



GLOSSARY

- **Chair Force** is a disrespectful term for soldiers who work in drone operating rooms for the U.S. Air Force. Chair Force refers ironically to the original Air Force. The pilot herself is using this verbalism: *"You want me in the Chair Force. He tells me careful, that is not its name that I know better that that is not its name"*.
- **Cockpit** - *das Cockpit (Pilotenkanzel) "A plane with no cockpit"*
- **Cradle** (as verb) *"My gal who cradles me lifts me up"* to hold gently and protectively.
- **Crate** *"They're stored in pieces in crates"* a slatted wooden case used for transporting goods.
- **Creech Air Force Base or "Creech"** is a United States Air Force (USAF) command and control facility in Clark County, Nevada used "to engage in daily Overseas Contingency Operations...of remotely piloted aircraft systems which fly missions across the globe.
- **G-LOC** *"Hits me like G-LOC"* **G-force induced loss of consciousness** (abbreviated as **G-LOC**) is a term generally used in aerospace physiology to describe a loss of consciousness occurring from excessive and sustained g-forces draining blood away from the brain causing cerebral hypoxia.
- **Gorgon Stare** is a video capture technology developed by the United States military. It is a spherical array of nine cameras attached to an aerial drone. The US Air Force calls it "wide-area surveillance sensor system". This sensor could photograph an area with a four-kilometer radius underneath the MQ-9 Reaper.
- **"Go to the john"** a term for using the toilet
- **Hair-tosser** *"She will not be a cheerleader, a hair-tosser"* - a high-school girl who tosses her pretty hair around to get attention from boys.
- **IEDs** *"make sure no bad guys are planting any IED's"* An **improvised explosive device (IED)** is a bomb constructed and deployed in ways other than in conventional military action. IEDs are commonly used as roadside bombs.
- **"I'm back downrange"** "downrange" is used in the military to talk about a combat zone. (downrange: out of range of the launching zone) In military slang, downrange is a term for being deployed overseas, usually in a war zone.
- **"I'm pink"** (pregnancy test) pink = pregnant, blue = not pregnant
- **JAGs**, *"Analysts advisers, JAGs"* The Judge Advocate General's Corps also known as "JAG" is the legal arm of the United States Air Force
- **Jolted** *"I am jolted awake by laughter"* a surprise or shock to (someone)
- **Linger** *"linger over what we've done"* to stay in a place longer than necessary because of a reluctance to leave; spend a long time over (something).
- **Mavericks:** The AGM-65 Maverick is an air-to-ground tactical missile (AGM) designed for close air support. The Maverick missile is unable to lock onto targets on its own; it has to be given input by the pilot or Weapon Systems Officer (WSO) after which it follows the path to the target autonomously, allowing the WSO to fire and forget.

- **Minarets:** a tall tower, originally used for ventilation, now used as a vantage point for the call to prayer in Muslim countries. Usually found akin to a Mosque. It is a religious building.
- **Mound** “*A mound of dying*” a large pile or quantity of something
- **Naugahyde Barcalounger** “*I am guided to a Naugahyde Barcalounger*” **Naugahyde** is an American brand of artificial leather, A **Barcalounger** is a type of recliner chair



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- **Olympus** “*Olympus debates the fate of the lowly jeep*” is the highest mountain in Greece. Olympus is notable in Greek mythology as the home of the Greek gods.
- **Pasture** “*the f16’s are dinosaurs put out to pasture*” land covered with grass and other low plants suitable for grazing animals, especially cattle or sheep.
- **Putty** “*At a world carved out of putty*” a soft, malleable greyish-yellow paste, made from ground chalk and raw linseed oil, that hardens after a few hours and is used for sealing glass in window frames and filling holes in wood.
- **Reaper:** The MQ-9 Reaper (sometimes called Predator B) is an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) capable of remotely controlled or autonomous flight operations, developed by General Atomics Aeronautical Systems (GA-ASI) primarily for the United States Air Force (USAF)
- **RPG’s:** is a portable, reusable, unguided, shoulder-launched, anti-tank rocket-propelled grenade launcher. An easily made portable deadly weapon
- **‘runs the gauntlet’** “*Gets up from a card game and runs the gauntlet to get to me*” The phrase running the gauntlet is used to express the idea of a public but painless ritual humiliation such as the walk of shame or perp-walk.
- **Saps** “*Poor Saps*” a person who is weak or easy to destroy
- **Sidewinders:** “*I have Sidewinders, I have Mavericks, I rain them down on the minarets and concrete below me...*” The AIM-9 Sidewinder is a short-range air-to-air missile developed by the United States Navy in the 1950s. It is one of the most widely used missiles in the world
- **Side up** “*Hard to casually sidle up to a bunch of drunk air force*” 1. To move sideways: sidled through the narrow doorway.
- **Smote** “*I have smote the enemy*” (past tense of smite) archaic: to defeat or conquer
- **Squirter** “*One of them is running a squirter one is still alive*” Squirter is a favorite term in the drone operator’s language. It refers to anyone who runs—who “squirts”—from the scene of an explosion.
- **Stealthy** “*My man’s got some moves. Some stealthy ones too*” slow, deliberate, and secret in action or character
- **Strip** “*We do the Strip a few times*” The Las Vegas Strip is a street in Las Vegas known for its concentration of resort hotels and casinos.
- **Tarmac** “*make it down just in time to puke on the tarmac*” Many people in the general public and news media refer to the apron at airports as “the tarmac”
- **Throttle** “*In front of me is a toy throttle and a screen*” a device controlling the flow of fuel or power to an engine
- **Tight ball bearing** “*I ignore the tight-ball bearing in my chest*” (**Wälzlager**) a phrase to describe a tightness in the chest usually due to unsaid frustration.
- **To hurl** “*I almost hurl in my mask*” stürzen/kotzen vomit
- **Tracer Fire.** “*I’ve got shit to distract me: I’ve got Tracer Fire. I’ve got RPG’s*” (tracer bullets) are bullets or cannon caliber projectiles that are built with a small pyrotechnic charge in their base. Ignited by the burning powder, the pyrotechnic composition burns very brightly, making the projectile trajectory visible to the naked eye during daylight, and very bright during nighttime firing.
- **True corn** “*All that true corn, true cheese*” trite, banal, or mawkishly sentimental.

- **Vastness** “*You are alone in the vastness*” of very great area or extent; immense: the vast reaches of outer space.
- **Wean her off** “*We keep trying to wean her off them*” to accustom (someone) to managing without something which they have become dependent on
- **White-knuckled** - weiße Handknöchel vom übermäßigen Festklammern displaying or characterized by extreme excitement or fear; with reference to the effect caused by gripping tightly to steady oneself.
- **Wrought** “*They inspect what we hath wrought*” (of metals) beaten out or shaped by hammering; made or fashioned in the specified way.
- **“Yes Virginia there is a Santa Claus”** is a phrase from a famous editorial in the September 21, 1897, edition of *The (New York) Sun* and has since become part of popular Christmas folklore in the United States. It is the most reprinted editorial in any English-language newspaper.

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