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Skyraider Sentinel

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Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Members!

- Lance Ackley
- Nolan Adams
- Jerome Alley
- Tal Clark
- Umesh Narayan Dev
- David Markham
- Jae Park
- Gary Vogt

This Month in Aviation History



Sikorsky S-51

August 4th, 1959...

On this date, the first medical evacuation by helicopter by a Mobile Army Surgery Hospital (MASH) team took place when a Sikorsky S-51 flew a casualty from a fire flight along Korea's Pusan Perimeter. Thirteen years later on September 17th, 1972 the TV series M*A*S*H debuted, beginning every episode with scenes of Bell 47 helicopters bringing wounded soldiers to the 4077th. The Bell 47 and the Sikorsky S-51 were the primary helicopters used for medevac operations in the Korean War.

"Travelers are always discoverers, especially those who travel by air. There are no signposts in the air to show a man has passed that way before. There are no channels marked. The flier breaks each second into new uncharted seas."

— Anne Morrow Lindbergh, 'North to the Orient,' 1935

Dual Solos

When a student solos for the first time, it's a special day for all involved. The student is typically excited and a bit nervous to be flying on his own for the first time. His instructor is typically excited and a bit nervous to have his student flying on his own for the first time. And the owner of the flight school/airplane is typically excited and a bit nervous to have a student flying his airplane on his own for the first time.

When that happens twice in one day, it's twice as exciting! While having two solos in one day is exceptionally rare, that's exactly what happened on September 4th. That morning, after demonstrating several take-offs and landings to Spencer Dake (his instructor), Walter Ashley took to the air on his own in the Gobosh 700. Later that day, Dennis Moss's student, Dan Maier repeated the feat in the same airplane.

In keeping with tradition, both solo students sacrificed their shirt tails to be displayed on the club house wall. Way to go gents!



Walter Ashley after his first solo flight

Move to Centennial

What is the third busiest general aviation airport in the country? Here's a hint... we're now operating out of it.

Centennial Airport, on the south side of Denver is the third busiest general aviation airport in the United States, and is among the top 25 busiest airports of any category when measured by number of takeoffs and landings. When the town of Erie closed its airport on September 8th, we added our Gobosh to the fray, making Centennial even busier! While the addition of one airplane ordinarily wouldn't make much of an impression on the Centennial Airport community, when that airplane is a Gobosh... people take notice. They especially take notice when that "airplane with a funny name" flies as much as ours.

After moving here it didn't take long before every controller at Centennial knew the Gobosh and began to anticipate our wishes. For example, it is fairly common now for the tower to clear us to "land long" without us even making the request, so we don't have to taxi as far to our hangar.

Other pilots are also starting to take notice. I was flying a couple days ago when the tower advised a Gulfstream business jet that "traffic ahead is a Gobosh for the parallel runway." The pilot responded that he had no idea what a Gobosh was, but he was looking forward to seeing it. I hope he got a good look as he zipped by us.

Things are starting to feel more at home now that we've been operating out of Centennial for a few weeks. We've developed a pretty good routine, and we've even had our first student solo! Mark Moore accomplished his first solo on September 28th. Mark started his training at Erie, but transitioned to the towered airport environment with no trouble at all. With just over a month remaining until Erie Municipal reopens (slated for November 4th), I'm sure we'll get even more student solos.

The Cover Shot

Every year pilots around the world eagerly await the arrival of the new Federal Aviation Regulations just to see what airplane makes the front cover. OK, that may be a stretch, but it's pretty cool when an airplane you know receives that honor. This year Jeppesen chose the Gobosh 700 to adorn the cover of its FAR/AIM book. And it's not just any Gobosh 700... it's Skyraider Aviation's Gobosh 700. Our beloved N1277K will be seen on book shelves, pilot lounges, and FBOs around the world. That's pretty cool!



N1277K on the Cover

Skyraiders around Town and Beyond

August and September were particularly busy months for air shows and events. (Maybe that's why the August newsletter got combined with the September newsletter... no time to write.) Almost any weekend, Skyraider club members and aircraft could be found at any number of events. Here are just a few places we've been:

- ◆ Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In August 22nd and 23rd
- ◆ Longmont Airport Open House - August 29th
- ◆ Spirit of Flight Center's *Spirit of Aviation Day* – August 30th
- ◆ Porsche Business Aircraft & Jet Preview – September 3rd
- ◆ Steamboat Springs' *Wild West Air Fest* – September 5th and 6th
- ◆ Colorado Good Life Expo – September 11th through the 13th
- ◆ Parkland Airport's Fly-In & Chili Cook Off – September 26th

One of the great aspects about aviation is the places you get to go. If you have a pilot's license... get out there and go somewhere! If you want to see the country, but don't have a license yet... we can fix that. To quote American author and journalist William Langewische, "How can you not fly when you live in a time in history when you can fly?"