

UAV Development Good Humor From the early History

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Abstract:

Many would attribute the beginning in the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) to the World War II drone BQ-8 bombs launched into Europe. Few would associate good humor with that weapon, of course, because of the loss in 1944 of U.S. Navy Lieutenant Joe Kennedy, who likely would have become the president of the United States rather than his brother had he survived the war, and the rest of his crew, whose modified B-24 blew up on one of those missions before the crew had bailed out over England with the aircraft flying towards its target as was the plan. But the early history of the development and use of these vehicles produced many incidents of good humor from the perspective of forty or fifty years later. This presentation was prepared for delivery at the 2010 INCOSE San Diego Chapter annual mini conference with an unmanned vehicles theme to provide some humor mixed with history in what was thought might otherwise be a dull day of engineering details."

Author Bio:

Mr. Grady is President of JOG System Engineering, Inc., a System Engineering Assessment, Consulting, and Education Firm.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

U.S. Marines

1964 – 1965 General Precision, Librascope Division

Customer Training Instructor, SUBROC and ASROC ASW Systems

1965 – 1982 Teledyne Ryan Aeronautical

Field Engineer, AQM-34 Series Special Purpose Aircraft

Project Engineer and System Engineer, Unmanned Aircraft Systems

1982 – 1984 General Dynamics, Convair Division

System Engineer, Cruise Missile, Advanced Cruise Missile

1984 – 1993 General Dynamics, Space Systems Division

Engineering Manager, Systems Development Department

FORMAL EDUCATION

SDSU BA Math; UCSD System Engineering Certificate;

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