

1949 Dean parachute jump



Cpl. Francis C. Dean, pararescue survival specialist, fully equipped with YT-8 assembly, Mae West, jump helmet, tennis shoes and light warm clothing making jump into San Francisco Bay, 23 June 1949. .

Here's an improved image of Francis Dean jumping into San Francisco bay 1949.

'Dean' is making a what we called a Hollywood jump, meaning just wearing swimming trunks. At Clark in 1953 we had 1ea YT-8, 28' canopy, a V-slot at the rear of the canopy for steering with 2ea guide lines, somewhat similar as the our E-1 chute was. There was no disconnecting risers (cotton web). A knife (hunting or combat type) was fastened on top of the 24' reserve pack to cut lines if needed. If the harness was not perfectly adjusted to fit the body, one could get his teeth knocked out during chute opening as the reserve slams up into the face (it happened to me using an E-1).

ChBeers! Udo Fischer