

Wolf Packyderm



USAF photos

In 1966, USAF Col. Robin Olds arrived in Thailand and took command of the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, the famous "Wolf Pack." The Olds brand of leadership featured boldness, flair, and courage. Also, it seems, he liked to mix in a bit of humor. Here, the legendary triple ace and Air Force Cross recipient sits atop an elephant taxi on a ride from the flight line to Officers Club. The ride came during one of the wing's "practice reunions," so-called because they were held in anticipation of war's end, when POWs would be released and the wing would hold its "real" reunion. The inset shows Olds wearing a flight helmet now on display at the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Ohio.

