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BY EXECUTIVE ORDER REVIEW TEAM

DATE /96 REVIEWER 61

HISTORY OF THE AEROSPACE RESCUE & RECOVERY SERVICE

1 JULY 1974 - 31 DECEMBER 1975

VOLUME V SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS



CLASSIFIED BY COMAC (by derivation)
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EXEMPTION CATEGORY
DECLASSIFY 31 December 2000

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Jolly Green Pilots Association

29 March 1973

Commander
Hq ARRS
Scott AFB, Illinois 62225

Subject: Military Airlift of an Animal

1. We request your assistance in the airlift of an honorary member of the Jolly Green Pilots Association from NKP RTAFB, Thailand, to Scott AFB, Illinois. This honorary member is "Buff," a two-year old Malayan Sun Bear. "Buff" is the mascot of the Jolly Green crews at NKP and was donated by the Royal Laotian Air Force in appreciation for rescue missions involving their T-28 pilots. He was hand-raised from approximately 10 pounds to his present weight of 120. This loving care is administered by the newest pilot in the squadron who is referred to as the ECO (Bear Control Officer). The bear quickly became known throughout SEA as many of the personnel rescued spent some time in the bear cage and each afternoon a bear wrestling performance was given by the Jolly Greens.

2. With the phase down of US forces and the uncertainty of the future of the Jolly Greens at NKP, a decision was made to donate the bear to a CONUS zoo. Several zoos in the Scott area were interested, but the Peoria, Illinois, zoo is especially anxious to use a tame bear in their Children's Mobile Zoo. He could be donated to the zoo as a gift from the US Air Force, MAC, ARRS, the Jolly Greens or any other agency or unit that you consider appropriate.

3. Arrangements have been made for crating, customs and other matters relating to the transportation of a "wild bear." Civilian airlift would not be able to duplicate the movement and surface transportation would prove hazardous for the bear.

4. We request exception to DOD Policy Regulation 4500.9 in order to transport the bear via military airlift. We feel that if these arrangements can be made a significant military/civilian community action

can be effected. The Jolly Greens have a genuine affection for this "old bear" and would like to present him with a "Homecoming" also.

5. Sir, we realize that you have many items of a more pressing nature but your interest in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

EDWARD S. MODICA, Colonel, USAF
President, Jolly Green Pilots Association

Capt Stovall/DOC/22 Apr 74/ml

CV

21 APR 1974

"Buffy"

40 ARRS/CC

1. Enclosed are copies of the latest correspondence about getting "Buffy" to the CONUS.
2. The first request for airlift was turned down by HQ USAF and all normal Air Force airlift resources have been explored. Captain Dale Stovall has written a personal letter to the Secretary of the Air Force on behalf of the Jolly Green Pilots Association requesting permission for airlift.
3. Captain Stovall and other interested members of the Jolly Green Pilots Association at Scott are looking into private funding to get Buffy back. One proposal is to ask for private donations from Jolly Greens and other people associated with the Rescue mission in Southeast Asia. This will be proposed at the April Jolly Green convention.
4. The St Louis Zoo will accept Buffy.

FREDERICK V. SOHLE, JR., Colonel, USAF
Vice Commander

2 Atch

1. Ltr, USAF, Dir of Transportation, 9 Apr 74 *ml*
2. Ltr, Dept of AF, 10 Apr 74 *ml*

DO

CV File Cy

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330



Captain Dale E. Stoval
Treasurer, Jolly Green Pilots Association
Post Office Box 187
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois 62225

Dear Dale

Your letter of 26 March 1974 to the Secretary of the Air Force has been referred to this office for reply.

We are familiar with the accomplishments of your organization and recognize that the "Jolly Greens" is one of the most decorated units in the recent SEA conflict. I also understand how you feel about your mascot Buffy and would certainly like to help you in his movement to the CONUS. However, as you know, such movement is not in consonance with DOD directives and policies which govern the movement of traffic on military aircraft. Since we are unable to assist you in Buffy's movement via military aircraft, I am suggesting several alternatives for his movement in the commercial mode; such as, (1) request the St. Louis Zoo to provide the money for his transportation, (2) effect a collection or establish a fund within the "Jolly Greens" Pilot Association to cover these charges, or (3) request local sponsorship from some organization to cover his movement to St. Louis.

I hope you understand that if there was anyway we could move this bear within present guidelines, we would be happy to do so; but, unfortunately, DOD policy prohibits our participating in this matter.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul", is located below the word "Sincerely".

PAUL F. PATCH
Brigadier General, USAF
Director of Transportation

Info: General Sullivan —

26 March 1974

S

CC CY

Honorable John L. McLucas
Secretary of the Air Force
Washington DC 20330

Dear Mr. Secretary

With all due respect for propriety and regard for the chain of command, Sir, I am requesting your assistance.

We met when I briefed you on the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service (ARRS) mission during your lunch at MAC Headquarters on 22 February 1974. From your response, I felt you had a keen awareness and appreciation for the role of Rescue in combat air operations, and that you might be sympathetic to the request I'm making.

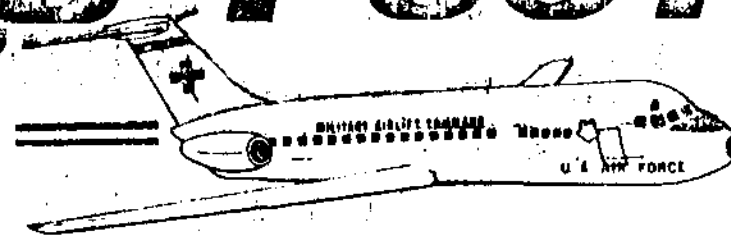
The 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron at Nakhon Phanom, Thailand (home of the Jolly Greens) has had, for some time, a Malayan Sun Bear as a mascot. Rescued flyers brought back to NKP have traditionally been "thrown in" with the bear for a good-natured welcome back -- the bear is playful and quite harmless.

What the bear means to a lot of guys on both sides of the Rescue picture is hard to put into words. But we now have a great opportunity to tell the story of the bear (named Buffy) as well as the whole story of Rescue in SEA. This opportunity lies in the fact that the St Louis zoo has agreed to accept Buffy on behalf of the Air Force and the ARRS.

I am requesting authorization for the bear to be transported here to Scott AFB via opportune military airlift. A special air-transportable cage has been built for the bear at NKP. As you're aware, Sir, this would mean transportation on regularly scheduled missions. This would cost the Air Force nothing, but would pay immeasurable dividends.

Sincerely

DALE E. STOVALL, Captain, USAF
Treasurer, Jolly Green Pilots Association



"Buffy" moves in

The St. Louis Zoo has declared July 19 as "Scott Air Force Base Day" in honor of the gift of a Malaysian Sun Bear donated by the Jolly Green Pilots Association and Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, headquartered at Scott.

Buffy was the mascot of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRS), Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand.

Buffy's arrival at the zoo on September 12, 1974, ended a two-year effort by Rescuemen worldwide to find a permanent home for the mascot.

As Southeast Asia operations were cut back, Lt. Col. Clyde Bennett, the original B.C.D. (Bear Control Officer) began the effort to find Buffy a permanent home. Lt. Col. Barry Kamholt, former 40 ARRS Commander, Capt. Dale Stovall, 1st Lts. Joseph P. Nastasi and Tony Tudor, and many others kept up the effort despite repeated setbacks.

Clearance from the Thai government was received on the third try. More than 25 state-side zoos were approached. Commercial air transportation was looked into because Department of Defense regulations did not allow the Military Airlift Command to transport Buffy.

Donations began to roll in for the plane ticket. A special cage was built by 1st Lt. Bill Kramer and finally the word was "GO."

After arriving at the St. Louis Zoo, Buffy spent the next two months quarantined before his first introduction to three females and one male. "Buffy didn't fare too well at the meeting and was returned to a private pit," says Roger Berkel, assistant curator.

Maj. Gen. Ralph S. Saunders, ARRS commander, will make the presentation on behalf of the Jolly Green Pilots Association, Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, and the Air Force.

Also attending will be Col. Frederick V. Sohle, Jr., ARRS vice commander and Lt. Col. Barry Kamholt who "last commanded" Buffy in SEA. Colonel Sohle is credited by ARRS people with having the most to do with getting Buffy moved from Southeast Asia to St. Louis.

A dedication sign has been prepared by the St. Louis Zoo and will stand in front of Buffy's new home. It reads:

"Buffy, the male Malaysian Sun Bear (former mascot of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron) was donated to the St. Louis Zoo by the Jolly Green Pilots Association in memory of the Rescue crew members who gave their lives in Southeast Asia. The Headquarters of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service is located at Scott AFB, Illinois, 2 miles east of St. Louis."

BUFFY: Rescuemen give mascot home at St. Louis Zoo

by Sgt. Virgil L. Luning

HQ. ARRS, SCOTT AFB, ILL. - Buffy, the Malaysian sunbear mascot of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron (ARRSq.), Nakhon Phanom (NKP) RTAFB, Thailand, is settling into his new home at the St. Louis Zoo.

Buffy's Sept. 12 arrival at the zoo ended a two-year effort by Rescuemen worldwide to find permanent home for the mascot.

His \$1,150 trip aboard trucks, Volkswagens, 707s, and 747s also ended unpleasant headaches for Rescuemen who finally built a cage strong enough to hold him. (It almost wasn't!)

The origin of this honey-lovin', beer-guzzlin' mascot is as uncertain as the 40th ARRSq. B.C.O.s (Bear Control Officers) when they first glimpsed their charge. Traditionally, the newest pilot to the squadron was designated B.C.O.

The story of Buffy's origin accepted by most is that an Air America pilot gave Buffy to his wife about the end of 1970. One day Buffy "nibbled" on the wife. She became upset over the whole affair - one thing led to another - and nine-pound Buffy was suddenly adopted by the 40th ARRS. Since then, his fame has spread far and wide.

Buffy is a youngster with Herculean strength. At 100 pounds (he's now 200), he lifted a 200-pound man on one front

to the Post Office during the busiest time of the day.

"People were diving under and over tables and scrambling everywhere except toward the door where gentle, docile Buffy had made his grand entrance," said Captain Stovall.

Several Rescuemen will remember when they were rudely removed from barstools, or awakened at night, only to look up and see Buffy just-a-bristlin' for a scrap. And, too, some have had tennis shoes disappear when he grabbed their leg, ripped off the shoe, and calmly sat and chewed it up.

Perhaps the most enjoyable incident for Rescuemen and Buffy was when an uninjured survivor who was yanked from a hostile jungle just hours before was shoved into Buffy's cage. The man's nervousness was short-lived, however, after Buffy playfully heaved him around the cage a couple times. Self-defense became foremost in his mind.

But Buffy had his rough times, too. His usual beverage - beer - was once replaced by a bottle of champagne. The next morning he lay quietly in one corner, his paws covering his eyes and ears. Buffy had a first-class hang-over.

Later, he would make his daily inspection of squadron facilities, which included chasing everyone out of the showers "au naturel."

His romping days were numbered, though. As Southeast

Clearance from the Thai government was received on the third try. More than 25 state-side zoos were approached. Commercial air transportation was looked into because Department of Defense regulations did not allow the Military Airlift Command to transport Buffy. Special arrangements for feeding, etc., were made at Bangkok, Hawaii and San Francisco.

Money for the plane ticket began to roll in. The Jolly Green Pilots Association donated \$600, the 40th ARRSq. put up \$350, and Captain Stovall pitched in \$200.

Finally, everything looked "GO." A specially-built "guaranteed to hold 'im" cage was bought from a Thai animal exporter. Knowing the critter was rather healthy, 40th ARRSq. members had the \$75 cage reinforced with metal bars and panels.

After several tries, the B.C.O. and several assistants managed to coax Buffy inside and quickly closed the door.

Within seconds, Buffy had bent or pulled off the bars and squeezed out. 1st Lt. Bill Kramer was commissioned to build another cage.

Procuring a security police canine cage, he spent a week in the welding shop, beefing up the metal box and lining it with chain link fence. For the next several days the 185-pound cage was left

locked up. That night, before he was placed aboard the 747 at Bangkok, it was apparent the teakwood floor and chain link would not last.

About 38 hours later, when dock personnel unloaded the cage at St. Louis airport, the chain link was in shambles. They wondered why the bear was shipped in teakwood sawdust.

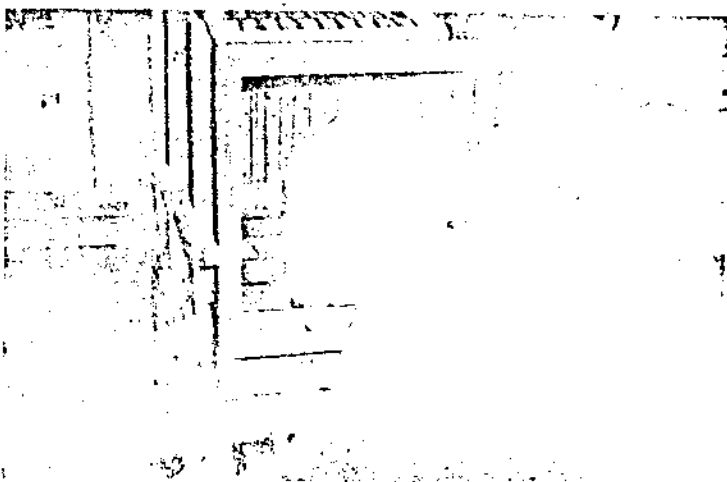
Buffy spent the next two months quarantined at the St. Louis Zoo before his first introduction to three females and one male. Roger Berkel, assistant curator there, said a nervous, unconfident Buffy didn't fare too well at the meeting. He was returned to a private pit.

The most aggressive female

and the male were sold before Buffy's second introduction Feb. 20. "The smaller female came right up to him," Berkel said. "He was nervous ... pacing about ... and they had a couple semi-friendly scraps, but it went well. I'm really confident he'll do even better in the following introductions."

Has tee-totaling changed Buffy? "No, it hasn't," said Berkel. "From what I hear of him in Thailand, I can say he hasn't changed. The keepers have all fallen in love with him."

"He's quite an individual. And he's a very handsome animal, not just any old bear. Believe me, it's still the same old Buffy ..."



LOOKING THE situation over, Buffy wasn't sure he was going to like his new cage. A specially

and balanced him there like a seal does a ball. During his last months at NKP, it took two men to wrestle with him while another stood by as a safety man. (Buffy always won.) Once, Capt. Dale E. Stovall, a new B.C.O. failed to recognize Buffy's intentions and opened the cage. Buffy promptly dashed

Asia operations were cut back, Lt. Col. Clyde Bennett, the original B.C.O., began the effort to find Buffy a permanent home. Lt. Col. Barry Kamhoot, former 40th ARRSq. commander, Captain Stovall, 1st Lts. Joseph P. Nastasi and Tony Tudor, and many others kept up the effort despite repeated set-backs.

in Buffy's larger home to let him to become accustomed to it. After pouncing on it, rolling it around, and generally making sure it was OK, he went inside. The moment of truth had arrived. To quiet the formidable four year old, the B.C.O. gave him a couple of beers, and after a second try, got Buffy inside and

guaranteed to hold him cage. He brought from a Thai animal exporter. Within seconds, Buffy had destroyed the cage. A much stronger one was built by 1st Lt. Bill Kramer and was checked out AOK by Buffy. (U. S. Air Force Photo)



BUFFY ENJOYED "tipping a few" Nastasi (left) and Lt. Col. Barry with good friends 1st Lt. Joseph P. Kamhoot. (U. S. Air Force Photo)

The St. Louis Zoo has declared Saturday as "Scott Air Force Base Day at the Zoo" in honor of the gift of a Malaysian Sun Bear donated to the zoo by the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand.

A ceremony will be held in front of Buffy's cage at 10:30 a.m. At that time, Maj. Gen. Ralph Saunders, commander of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service, will officially present Buffy to the curator of the zoo.

A dedication sign has been prepared by the St. Louis Zoo that will stand in front of Buffy's new home. It reads:

"Buffy, the male Malaysian Sun Bear (former mascot of the 40th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron) was donated to the St. Louis Zoo by the Jolly Green Pilots Association in memory of the Rescue crew members who gave their lives in Southeast Asia. The Headquarters of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service is located at Scott AFB, Illinois, 20 miles east of St. Louis."

Recreation Center is providing bus transportation for those who wish to attend this ceremony. It will leave the center at 9 a.m.



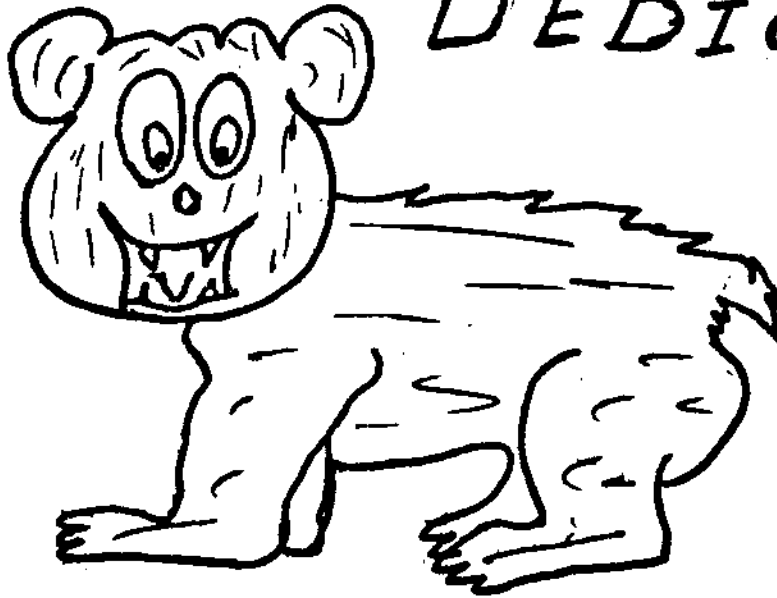
Enroll Now



Look your Loveliest

BUFFY'S

DEDICATION



THE JOLLY GREEN PILOTS ASSOCIATION INVITES ALL HQ ARRS
PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES TO THE DEDICATION OF 'BUFFY'
AT THE ST. LOUIS ZOO AT 1030 ON SATURDAY, 19 JULY. (1975)
MAJ GEN SAUNDERS WILL MAKE THE FORMAL PRESENTATION TO THE
ZOO ON BEHALF OF THE JOLLY GREEN PILOTS ASSOCIATION.
THE ST. LOUIS ZOO IS MAKING JULY 19TH SCOTT AIR FORCE DAY
AT THE ZOO. THE BASE HAS A SPECIAL BUS THAT WILL LEAVE
THE SERVICE CLUB AT 0900 FOR THE ZOO.

John V. Allison
JOHN V. ALLISON, Colonel
President, Jolly Green Pilots Assn

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

"BUFFY THE BEAR"

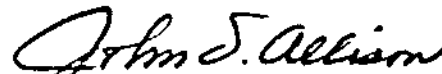
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THE ST. LOUIS ZOO

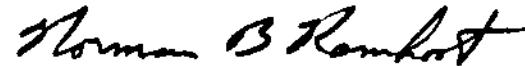
"Buffy the Bear" distinguished himself as the mascot of the 40 Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron, Nakhon Phanom, Thailand, from early 1970 until September 1974. Buffy came to the Squadron as a tiny cub, a gift of appreciation from two allied pilots rescued from deep in hostile territory. The cub soon became a favorite with all members of the unit and was named Buffy, derivative of the nickname for the HH-53 Super Jolly Green Helicopter, BUFF, "Big Ugly Friendly Fellow." Buffy grew rapidly and became a popular attraction with all members of the base as well as winning the hearts of the 40 Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron. His favorite activity was the Sunday "wrestling matches" between bear and pilot. His distinctive efforts as mascot of a premier combat rescue unit in Southeast Asia reflect great credit upon himself. The 40 Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron and the Jolly Green Pilots Association are proud that Buffy was accepted into the St. Louis Zoo and their family of bears. His role as mascot has prepared him well to provide meaning, reflection, and enjoyment for those who visit Buffy and the Zoo. We commend him to your care in memory of those who gave their lives that "Others May Live."



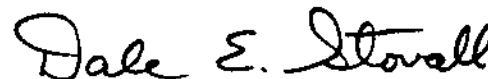
RALPH S. SAUNDERS, Major General, USAF
Commander, Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service



JOHN V. ALLISDN, Colonel, USAF
President, Jolly Green Pilots Assn



NORMAN B. KAMHOOT, Lt Col, USAF
Commander, 40 Aerospace Rescue and
Recovery Squadron



DALE E. STOVALL, Capt, USAF
Bear Control Officer

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF

"BUFFY THE BEAR"

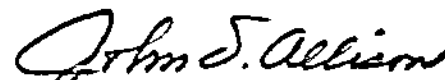
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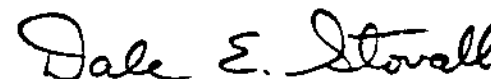
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