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Declassified

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MILITARY SECRETS

Declassified

Declassified

A lot of life's problems can be explained by the applications of the common sense from these recently declassified Military Secrets

Q: *What's the difference between a copilot and a jet engine?*
A: *The jet engine stops whining when the plane shuts down.*

USAF Heritage Formation, Edwards AFB, 2005;
F-117 Stealth Fighter, F-16D Fighting Falcons (Vipers), F-22A Raptor

'There are bold pilots, and old pilots, but very few old bold pilots.'

– 1930s Army Air Corps Sign

F/A-18F Super Hornet going transonic
'Never tell the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.'
- Unknown Marine Recruit
‘Don't draw fire; it irritates the people around you.’
Advice to new guy

‘If your attack is going well, you have walked into an ambush.’

- Vietnam era Army Training Guide

'If the enemy is in range, so are you.'

- Infantry Journal

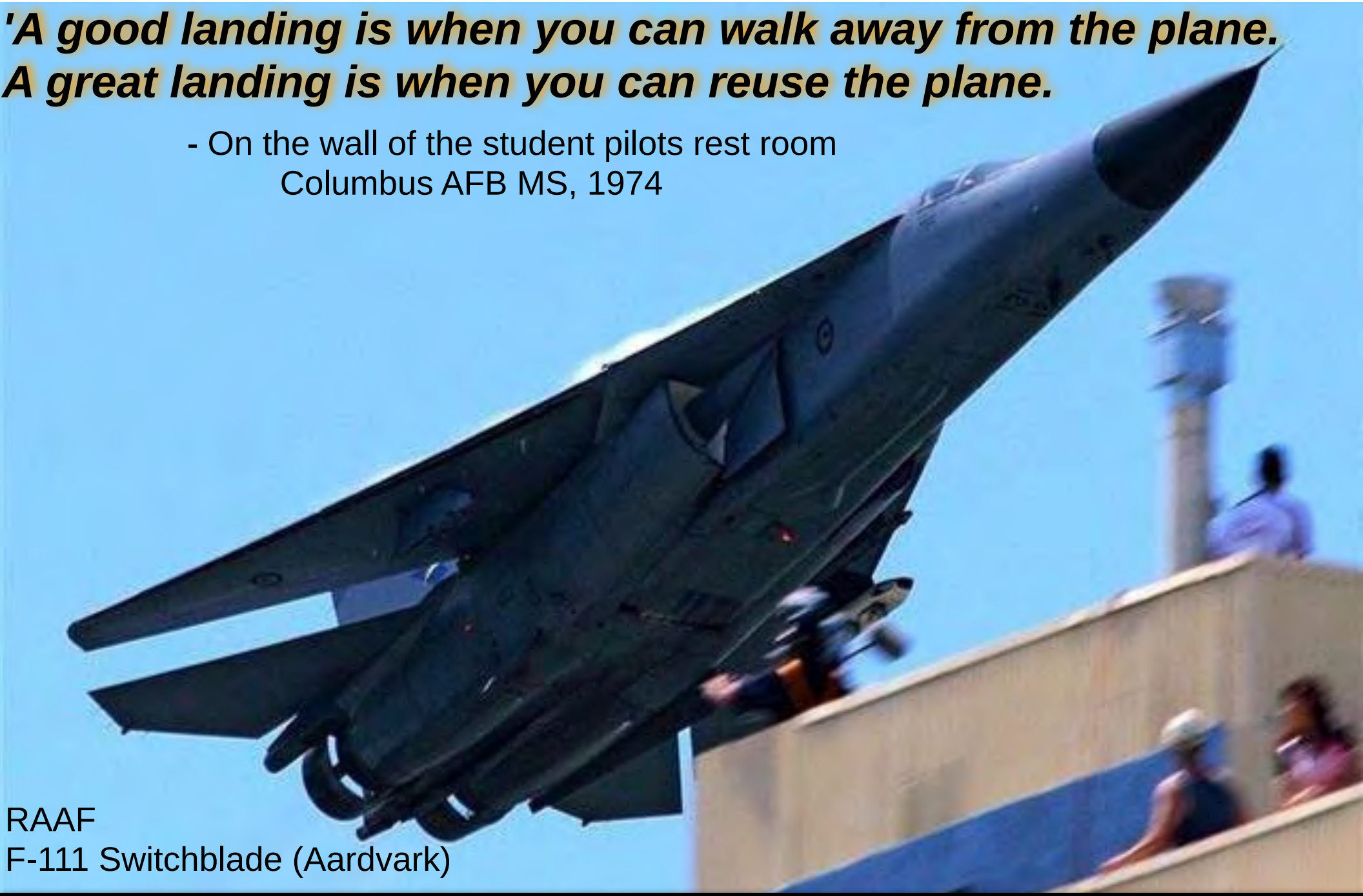
'Tracers work both ways.'

- Army Ordnance Manual

"Try to look unimportant; they may be low on ammo." - Infantry Journal

"Bravery is being the only one who knows you're afraid."

- Col. David Hackworth



'A good landing is when you can walk away from the plane.
A great landing is when you can reuse the plane.

- On the wall of the student pilots rest room
Columbus AFB MS, 1974

RAAF
F-111 Switchblade (Aardvark)

'Don't ever be the first, don't ever be the last,
and don't ever volunteer for anything.' US Navy

'There is no reason to jump out of a perfectly good airplane.'

-Sign at Pope AFB C-130 Squadron that supports Fort Bragg Airborne

'The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire.'

C-130 Hercules, AKA “Blue Angel Fat Albert” JATO rocket assist

'Flashlights are tubular metal containers kept in a flight bag for the purpose of storing dead batteries.'

When a flight is proceeding incredibly well, something was forgotten.' - Infantry Journal

'Five second grenade fuses last about three seconds.'

- Infantry Journal -

Blue Angels flying Line Abreast, F/A-18C Hornet

BASIC FLYING RULES.
'Try to stay in the middle of the air. Do not go near the edges of it. The edges of the air can be recognized by the appearance of ground, buildings, sea, and trees.
It is much more difficult to fly there."

- W.W.II Undergraduate Pilot Training Sign

Nothing is so good for the morale of the troops as to occasionally see a dead general.

- Field Marshal Slim

USN Blue Angels F/A-18C Hornet
If you're faced with a forced landing, fly the thing as far into the crash as possible.
-Bob Hoover, renowned aerobatic & test pilot
'Friendly fire - isn't.'
'Radios will fail as soon as you desperately need fire support.'

F/A-18C Hornet
Carrier Take-off

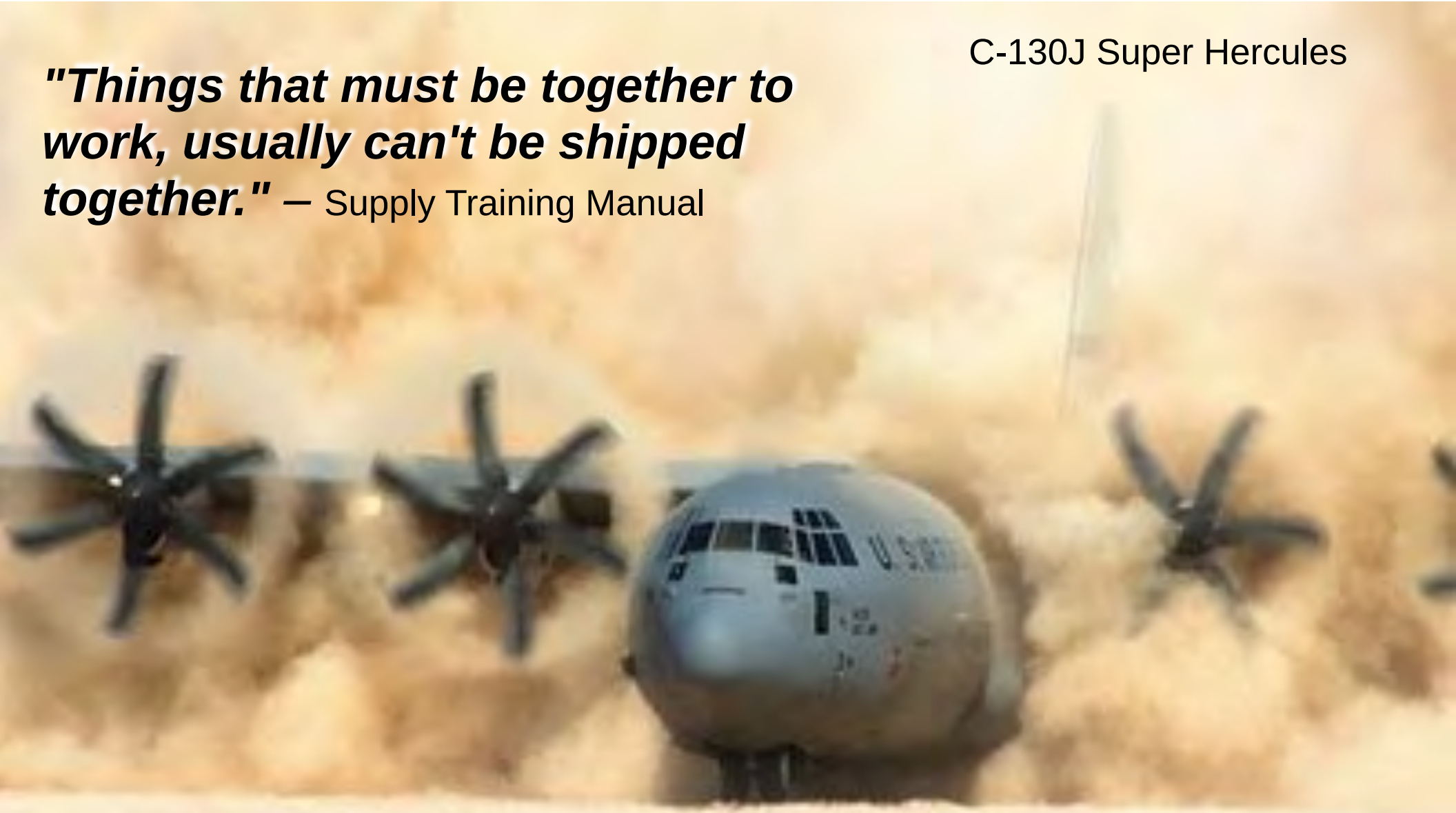
Aim towards the Enemy.

- Instruction printed on US Rocket Launcher

' Airspeed, altitude, and brains. Two of these are always necessary to successfully complete the mission.
The three most useless things in aviation are: Fuel in the bowser; Runway behind you; and Air above you.'

- Basic Flight Training Manual

'If it's stupid but it works, it isn't stupid.' - Naval Ops Manual



"Things that must be together to work, usually can't be shipped together." – Supply Training Manual

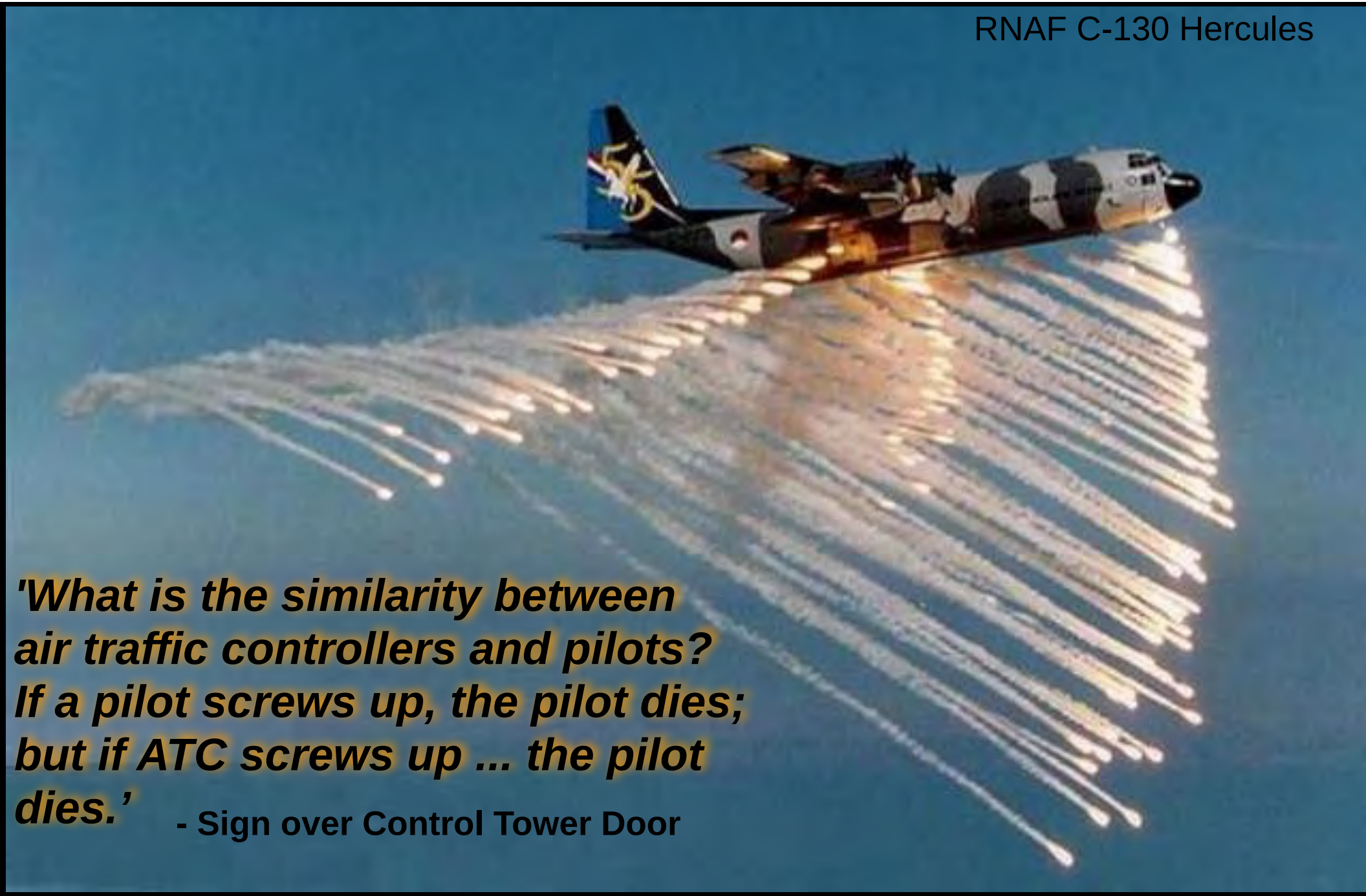
"No combat-ready unit has ever passed inspection." - Joe Gay

"No inspection-ready unit has done well in combat." - Annon

Having lost sight of our objectives we need to redouble our efforts.

'Any ship can be a minesweeper. Once.' - Naval Ops Manual

'The easy way is always mined.' - Army Special Ops Manual



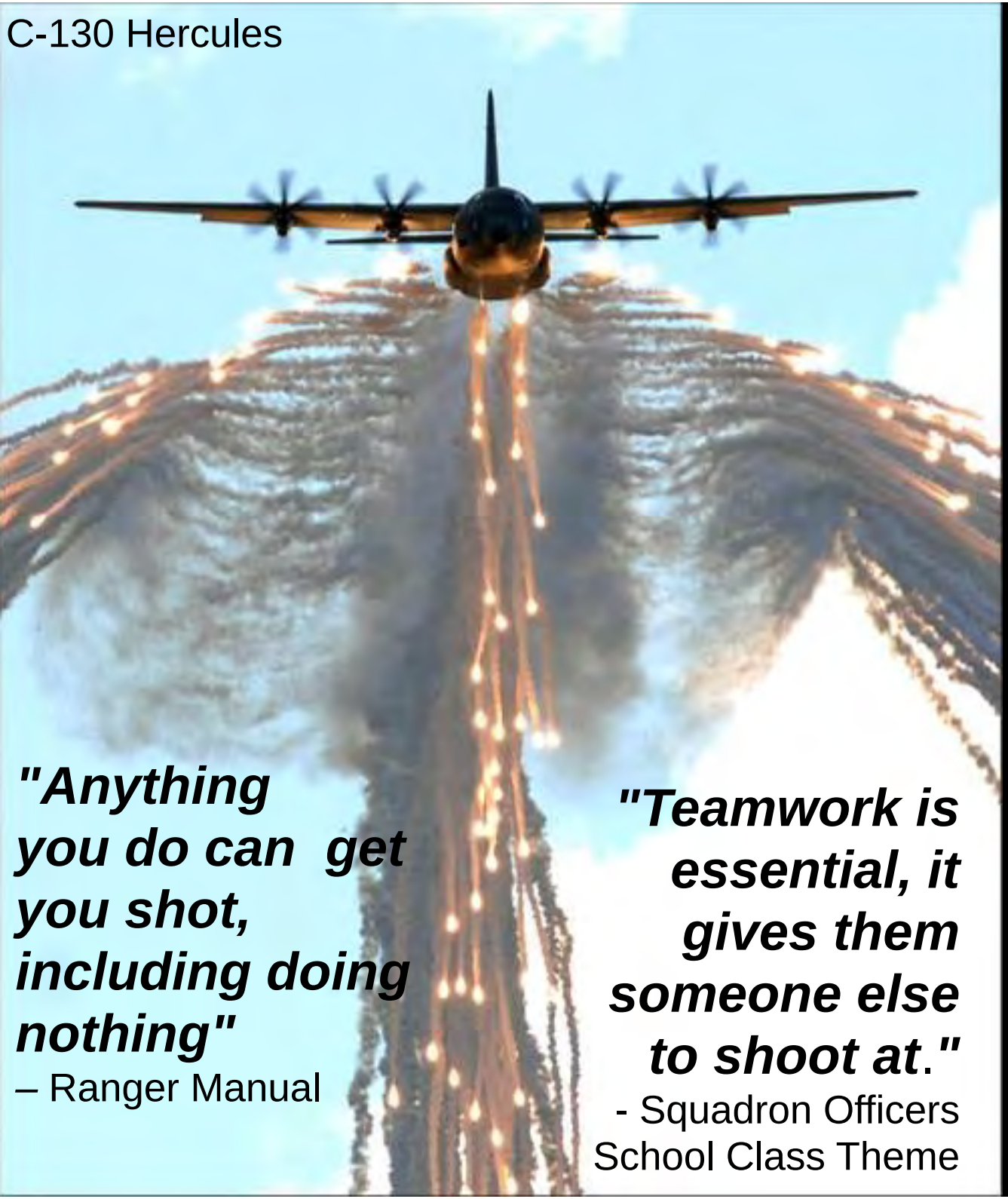
'What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; but if ATC screws up ... the pilot dies.'

- Sign over Control Tower Door

'If you see a bomb technician running, try to keep up with him.'

- Infantry Journal-

C-130 Hercules



"Anything you do can get you shot, including doing nothing"
– Ranger Manual

"Teamwork is essential, it gives them someone else to shoot at."
- Squadron Officers School Class Theme

'Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your "plight" to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it.'

- Emergency Checklist

'Cluster bombing from B-52s is very, very accurate. The bombs always hit the ground' - US Air Force

'Pilots, please taxi up close when sumping your fuel cell. You may have lower manifold pressure and shorter exhaust stacks than you realized.' **- Sign over men's urinal, Casey Jones Flying Service, Ontario OR 1968**

'The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you.'

- Attributed to Max Stanley (Northrop test pilot)

'Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword, obviously never encountered automatic weapons.' - General MacArthur

'If you hear me yell; "Eject, Eject, Eject!", the last two will be echos.'
If you stop to ask "Why?", you'll be talking to yourself, because by then you'll be the pilot.'

-Pre-flight briefing from an F-15 Pilot

' A Purple Heart just proves that were you smart enough to think of a plan, stupid enough to try it, and lucky enough to survive.'

'Just remember, if you crash because of weather, your funeral will be held on a sunny day.'

'It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed.'

- US. Air Force Manual

"An airplane is built to inherently want to fly. A helicopter is a compromised design that inherently wants to thrash itself apart.' - 939 Rescue Wing Squadron lounge sign for HC-130 and HH-60 pilots

USAF Thunderbird Demonstration Team
F-16C Fighting Falcon

The three most common military aviation expressions (or famous last words) are: *'Did you feel that?' 'What's that noise?' and 'Oh Shit!'*

Thunderbird ejection prior to crash - pilot failed to set altimeter correctly before airshow

"A good battle plan that you act on today can be better than a perfect one tomorrow." - Gen George S. Patton

"The three best things in life are: A good landing, a good orgasm, and, a good bowel movement. The night carrier landing is one of the few opportunities in life where you get to experience all three at the same time'.

- Ready room sign, USS Enterprise, 1969, Gulf of Tonkin

F-16C Fighting Falcon
Misawa Japan

Tower received a call from a crew asking, *"What time is it please?"*
Tower responded, *"Who is calling?"*
The crew replied, *"What difference does it make?"*
Tower replied *"It makes a lot of difference. If it is an American Airlines flight, it is 3 o'clock. If it is an Air Force plane, it is 1500 hours. If it is a Navy aircraft, it is 6 bells. If it is an Army aircraft, the big hand is on the 12 and the little hand is on the 3. If it is a Marine Corps aircraft, it's Thursday afternoon and 120 minutes to "Happy Hour".*

'When the pin is pulled, Mr. Grenade is not our friend.' - USMC

'If you find yourself in a fair fight, you didn't plan your mission properly.' - David Hackworth

When you're short of everything but the enemy, you're in combat.

'Never trade luck for skill.'

'Without ammunition, the Air Force is just an expensive flying club.'

Everyone wants peace – and they will fight the most terrible war to get it. - Miles Kington

'You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3.'

- Paul F. Crickmore (SR-71 test pilot)-

'There is no reason to fly through a thunderstorm in peacetime.'

- Sign over Squadron Ops Desk at Davis-Monthan AFB , AZ.

'Yea, Though I Fly Through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, I Shall Fear No Evil, for I am at 80,000 Feet and Climbing.'

- Sign over SR-71 Wing Ops

'If the wings are traveling faster than the fuselage it has to be a helicopter and therefore, unsafe.' - Fixed Wing Pilot

We are not retreating, we are advancing in another direction.

You don't win a war by dying for your country. You win a war by making the other son-of-a-bitch die for his.

- Gen George S. Patton

Make it tough enough for the enemy to get in and you won't be able to get out.

- WWII Infantry Manual

B-2 Spirit & C-130 Hercules

'When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane, you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash.'

-Multi-Engine Training Manual

As a test pilot climbs out of an experimental plane having crashed tearing off the wings and tail, crash trucks arrive. A rescuer asks bloodied pilot, *‘What happened?'* The pilot replies, *'I don't know, I just got here myself!'*

'Flexibility is the key to tactical success.
Indecision is the key to flexibility"

If an airplane is still in one piece, don't cheat on it; ride the bastard down. - Ernest K. Gann, author & aviator

"Now I know what a dog feels like watching TV."

- AF C-9 (DC-9) copilot attempting to check out in a 'glass cockpit' C-40 (Boeing 737).

'You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal.'

Lead-in Fighter Training Manual

'Mankind has a perfect record in aviation - we have never left one up there!' - Unknown Author

'Sometimes I think war is God's way of teaching us geography.' - Paul Rodriguez

Blue Angels F-18Cs fly over Liberty Island and The Statue Of Liberty

'There are more planes in the ocean than submarines in the sky.'

- Blue water Navy truism

Coffee tastes better if the latrines are dug downstream from an encampment. - US Army Field Regulations, 1861

'Incoming fire has the right of way.' – Marine adage

"No man is a leader until his appointment is ratified in the minds and hearts of his men" - Anonymous, "The Infantry Journal"

Military Secrets

The End