

From: Pjchuck@aol.com [mailto:Pjchuck@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 7:09 AM
To: jcassidy@alaska.net
Cc: rlapointe@gci.net
Subject: Re: FW: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom LapointeX

Bob,

- In early 1965 there were two non-PJs assigned to what is now the OLJ. TSGT Bob Martin and A1C (E-4) (Jim?) Colbert. Martin had a distinctive British accent and "claimed" to have been a member of the British SF. Colbert was prior Army Airborne. Martin could have made a living in theater; his stories were way over the top, but his delivery was excellent. He just had one of those booming voices. Colbert was honest and down to earth. He told us how training in the pipeline was really going to occur. They worked us hard as they should have. Lots of pool time in very cold water. I really don't know how long they held the job, but they did train the class before ours with Bob "Willie" Williamson, Roger Porter, Halverson, Cliff Kirk, and others. My class of Greg Baker, the VanHoutin twins, Swafford, DeShey, Steve Adams, Mike Swafford, Poncho Trujillo, Tom Newman, Denny Dalmo, Tom Pope, and the rest of the class also enjoyed the pain that these two put on us. Each class started with 50 students. My class was in the program from mid-March to 8 June 1965 when 25 of us left for jump school. The other 25 quit. These two did get us in pretty good shape. We lost 10 during the pipeline, one at jump school to injury and the rest at scuba school.

- I saw Martin at the Eglin AFB, FL golf course around 1972. He was on the first tee and, with my back to him at a distance of about 100 yards, I immediately recognized his booming, British-laced voice. He said he had made MSGT and was stationed at Eglin.

- I ran into Colbert at Homestead AFB, FL in about 1974. He was now a SSGT and stationed at Homestead. He really was a good guy and a good influence.

- Neither Martin nor Colbert ran, did calisthenics, or swam with us. Martin followed us on the runs from Lackland, down the long hill to the XB-99 bomber static aircraft at Kelly AFB, and then back up the hill. He would drink his morning coffee in his car during our early morning runs.

- Hope this bit of history helps. Others will surely have memories of these two characters. Have a great New Year.

- Chuck Hassler

-

- In a message dated 1/2/2008 10:53:55 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, jcassidy@alaska.net writes:

I remember reading someplace that the first instructors running the selection indoc when it started in the 1960s were not PJs.—john.

From: Robert LaPointe [mailto:rlapointe@gci.net]
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2008 12:34 AM
To: 'Lewis Roberts'; Cassidy, John (Cassidy, John)
Subject: RE: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, TX

Lew – I do not have any information on this so I am sending out to Cassidy for the mass emailing. Perhaps one of the other guys can give you this information. I was recruited in late 1969 early 1970 and Henry T. Kirk was at Lackland then. I am not sure who followed him

From: Lewis Roberts [mailto:robertsfsu16@cox.net]
Sent: Saturday, December 29, 2007 2:25 AM
To: Bob LaPointe
Subject: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, TX

Bob do you know who was the first PJ'S that were the first when we started the OL school at Lackland,AFB.

Tom Newman e-mailed me and told me that a MSgt. Herb Keyes was the first one there in 1971-73. I can not find him on any roster that held the PJ AFSC, I checked with Bill Vargas and he does not know,can you help me and what year did it start and who were the first PJ'S.

PS: I Would appreciate all the help you can give me. Aaron Farrior and Mike Steinbect were talking about this the other day.

Your PJ buddy

Lou Roberts

From: Tom Stone [mailto:pjstone@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 2:53 AM
To: jcassidy@alaska.net
Subject: RE: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, from LaPointe

When I was recruited at Lackland in Jun of 1970, there was George Shipper, Stu Stanland, & Tommy Miles. George and Tommy gave me the PAST test and Stu was in charge of the CC's daughter. LOL.
Stoney.

From: Wetfoot18@aol.com [mailto:Wetfoot18@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2008 7:39 PM

To: jcassidy@alaska.net

Subject: Re: FW: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom LapointeX

John:

Our class had an instructor by the name of Robert Martin. Supposedly ex British Comando! Sure played the part well. Class of 65-03 can correct me if Im wrong!

Roger Porter

In a message dated 1/2/2008 11:01:26 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, jcassidy@alaska.net writes:

From: richard burton [mailto:burtonrv@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 7:04 AM

To: jcassidy@alaska.net

Subject: RE: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom LapointeX

I graduated from the OL-J in 1976. The school was ran by Kurt Phythian, Dan Byrd, and Art Morrison. Someone told me that TJ Bruce was there prior to Kirt.

Richard V. Burton, RN

From: Jim Morris [mailto:morris8169@msn.com]

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 8:36 AM

To: jcassidy@alaska.net

Subject: RE: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, from Morris

Leif Arvidson, Art Morrison, Paul Pepin and Rich Burton were at the OL when I arrived. My fondest memories were the runs with Arvidson, pool work with Pepin and Burton and the cal sessions in the dungeon with Morrison - he made pain enjoyable.

- www.JimMorris.net

From: Steve Ash [mailto:oosmash@webtv.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 9:31 AM

To: jcassidy@alaska.net

Subject: Re: FW: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom LapointeX

John:

In April 1971, MSgt. Herb Key, & (I believe his rank at the time was Tsgt.) Colbert, who had just returned from SEA & his left arm was shot all to hell. (Art Morrison would know Colbert's first name, he was the class leader at Lackland. Msgt Key administered my PAST. Key is not listed in "Pararescue First 50 Years" (but definitely should be.)

I was in contact with Herb Key up until 3 or 4 years ago. I believe he was living in Indy. All of a sudden he just quit answering e-mail. I would like to know what happened to him, if any one knows?

Also does any one know how to reach Art Morrison?

S.M.Ash

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 1:54 PM

To: jcassidy@alaska.net

Subject: Re: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom LapointeX

I enjoyed the OL in NOV-DEC 71 and our two motivators were MSgt Herb Key and SSgt Larry Colbert, both PJ's and mean, but we almost had fun

-
Sinon

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Thompson [mailto:chiefly1@pacbell.net]
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2008 9:12 PM
To: jcassidy@alaska.net
Subject: RE: FW: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, from Lewry

In spring of 1970 Tommy Miles in a wheelchair and Al Avery on crutches were at Lackland AFB recruiting and testing the volunteers. Both were fresh from combat (Al it seems missed the pool from the balcony of a hotel in Thailand...) There was a third PJ but I do not remember who it was. There was no formal course -- just never ending PT until a class was formed. I was gone within a week.

Bill Thompson
PJ, 1st Sgt, Command Chief, Retired...

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin Jones [mailto:retiredpj@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2008 9:28 PM
To: jcassidy@alaska.net
Subject: RE: FW: First PJ's that started the OL-J at Lackland, AFB, Tfrom Ash

From the PJ Roster: His first name is Charles, but he went by his middle name Larry Colbert. You may be having trouble with Herbert (Herb) Key, as his name is actually spelled "Kee".

Living the Dream,
KJ

The first combined PJ / CCT class at Lackland AFB Indoctrination was 88-002. The combined class graduated Lackland on 18 Dec 1987 with 14 students going into the pipeline.

The history of CCT starting its formal selection-indoc process by strap hanging onto the PJs indoc-selection course can be found pages 198 thru 200 in "No Room for Error, The covert operations of America's Special Tactics units from Iran to Afghanistan, written by retired CCT Officer Colonel John T. Carney Jr. There was no CCT selection process or requirement prior to class 88-002.

CTT separated out of the PJ Indoc in 2008.

PJ/CRO Indoctrination Course (45 training days / nine weeks)

It's 10 training days, initially known as the Combat Control **Orientation** Course...the name has changed to the Combat Control Selection Course.