

Flashback

Grrrrronimo!



This is definitely not a walk in the park. Coaxed by fellow paratrooper Sgt. Francis M. Dowdy, of the 10th Rescue Unit, Ladd AFB, Alaska, Paratrooper Joe (foreground) is about to make his fifth jump out of this Douglas C-47 Skytrain on a simulated rescue mission. During World War II, dogs like Joe were trained to bail out

(with automatically opening chutes) onto snow-covered mountain tops and into dense forests, areas often inaccessible to planes and human paratroopers. Stranded parties then waited for sleds and supplies to be dropped, hitched up the dogs, and rescued themselves.

Photo courtesy C. V. Glines