

Grad Recalls Jet Ejection

By the Associated Press
"I wasn't aware of what was happening," said 1st Lt. Robert W. Thomas, a Texan at War, whose most terrifying moments he can only vaguely recall. "I wasn't really unconscious," he said. "I just don't remember what happened."
Thomas, 24, a Texas A&M graduate from Bryan, recalled phases of the incident—ejecting from a jet—in a recent interview at Carswell Air Force Base, where he is convalescing.
The read haired bachelor pilot, who flew the F4C Phantom jets over Southeast Asia with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, tells it this way:

"We encountered a flight control problem on takeoff, so we decided to abort the mission and land. But we didn't want to land with our ordnance (weapons and ammunition).
"So we decided to jettison, and when we did, the ordnance came off and something hit the rear of the airplane and caught it on fire.
"Since it was night, we could see the sky lit up from behind us... We were at 3,000 feet.
"We started a slight climb—a gradual climb... when the aircraft commander said, 'Let's go.' I pulled the handle and out I went...
"In this case it was the fast acceleration. It cracked a vertebra... Doctors said it produced a form of shock... Fortunately we were in 'friendly territory.'
"I don't remember the helicopters picking us up. But I crawled into the helicopter, so I wasn't unconscious."
His flying mate also suffered a back injury.
Thomas received the Purple Heart as a result of the ill-fated mission, his 31st over Southeast Asia from last July until Sept. 12, the night he was injured.

Consolidated High Players Honored

Terry Logan, wingback for A&M Consolidated, was chosen All District for the 10-AA offensive team and quarterback Fred Davis and tackles Bill Price and David Alexander made the honorable mention squad.
Logan scored 68 points on 11 touchdowns and two two-point conversions to make him the number two scorer in the district. Weighing 190 pounds and with exceptional speed, he was a constant threat on the end sweep.
Logan also maintained a 42 yard kicking average, and he often pulled A&M out of dangerous situations. He was a defensive starter and played both at the end and also as defensive halfback.
Logan, Alexander and Price were chosen tri-captains for the 1966 Tigers. The coaches chose weekly captains during the season but the team elects the permanent captains.
"Twenty one varsity players will receive letters and eleven of them will be seniors," head coach Edsel Jones said.
All of the Consolidated High School football players are to be honored at the annual Tiger football Banquet on Jan. 21.

New MSC Group Seeks Talent

The Available Talent Committee, a new subcommittee of the Memorial Student Center Talent Committee, seeks talented Aggies who want to perform at public and private functions in the Bryan-College Station area.
"Our purpose is to bring together Aggie entertainers and those who want them to perform," explained Michael Curd, Available Talent Committee chairman.
"We want to encourage all those who are interested to contact us," he added, "either to get entertainment or to offer their services."
Presently, there are 25 acts signed with the subcommittee. These include singers, musicians, magicians, and a variety of other performers.
More information may be obtained at the MSC Programs Office or from Curd at 846-9815, Room 426.

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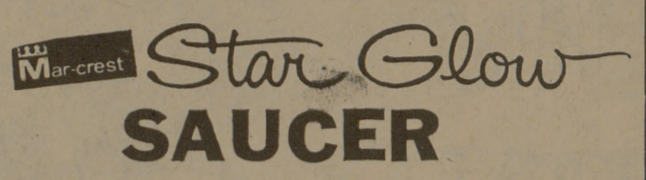
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