



Missions for
America

*Semper
vigilans!*

Semper volans!

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Squadron
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28 August, 2018

SQUADRON CALENDAR

15-16 SEP-Stewart Air Show-Newburgh, NY
22 SEP-Preston Scarecrow Festival
25 SEP-Fruit Sale Starts
29 SEP-Glider Flights-Springfield, VT
30 SEP-Glider Flights-Springfield, VT
06 OCT-Groton Fall Festival
11-12 OCT-UCC
16 OCT-SUI
11-14 OCT-CTWG/NER Conference
10 NOV-Cadet Ball
18 DEC-TRCS Holiday Party
25 DEC/01 JAN-No Meetings

CADET MEETING

28 August, 2018

The Cadets enjoyed a pool party at the home of the Drost's.



SENIOR MEETING

28 August, 2018

Maj Neilson presented a safety brief on thunderstorm avoidance.

The Squadron discussed preparedness for the upcoming logistics audit.

The Squadron voted to place an advertisement in the NER-CTWG Conference Journal.

Planning for LISP and the upcoming SAREX was considered.

CURRENT EVENTS

New Glider Altitude Record

The Perlan 2, a pressurized glider optimized for high altitude flight set a new record over Argentina's Patagonia Mountains, 62,000 feet. The glider was towed to 42,000 feet by a Grob Egrett G520 turboprop, setting another record for the highest tow ever recorded.

The research team will stay on station until September and continue to fly. The Perlan 2 is capable of reaching 90,000 feet.



Perlan and Grob



FIRST ORIENTATION FLIGHT



Jacob Giard

AVIATION CHRONOLOGY AND HISTORY

AUG 29, 1929 – The Graf Zeppelin completes a circumnavigation of the earth and lands at Lakehurst, N.J. The trip started at Lakehurst and made landings at Friedrichshafen, Tokyo, and Los Angeles. Flight time was 12 days, 12 hours, and 13 minutes and the trip, including stops took 21 days, 5 hours, and 31 minutes to cover 20,651 miles. A number of records were set including the first aerial non-stop crossing of the Pacific Ocean.



(Photo Credit: AP)

The Hearst newspaper chain paid \$200,000 for media rights (\$2.5 million today when adjusted for inflation) and sent four staffers. One of them, Lady Grace Drummond-Hay became the first women to fly around the world.

AUG 30, 1943 – A QANTAS PBY Catalina completes the longest non-stop scheduled airline flight in history, 31 hours and 51 minutes. QANTAS utilized five Catalinas, each named after a star, on this wartime service from Australia to Ceylon, 3,077 miles. The flight was known as the Double Sunrise Route because crew and passengers would observe two sunrises while airborne. So much fuel had to be carried that the payload, cargo and passengers, was limited to 1,000 pounds.



Three of the Double Sunrise Route Catalinas on the ramp at Nedlands, Western Australia.

In June of 1944, QANTAS started using the Consolidated LB-30 Liberator which could make the flight in 17 hours with 2.5 tons of cargo. The journey as known as the Kangaroo Service and was the first time QANTAS used it kangaroo hallmark.

AUG 31, 1925– A Naval Aircraft Factory PN-9 disappears while attempting to fly from San Francisco to Hawaii. It reappears 10 days later near Kauai under sail! The submarine R-4 takes the PN-9 in tow and the crew safely beach the aircraft.



PN-9 at journey's end. Note the visible wing structure on the lower starboard wing where the fabric was stripped to make a sail. The leeboard used to counteract constructed from hull floor plates is also visible. (Credit: Smithsonian)

The PN-9 had been in the air for 25 hours and covered ¾ of the distance between the mainland and Pearl Harbor when a fuel shortage forced it down at sea. The crew, headed by Commander John Rogers, Naval Aviator No. 2, stripped fabric off the lower wing and jury-rigged a mast and sails and headed west.



The PN-9 crew honored with traditional Hawaiian Leis

The incident served as one of Billy Mitchell's public charges against the Navy and War Department which led to his court martial. He claimed that the aircraft used were overloaded and “untried...primitive, good-for-nothing, big lumbering flying boats. He would say even more on September 5th when the Navy lost the dirigible, *Shenandoah*.

SEP 1, 1943 – The Civil Air Patrol is relieved of off-shore patrol duties and the Army Air Forces Antisubmarine Command is disbanded. The Navy took over coastal and Atlantic maritime patrols.

The decision was part of the long time feud between the Army and the Navy regarding which service was responsible for coastal defense, Army aviation and coast artillery batteries or Navy warships. Billy Mitchell was the Army's chief provocateur in the struggle in which he demanded complete control of all military aviation assets and an independent air force. He was out-manuevered by Rear Admiral William Moffett whose political acumen trumped Mitchell's bombast and allowed the navy to maintain an air arm. Moffett's friendship with Franklin D. Roosevelt, a Navy partisan, helped.



Retired: A Stinson 10 and a Douglas B-18 Bolo fitted for anti-submarine work.



Replacements: B-24 Liberators

The deal made was a swap. The Army transferred 77 of its Consolidated B-24 Liberators which had been equipped for anti-submarine duty for an equal number of bombers which had been assigned to the Navy.

SEP 2, 1930 – Capt. Dieudonné Costes and Maurice Bellonte landed their Breguet 19 TF Super Bidon, named *Point d'Interrogation* (Question Mark) in Valley Stream, N.Y. This marked the first east to west crossing of the North Atlantic Ocean, 3,900 miles from Paris to New York.



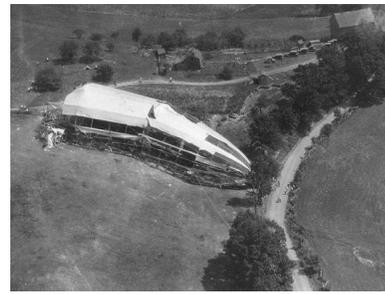
The Point d'Interrogation on display at the French National Aviation Museum, Le Bourget.

SEP 3, 1925 – The *USS Shenandoah*, Navy Airship ZR-1 suffers structural failure while crossing a line squall in Ohio. The airship was on a promotional flight during the fair season.



The Shenandoah during an experimental mooring to the USS Patoka.

The aircraft broke into pieces. Twenty-nine crewmen survived riding inflated sections of the hull to the ground. Fourteen crewmen perished, mostly those in the control car and mechanics in the engine compartments.



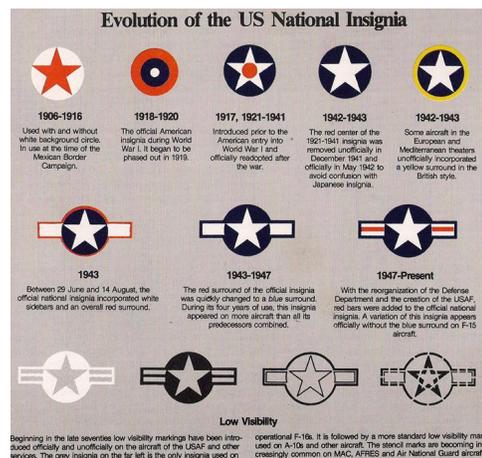
The Wreckage



Billy Mitchell seized upon the two incidents, the disappearance of the PN-9, three days earlier and the loss of the *Shenandoah*. On September 5th he issued a 6000 word statement in which he said that

such incidents were "the direct result of incompetency, criminal negligence, and almost treasonable administration of the national defense by the War and Navy Departments." A court martial was inevitable.

SEP 4, 1943 – Fearing that the insignia of a red circle in a star which was borne by US aircraft might be mistaken for the hinomaru, the red sun of the Japanese empire, a decision was made to replace it with a white star centered on a blue circle flanked by white rectangles, all encased in a blue border.



The Civil Air Patrol also eliminated the red propeller for its aircraft.



CAP Fairchild F24 at the Museum of the U.S. Air Force.

SEP 5, 2012 – President Vladimir, President of the Russian Federation, donned a white flight suit and piloted a motorized hang glider in an effort to teach young farm-raised Siberian cranes, an endangered species, how to fly in formation for their annual migration. The effort was his effort to publicize “Flight of Hope” which endeavors to increase the population of the cranes by assisting in their migration.



Putin-Ornithologist
(Photo Credit: Alexey Druzhinin)

Putin is no stranger to the cockpit. The next day, interviewed by *Izvestia*, he said that "A fighter jet [was easier to pilot]. The pilot gave me the joystick and I made a couple of maneuvers, a barrel roll, under his guidance. This [hang-glider] is a much more sensitive gear. Adrenaline rushes as soon as turbulence starts. But it is so interesting and beautiful. This is a truly pleasant feeling. I recommend anyone wishing to try it,"

Putin-Ace of the Base in the Su-27



Fighter and ultralights are not the only aircraft that Putin has piloted. Recently he took the controls of a Beriev Be-200 fire bomber and assisted dumping water on a forest fire.



A blogger who goes by the handle of *viking_nord* has said that Putin should be fined for operating a plane without a license. According to the blogger, Putin could face a fine of 2,000 or 2,500 rubles (\$66 or \$88). According to *The Coastwatcher*, the blogger could face a spell in the Gulag.