

## Jet Jockeys Take Strange Routes on Way to Careers

Ever wondered how test pilots get to be test pilots? Some flying enthusiasts are convinced that they were born into the profession, used clouds for cradles, and teched on rivets and wing sections.

This may be so. But if Douglas Aircraft's El Segundo test pilots who fly F4D Skyraider interceptors built at the Torrance facility are any indication of a typical trend in fliers, it's anything but true.

Most of the El Segundo flight crew came into the flying profession after doing vastly different tasks, and their first jobs

### David Bittner Plays Football in Japan

Army PFC David L. Bittner, son of Victor Bittner, 23222 Felfoa Ave., Lomita, is playing football in Japan with the 1st Cavalry Division.

Private first class Bittner, who plays in his off duty hours, is a radar operator with his unit.

A graduate of Narbonne High School, he entered the Army in July 1954 and completed basic training at Fort Ord, Calif.

were anything but airborne.

**Had Mail Route**  
L. W. "Brownie" Brown, flight operation manager, was a rural mail carrier in nearby Orange, Calif.

C. G. "Doc" Livingston figures that his first job was pretty far removed from jockeying the F4D around the local skies. He earned his first money working on a sugar plantation of Lihue, Kauai, Territory of Hawaii.

**Trapped Skunks**  
Ernie Southerland smiles a bit when he thinks back to his first job in his younger days in Roanoke, Va. He trapped skunks.

Chuck Kesler bottled soft drinks in Portales, N.M., as his first money-making job.

Selling newspapers in Grants Pass, Ore., earned Quinton Burden his first money.

Jet jockeys H. C. Van Valkenburg, Drury Wood, George Bright, Hadley Dixon, and Raleigh Guynes pedaled their bikes on paper routes as their first jobs in Santa Cruz, Calif.; Atlant., Ga.; Vineland, N.J.; Oakland, Calif.; and Baton Rouge, La., respectively.

**Coached Sports**  
Dick Watts was a football and baseball coach in a boys camp in Raymond, Me.

And Pete Colapietro worked on a tobacco plantation in Granby, Conn.

Jim Stegman was a farm helper in Plains, Kans.

Bob LeSaur was one of the few in the El Segundo test crew who was interested in aviation from the beginning. He scrubbed airplanes at the Jamestown, N.Y., airport.



SKUNK TRAPPING TO TOBACCO PLANTING . . . if you think test pilots were born into the profession, you're wrong. Take the case of the Douglas El Segundo jet jockeys, shown above. Their early backgrounds were anything but airborne, as the accompanying story points out. From left, front row, the El Segundo test crew includes: Drury Wood,

H. C. Van Valkenburg, L. A. Browne, manager of flight operations; Bob LeSaur and Chuck Kesler. Standing: Hadley Dixon, Ernie Southerland, C. G. "Doc" Livingston, Jim Stegman, Raleigh Guynes, George Bright, Pete Colapietro and Dick Watts.

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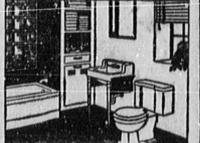


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To receive one or all three of these booklets, contact Pfc. Sgt. David Poland local Marine Recruiter at the American Legion Hall in Torrance or call HEMlock 6-2090.

Marine John P. Goad Now at Miami, Fla.

Marine Cpl. John P. Goad, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil J. Goad of 24712 Walnut St., Lomita, reported to the Marine Corps Air Station at Miami, Fla., Oct. 3, for duty with the Station's Operations and Engineering Squadron.

He reported for duty from the Radar Technician School at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego.

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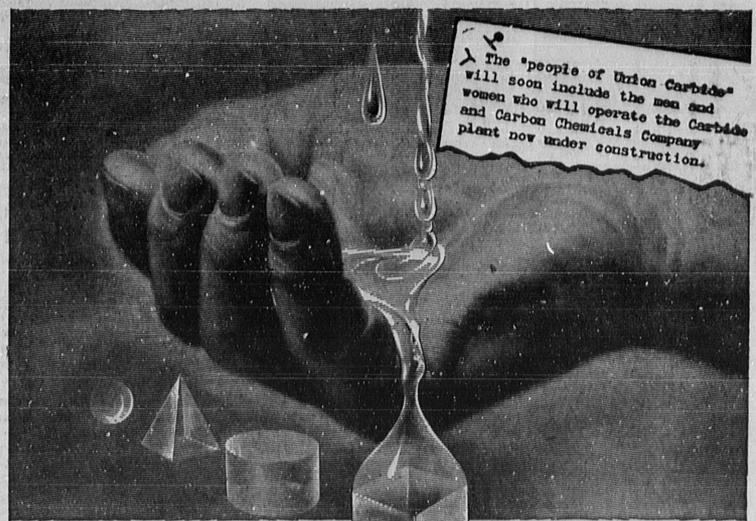
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