for an annual black-tie like this one in 1959. Retired Col. Saavedra is a member of the Thomas W. Anthony Chapter, Md.



Aviation Cadet Franklin Sutter posed in front of a T-29 backdrop during navigator training at Harlingen AFB, Tex., in 1959. He served on a B-52 at 7th Bomb Wing, Carswell AFB, Tex., taking part in Chrome Dome missions. Retired Lt. Col. Sutter belongs to the Alamo Chapter, Tex. His kid brother, Joe, is pictured on p. 76.



B-47 aircraft commander Maj. Wilfred Martin walks in to his surprise birthday party at MacDill AFB, Fla., in 1960. He turned 36 that day. His wife sneaked a cake into the barracks, where Martin was in the middle of a seven-day alert with the 368th Bomb Squadron. Retired Lt. Col. Martin is from the Delaware Galaxy Chapter, Del.



An airplane general mechanic in 1961 with the 305th Organizational Maintenance Squadron, A2C Tim Donovan wore this B-58 Hustler patch while at Bunker Hill AFB, Ind. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, "we had 45 B-58s on the ramp," he writes. "Each and every one was 'locked and loaded.'" Retired MSgt. Donovan is a member of the Fort Wayne Chapter, Ind.



For a 1961 demonstration for President John Kennedy at Eglin AFB, Fla., Sgt. A. H. Loring helped load 500-pound bombs—26 of them—onto this F-105B. It was, he says, the heaviest bomb load for a single engine aircraft at that time. Retired TSgt. Loring is a member of the Snake River Valley Chapter, Idaho.



2nd Lt. Bill Cummings—shown here at his navigator's station on a B-52H in 1961—was at Wurtsmith AFB, Mich., during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The bombers "flew almost to Cuba" and back, to "be in the air, to be ready," he recalls. Cummings became a forward air controller in Vietnam. Retired Lt. Col. Cummings belongs to the Fort Wayne Chapter, Ind.



4080th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing members from Laughlin AFB, Tex., met Maj. Patrick Halloran (holding plaque) when his U-2 landed after this 1963 mission. They were noting the millionth foot of film taken over Cuba by U-2s. Another memorable flight: Coasting out from Cuba above 70,000 feet, Halloran's U-2 flamed out. Several air starts failed, yet he reached Eglin AFB, Fla., 250 miles away. Retired Maj. Gen. Halloran is a member of the Lance P. Sijan Chapter, Colo.







For this 1963 alert, Capt. Earl Peck (far left) and others on this B-52H were armed: Smith & Wesson .38-caliber revolvers in holsters—and six nuclear weapons. This crew was with the 19th Bomb Wing, Homestead AFB, Fla. Retired Maj. Gen. Peck is a member of the Waterman-Twining Chapter, Fla.



In 1964, A2C Andrew Rucci (left), of the 3902nd Air Base Wing, says good-bye to co-worker A3C Roger Wasdin outside the barracks at Offutt AFB, Neb. Rucci, an office administrator, was being reassigned to SAC's 4081st Strategic Wing at Harmon AB, Newfoundland, Canada. Rucci served seven years in the military and is a member of the Waterman-Twining Chapter, Fla.



2nd Lt. James Bridges (left) helps build a barbecue pit for the BOQ on Kume Jima, Okinawa, in 1964. A command and control weapons director, he was stationed with Det. 2, 623rd AC&W Squadron. What was he doing there? "Waiting for the Chinese Air Force," says retired Lt. Col. Bridges, now a member of the Austin Chapter, Tex.

Capt. Elmer Brooks (right), Atlas F missile combat crew commander, works at the underground launch control center, alternate command post, in York, Neb., in 1964. He was assigned to the 551st Strategic Missile Squadron. Brooks retired as a brigadier general, the assistant deputy undersecretary of defense for strategic and theater nuclear forces. He is from the Central Maryland Chapter.





Col. Robert Cardenas, 835th Air Division commander, steps away from an RF-4 at McConnell AFB, Kan., circa 1966. In 1970, he joined the secret contingency planning group Live Oak, in Mons, Belgium, developing responses in case the Soviets blocked access to West Berlin. Brig. Gen. Cardenas, whose service spanned 1939 to 1973, retired as chief, National Strategic Target List Division, at Offutt AFB, Neb. He belongs to the San Diego Chapter, Calif.



1st Lt. Hector Negroni stands next to an F-86H at San Juan Arpt., Puerto Rico, in 1965. It was during the Dominican Republic crisis, when the US sent troops to that Caribbean nation, threatened by civil war. Negroni says that Dominican Air Force P-51s landed at Ramey AFB, Puerto Rico, undetected. So the 198th Tactical Fighter Squadron, there, placed aircraft on alert. Negroni was at the time an advisor to the Puerto Rico ANG. Retired Col. Negroni is a member of the Gen. Charles A. Gabriel Chapter, Va.



Thank you, Cold War Warrior: This 1965 certificate signed by Gen. John Ryan, SAC commander in chief, recognizes Capt. Edward Nystrom's combat crew duty. Nystrom served for 20 years, all with SAC. Retired Maj. Nystrom belongs to the Inland Empire Chapter, Wash.

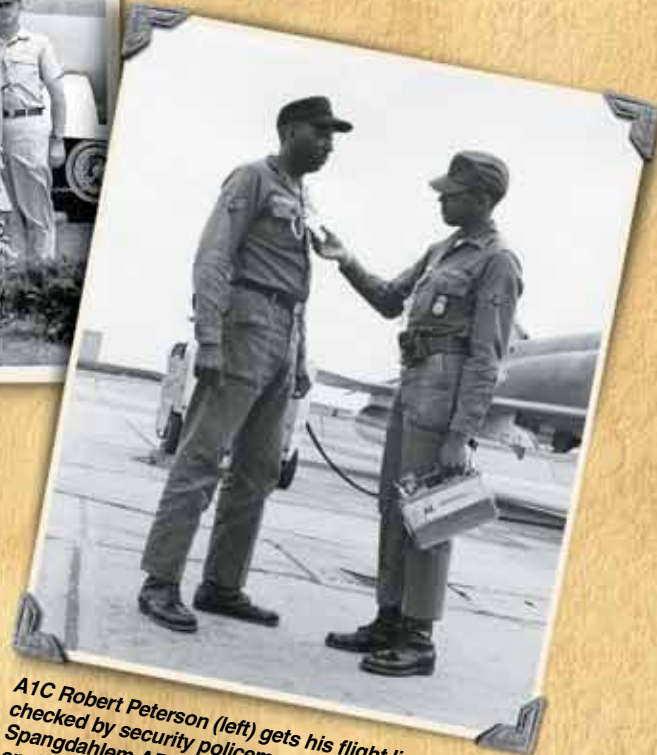


Sam, you made the pants too long: 1st Lt. Barbara Brooks takes Arctic Sea survival training in 1966 at Blue Lake Park, Ore. The survival suit fit the man behind her in this photo, but when Brooks jumped into the water, her outfit ballooned like pontoons. A flight nurse, she served from 1962 to 1979. Barbara Brooks-Lacy was an AFA Northwest Region President and is a member of the Columbia Gorge Chapter, Ore.

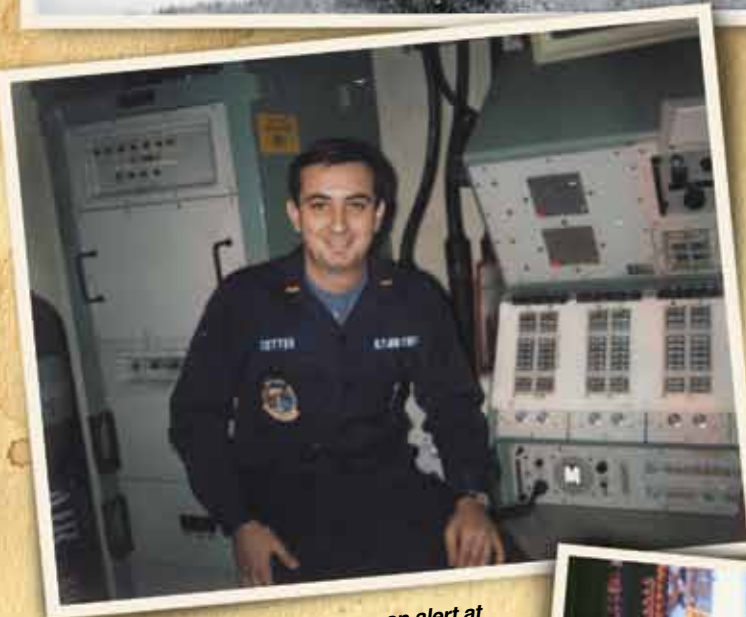




*Nicholas Abate stands fourth from the right, with other ROTC summer camp cadets at Plattsburg AFB, N.Y., in 1967. In the background is a B-47. Nothing says Cold War more than that, retired Col. Abate writes. He is VP Membership for the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter, Va.*



*A1C Robert Peterson (left) gets his flight line badge checked by security policeman A2C Richard Lightner at Spangdahlem AB, Germany, in 1967. Peterson was a jet engine mechanic with the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing. He served from 1962 to 1970 and is a member of the Flying Yankees/Gen. George C. Kenney Chapter, Conn.*



*In 1969, 2nd Lt. Joseph Sutter was on alert at the Mike-01 launch control center of the 742nd Strategic Missile Squadron, 91st Strategic Missile Wing, based at Minot AFB, N.D. He was deputy missile combat crew commander. Sutter spent most of his 28 years on active duty with ICBM units. Retired Col. Sutter served as AFA Board Chairman from 2008 to 2010.*



*SSgt. Richard Wilson works on the telephone system at Wheelus AB, Libya, circa 1969. He was assigned to the 1950th Communications Squadron, supporting base, range, and long-haul communications. Retired SMSgt. Wilson is a member of the Seidel-AFA Dallas Chapter, Tex.*

Today his signature block reads "Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force #12," but in 1974, SSgt. Eric Benken was re-enlisting—for the first time—at Bergstrom AFB, Tex., with the 67th Reconnaissance Technical Squadron, 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. Benken is a member of the Alamo Chapter.



The future head of Air Combat Command, 2nd Lt. John Corley marked graduation from pilot training at Reese AFB, Tex., with this 1974 photo in front of a T-38—"same airplane in use today," he notes. Corley's Cold War assignments included chief analyst for both the Advanced Tactical Fighter and for Tactical Air Command. Retired Gen. Corley is an AFA National Director and belongs to the Roanoke Chapter, Va.



Air Force Academy cadets will recognize the haircut. Cadet Michael Nishimuta stands next to a T-33 before his first jet aircraft orientation flight at the academy in 1969. He later flew Victor Alert in F-111Es from RAF Upper Heyford, UK. Retired Lt. Col. Nishimuta belongs to the Dolomiti Chapter, Italy.



When 2nd Lt. Suzann Chapman graduated from Officer Training School at Medina Annex, Tex., in 1972, her mother, Louise Chapman, pinned on the gold bars. Retired Maj. Chapman was a public affairs officer and is now Air Force Magazine's special projects editor. She is a member of the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter, Va. Louise Chapman is a member of the Austin Chapter, Tex.



Lt. Col. Mark Worrick kept an eye on the finances, no matter how remote the location. In 1975, he was on Johnston Island, some 700 miles west-southwest of Honolulu. He was comptroller, Defense Nuclear Agency Field Command. Retired Brig. Gen. Worrick is an AFA National Director Emeritus and a member of the Mile High Chapter, Colo.

**Capt. John Handy says his C-130 didn't need skis to land on the ice runway during this January 1975 supply mission to Antarctica. It was summer. At the time, Handy was an exchange officer with No. 40 Squadron, Royal New Zealand Air Force. Retired Gen. Handy is former commander of US Transportation Command and Air Mobility Command.**



**In 1977, SMSgt. Joseph Hardy (left), superintendent of the 93rd Aerial Port Squadron, escorts soul singer Al Green—future Rock 'n Roll Hall of Famer—on a visit to Andrews AFB, Md. Hardy enlisted in the Army in 1963 and switched to the Air Force, serving nearly three decades total. Today, he is AFA Maryland State President, from the Thomas W. Anthony Chapter, Md.**



**R. E. "Gene" Smith stands on the ladder of this T-38 at Columbus AFB, Miss. He had served in Air Defense Command and Tactical Air Command before being shot down over Hanoi in the Vietnam War. He was a POW until 1973. He later served as 14th Flying Training Wing operations director. Retired Lt. Col. Smith was AFA's National President and Board Chairman, 1994-1998.**



**At Chanute AFB, Ill., tech school in 1976, Amn. Jim Rossi stands inside a payload transporter van next to a Minuteman III Mk 12 re-entry system. He afterward reported to a missile maintenance team, 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Mo. Rossi served four years on active duty, then joined the ANG. Retired TSgt. Rossi is from the Flying Yankees/Gen. George C. Kenney Chapter, Conn.**



**Maj. Buz Carpenter, 1st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, stands in front of an SR-71 at Beale AFB, Calif., circa 1979. He flew "on the periphery" of Cuba, China, and the Soviet Union. Note the fuel puddles on the ground behind him; he says maintainers at Kadena AB, Japan, wore raincoats to protect against fuel leaking down on them. Retired Col. Carpenter is a member of the Donald W. Steele Sr. Memorial Chapter, Va.**



**In 1977, special assistant and aide Capt. Robert Largent receives a farewell memento from his boss, Gen. David Jones, Air Force Chief of Staff. Largent served in strategic missile assignments and was AFA National President and Board Chairman, 2004-2008. Retired Col. Largent is a member of the David D. Terry Jr. Chapter, Ark. Jones, who became Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (1978-1982), belongs to the chapter named in his honor in North Dakota.**



**Jimmy Doolittle—an American hero for leading the 1942 raid on Tokyo—meets Maj. Gen. Jay Edwards, commander of Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, on a stopover at Tinker AFB, Okla., in 1981. Doolittle was AFA's first President and Board Chairman. Edwards began his Air Force career in 1955 as an F-86D pilot with the 324th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron at Westover AFB, Mass., and Sidi Slimane AB, Morocco. He belongs to the Central Oklahoma (Gerrity) Chapter, Okla.**



**Brig. Gen. Christopher Adams directs an exercise at Andersen AFB, Guam, in 1979, testing the quick turnaround for B-52 conventional bombing operations. Bombers launched in one-minute intervals around the clock. Retired Maj. Gen. Adams is a former chief of staff for SAC and a member of the Fort Worth Chapter, Tex.**



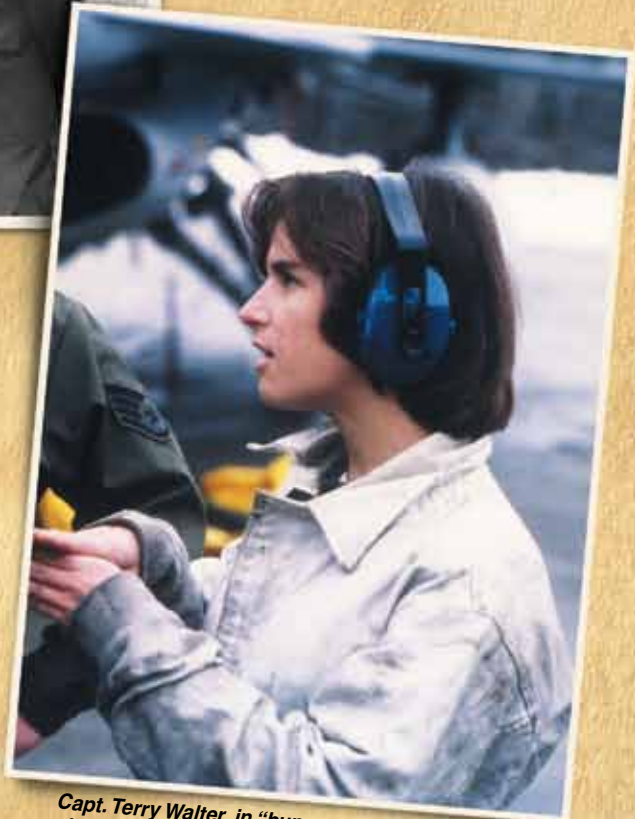
**How cold was it? Minus 18 degrees, remembers then-SSgt. William Penny, the loadmaster bundled up in this photo at Goose Bay, Labrador, in 1983. Paradoxically, his C-141 in the background sits at the "hot pad," isolated because it held classified "explosives," Penny says. Retired TSgt. Penny belongs to the Waterman-Twining Chapter, Fla.**



Retired CMSAF James McCoy was AFA National President and Board Chairman, 1992-1996. He had been SAC's first senior enlisted advisor. When he made this visit to the Berlin Wall in 1980, he was USAF's top enlisted leader. First erected in 1961, parts of the wall were topped with a pipe too large to grip. Some who died trying to escape from East Berlin were unbekannt, "unknown."



ANG 2nd Lt. Charles Nelson, just back from officer training in 1984, returns a salute from a fellow Guardsman, his brother, Sgt. David Nelson, at Joe Foss Field, S.D. Chuck Nelson, back then a personnel officer, was AFA National Treasurer (2000-2005) and is a member of the Dacotah Chapter, S.D.



Capt. Terry Walter, in "bunny suit" coveralls, had just climbed out of an engine intake when this photo was taken at Flesland AS, Norway, about 1981. She was OIC, 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, 388th Tactical Fighter Wing, Hill AFB, Utah. Lt. Gen. Terry Gabreski, was AFMC vice commander before she retired. She is a member of the Col. Loren D. Evenson Chapter, Fla.



SSgt. John Schwendler was stationed with the 50th Tactical Fighter Wing, Hahn AB, West Germany, as a cost analyst. Now a retired technical sergeant, he is a member of the Frank Luke Chapter, Ariz. He took this photo of the Berlin Wall in 1982. An East Berlin guard tower is in the center of the photo. Those huge lights deterred escape, as did the second barbed wire-topped fence beyond the wall. Note the graffiti; there was none on the east side.





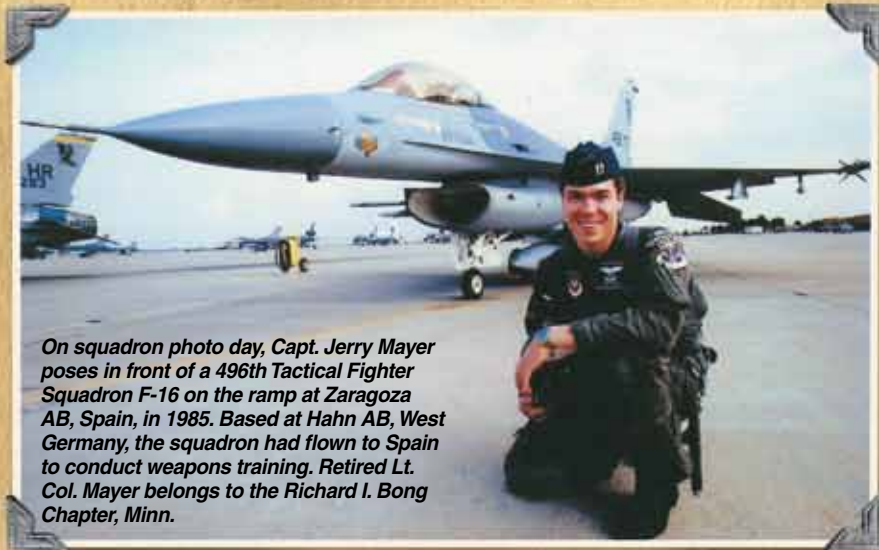
From the cockpit of an F-16, Col. Michael Ryan hands a binder of forms to a crew chief at Misawa AB, Japan, in 1985. Ryan was 432nd Tactical Fighter Wing commander at the time and points out that he flew the first F-16 into the base as part of a buildup in the Pacific in the Cold War. Ryan was USAF Chief of Staff (1997 to 2001) and is a member of the Charleston Chapter, S.C.



One of their F-111's brakes seized on landing at RAF Lakenheath, UK, in 1985. A tire blew. Fire burst out. So that's firefighting foam covering the Aardvark in background and the shoes of Capt. James Jimenez (l) and Capt. Larry Smith, weapon systems officer. Retired Lt. Col. Jimenez is US consul at the US Embassy, Harare, Zimbabwe, and a member of the Gen. Charles A. Gabriel Chapter, Va.



You get the dog, too: Lt. Col. Donald Peterson (right) takes command of the 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron, "The Bulldogs," at Bitburg AB, West Germany, in 1984. He says they had "scrambles at 2 o'clock in the morning, and we'd be airborne in five minutes." Lt. Gen. Peterson retired as USAF deputy director and became AFA's Executive Director and President-CEO, 2002 to 2007. The bulldog's name? Apex, after the Russian AA-7 missile.



On squadron photo day, Capt. Jerry Mayer poses in front of a 496th Tactical Fighter Squadron F-16 on the ramp at Zaragoza AB, Spain, in 1985. Based at Hahn AB, West Germany, the squadron had flown to Spain to conduct weapons training. Retired Lt. Col. Mayer belongs to the Richard I. Bong Chapter, Minn.



Lt. Col. Mary Mayer receives a Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for her part in the 1989-1990 Operation Just Cause, which deposed Panama's dictator, Manuel Noriega. Mayer was chief of the Security Assistance Division at USSOUTHCOM. Retired Col. Mayer is AFA Oregon State President.

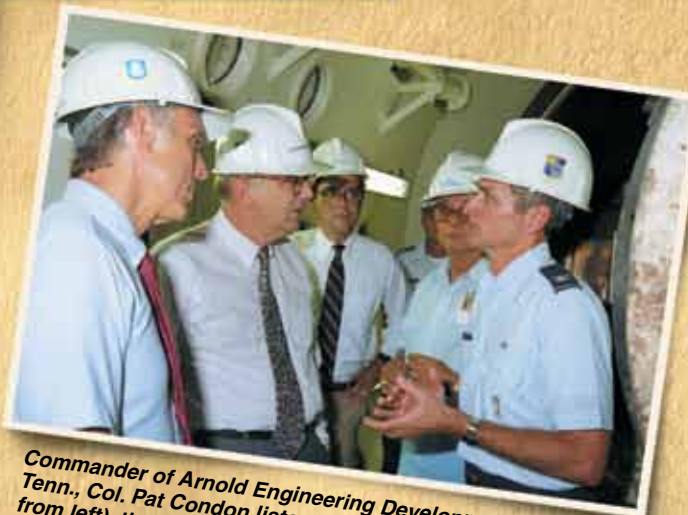




*Missile maintainer TSgt. Karl Kann—with MSgt. Tom Hirl behind him—stands in front of an F-106, armed with AIM-4s, on the flight line at Luke AFB, Ariz., in 1986. Assigned to the 102nd Fighter-Interceptor Wing, Otis AFB, Mass., Kann was at Luke for a missile competition. He retired as a senior master sergeant after 34 years of service and belongs to the Otis Chapter, Mass.*



*Lt. Col. Sandy Schlitt (left) chairs a 1986 meeting for the Defense Logistics Agency, as chief of staff for the Defense Contracts Administrative Services Region-New York. In the foreground: keynote speaker US Ambassador to the UN Vernon Walters. Schlitt served in the reserves for more than 34 years. Retired Brig. Gen. Schlitt is AFA's Chairman of the Board.*



*Commander of Arnold Engineering Development Center, Tenn., Col. Pat Condon listens to Rep. Les Aspin (second from left), the House Armed Services Committee chairman, during a 1986 tour of an ICBM rocket motor test cell. Third from left is US Rep. Jim Cooper (D-Tenn.). Aspin became Secretary of Defense in 1993. Cooper still serves in Congress. Retired Maj. Gen. Condon was AFA National President and Board Chairman, 2002 to 2006.*



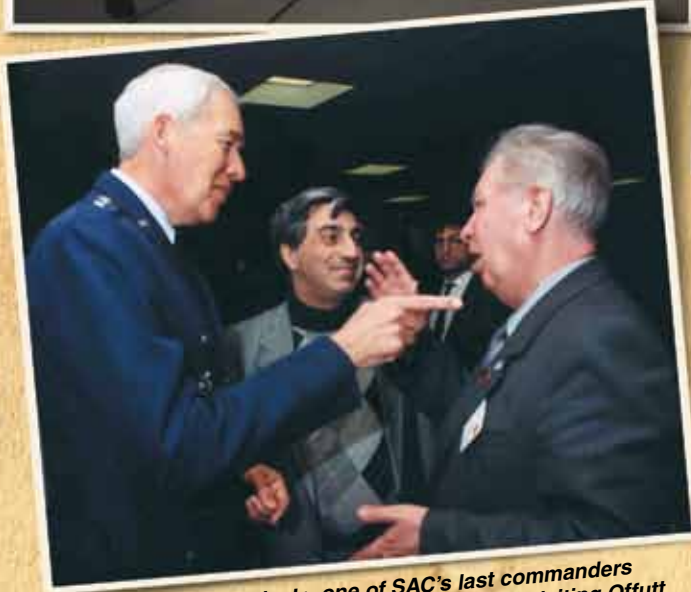
*Lt. Col. Larry Carter (front row, center, yellow name tag) and his 79th Tactical Fighter Squadron aircrews and support staff crowd an F-111 in 1988 at RAF Upper Heyford, UK. Hardened aircraft shelters are in the background. Retired Col. Carter is president of the Montgomery Chapter, Ala.*



SrA. Brian Thayer (far right), a KC-135A boom operator with the 43rd Air Refueling Squadron, Fairchild AFB, Wash., cuts it up with crew chiefs at Luke AFB, Ariz., in 1989. Thayer was at Luke for a SAC "business effort" TDY of tankers sent to bases for air refueling support. He is a member of the Snake River Valley Chapter, Idaho.



Lt. Col. Gordon Golden pokes out of an armored personnel carrier in 1989, while in the field with the 1st Armored Division, based at Ansbach, West Germany. He was commander of Det. 2, 602nd Air Support Operations Group, and the 1st AD air liaison officer. He spent 180 days a year in the field during this tour. Retired Lt. Col. Golden belongs to the Columbia Gorge Chapter, Ore.



Gen. John Chain Jr., one of SAC's last commanders (1986-1991), banterers with Soviet officials visiting Offutt in 1990. Chain briefed them on what the US knew about Soviet weapons. When the visitors denied they had road-mobile missiles, Chain said, "Come up to my office, and I'll show you photos we took—last night." Retired Gen. Chain is from the Robert E. Huyser Chapter, Colo.

Via TSgt. John Schwendler, USAF (Ret.)



In fall 1989, East Germany opened its borders, and in December 1991, the Soviet Union went out of existence, bringing the Cold War to an end.



CMSAF James Binicker and a Russian soldier stand next to a Lada automobile in East Germany in March 1989. During the Cold War, US Military Liaison Mission teams and their Soviet counterparts gathered intelligence on each other in East and West Germany. USMLM was based at Potsdam House in East Germany.

Looking for more photos? You'll find them in a supplement on the Web at [www.airforce-magazine.com](http://www.airforce-magazine.com), added to the Cold War Scrapbook page, with the August 2011 issue.