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THE SAGA OF EASY CUSHION

NARRATOR SETS THE SCENE

SCENE I

SKIPPER'S OFFICE AT SQUADRON —

CO : SAY LISTEN XO, ADMIRAL HOT DOG JUST CALLED AND HE'S GOT A TOP PRIORITY PROJECT FOR US - HE WANTS US TO TAKE THE DINGHY OFF HIS BARGE AND TRANSPORT IT UP TO JACKSONVILLE FOR REMAINS. HE ALSO WANTS TO HAVE US PICK UP A SPECIAL WIG FOR HIM SO WHEN HE GOES OFF BASE HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SUCH A SHORT-HAIRED DODO. NOW THE QUESTION IS - WHO CAN DO IT?

XO : WELL SKIPPER, IT SEEMS LIKE WE HAVE A SERIES OF PROBLEMS HERE - SO LET'S BREAK THEM DOWN INTO WORKABLE UNITS. FIRST, DO WE HAVE ANYBODY WHO KNOWS HOW TO GET TO JAX? SECOND, DO WE HAVE A PLANE THAT KNOWS HOW TO GET TO JAX - - - ACTUALLY, DO WE HAVE A PLANE THAT FLIES? WHERE ARE WE GOING TO PUT THE BOAT? IS THIS MISSION, IN FACT, A GOOD IDEA? WHAT WITH THE ENERGY CRISES AND ALL? DO

WE HAVE A VIABLE SOLUTION? THESE ARE THE QUESTIONS WE MUST ADDRESS AND IT BEHOVES US TO DWELL UPON EACH ALTERNATIVE.

CO: SAY XO I'VE GOT IT - OUR ACE IN THE HOLE - YOUR NATOPS OFFICER AND MINE - EASY CUSHION! - AND HIS CREAKY P-2!

XO: YES SIR, BUT THE PROBLEM WILL BE, AS I SEE IT, CAN WE BREAK HIM AWAY? JUST THE OTHER DAY, I WENT IN HIS OFFICE, WOKE HIM UP AND TOLD HIM HE'D BE LEAVING VC-8 IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS SO HE'D BETTER START CHECKING SOMEONE OUT IN HIS JOB YESTERDAY WHILE HE WAS BRIEFING HIS RELIEF, HE TRIPPED OVER ONE OF THE PETRIFIED COBWEBS GROWING DOWN FROM HIS NATOPS CURRENCY BOARD + HE KNOCKED HIS BACK OUT OF JOINT - NOW THAT LEAVES US WITH FIVE VIABLE ALTERNATIVES AS I SEE IT - - - FIRST - -

CO: (BREAKING IN) OK, OK STEVIE - ENOUGH OF THOSE FRIGGIN' VIABLE ALTERNATIVES - LET'S GO DOWN TO THE HOSPITAL

SCENE II

HOSPITAL ROOM

EASY: (GROANING) DOC! I NEED  
ANOTHER SHOT FOR THE PAIN

DOC: OK, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO  
ASK YOU NOT TO CHASE IT DOWN  
WITH A QUANT OF SCOTCH THIS  
TIME.

ENTER THE XO AND CO

CO: EASY - WE HAVE A JOB ONLY  
YOU CAN HANDLE - CAN EASY  
BE RELEASED DOC?

DOC: I'M AFRAID THERE'S NO WAY

EASY: YEAH, YEAH - THERE'S NO WAY

CO: WELL, EASY, IT INVOLVES A TRIP  
TO JAX FOR THE FLYING SHIRTTAILS

EASY: (LEAPING FROM BED) I'LL PACK  
MY BOT -- BAG AND I'LL SEE  
YOU AT THE A/C IN 1/2 AN HOUR

DOC: TAKE IT EASY, EASY - REMEMBER  
YOUR BACK - I CAN'T GIVE YOU  
AN UP CHIT

EASY TAKES OUT BLACK BOOK +  
TAKES DOC ASIDE . . .

DOC: WELL, SKIPPER, I THINK EASY  
CAN HACK ONE MORE TRIP TO  
JAX - BY THE WAY NURSE  
YOU WANT TO CANCEL THE REST  
OF MY APPOINTMENTS THIS  
WEEK

CO: JUST ONE WORD OF CAUTION  
EASY - THE ONLY R2 WE  
HAVE IS # 8 AND IT NEEDS  
A TEST - SO I GUESS IT'LL  
BE A TEST AND GO - DON'T  
PUSH IT THROUGH IF IT'S NOT  
AT LEAST . . . 40%!

EASY: (GRINNING) EASY, MAN, EASY  
XD:

NARRATOR SETS SCENE

SCENE III - AT AIRCRAFT + CLIMBING  
IN

DANDY DAN: WELL EASY GETS CLIMB IN -  
THEY JUST FINISHED GLUING THE  
STBD JET BACK ON THE WING  
WITH ELMER'S EPOXY + THE HAD  
TO SAW OFF THREE FEET ON

EACH WING TO ROLL IT OUT THE HANGAR SINCE THEY COULDN'T GET THE HANGAR DOORS ALL THE WAY OPEN - OTHER THAN THAT - SHE'S READY.

THEY CLIMB IN COCKPIT AND GET SET UP —

NARRATOR - AND SOON THEY ARE AIRBORNE ON A TYPICAL P-2 TEST AND GO HALFWAY BETWEEN ROOSEY AND GRAND TURK

DANDY DAN: HEY EASY - TRY TO KEEP AWAKE - WE'RE ALMOST FINISHED WITH THE CHECK.

EASY: OK, OK WHAT'S NEXT ON THE CARD?

DAN: FEATHER #2 ENGINE

EASY: START THE STBD JET AND GIVE ME 80% PROOF

SHEP: DAAA - IT LOOKS LIKE #2 SHUTDOWN AND IT WON'T RESTART

EASY: LET ME CHECK MY ENROUTE SINGLE ENGINE PROCEDURES (HE BREAKS OUT A PLAYBOY)

EASY: IT SAYS LOOK AT THIS  
WHEN YOUR FINE GOES OUT

CLICKERS

EASY: OK CREW - WE HAVE  
A LITTLE PROBLEM - IT'S GOING  
TO TAKE A COUPLE EXTRA HOURS  
TO GET TO JAX SINGLE ENGINE  
LET'S TAKE A VOTE - KEY  
YOUR MIKES ONCE FOR JAX AND  
TWICE FOR HOMESTEAD

DAN & SHED: HOW ABOUT THREE TIMES  
FOR ROOSY

EASY: OK

EVERYONE CLICKS THREE  
TIMES

EASY: ALL RIGHT, IT'S SETTLED WE GO  
TO HOMESTEAD - DANDY GIVE ME  
THE CHARTS

DAN: WHAT CHARTS - I THOUGHT YOU  
HAD THEM

EASY: (EXPLETIVES) WELL, WE'LL HAVE  
TO GO TO JAX - IT'S THE ONLY  
WAY I KNOW

DAN: HEY EASY I SMELL HYD  
FLUID

BREAKFAST

EASY: SHEP DID WE BRING ANY  
EXTRA FLUID

SHEP: DAAA - NO SWEAT MRC. CUSHION,  
GOT A WHOLE CASE OF THIS IN THE  
BACK (WAVES A CAN OF PBR)  
— PAUSE — AND IF WE  
RUN OUT OF THAT WE CAN  
ALWAYS USE THE HONEY IN  
THE HONEY BUCKET

DAN: SHEP CAN YOU SEE WHERE  
THE LEAK'S COMING FROM

SHEP: RIGHT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S  
FROM THE NOSE - WHY DON'T  
YA CYCLE THE GEAR

DAN: HOW ABOUT THEM APPLES -  
THE STBD MAIN IS STUCK  
DOWN - I GUESS WE'LL HAVE  
TO GO BACK TO ROOSY

EASY: HELL NO - WE CAN STILL  
MAKE JAX - WE'LL LIGHTEN  
THE A/C - THROW OUT THE  
EMPTYES BOAT

NARRATOR: 12 GRUELING HOURS  
LATER THEY PREPARE FOR LANDING  
AT JAX

(8)

DAN - HEY EASY - THIS RADIO DOESN'T  
WORK I CAN'T CONTACT THE TWR

EASY: OK I'LL MAKE THE LANDING  
- GIVE ME MY NORMAL BACKUP  
(DAN + SHEP HELP HOLD EASY UP)

DAN: HEY EASY THE STD PROP IS  
DIGGING INTO THE RUNWAY

SHEP: MR. CUSHION! THE PORT PROP  
IS DIGGING INTO THE RUNWAY

EASY: I THINK OUR NOSE GEAR  
COLLAPSED - WE'LL HAVE TO  
RIDE IT OUT - DAN TAKE  
THE CONTROLS AND AIM FOR THE  
ARRESTING GEAR, GRIND THE  
NOSE GEAR DOWN TO 3 FEET  
+ THE CHAIN SHOULD STOP US  
RIGHT AROUND THE FIFTH LINK  
IN - <sup>MEANWHILE</sup> I'M GOING TO CARRY  
OUT THE PLAN OF THE DAY  
(CROSSES ARMS IN FRONT OF  
FACE)

A MOMENTS LATER IN THE COCKPIT  
DAN GRABS THE SHAKING EASY &  
SLAPS HIM ACROSS THE FACE

EASY: THANKS! I NEEDED THAT!

NARRATOR - SOME TIME LATER EASY'S  
BACK IN TRACTION IN HOSP  
AND ADMIRAL HOT T06 COMES TO



## SCENE IV

PRESENT HIS AWARD

ADMIRAL: EASY - IT GIVES ME GREAT PERSONAL PRIDE AND PLEASURE IN PRESENTING THIS MEDAL OF VALOR TO YOU FOR ACTIONS FAR ABOVE THE CALL OF DUTY. DESPITE THE HEAVY WORKLOAD OF COMMITMENTS POURING INTO YOUR 'IN' BOX EVERY DAY YOU HAVE CHOSEN VOLUNTARILY TO MAKE FREQUENT AND SUCCESSFUL TRIPS TIME AND TIME AGAIN TO THAT HARSHID OUTPOST OF JACKSONVILLE, FLA. ON THIS LAST OCCASION, AFTER HAVING SWEEP YOUR DESK CLEAN OF ALL PAPERWORK YOU CHARGED TO THE FORE, TOOK OFF DESPITE YOUR DEPLOYABLE PHYSICAL CONDITION, PERSISTED AGAINST GREAT ODDS IN CONTINUING YOUR FLIGHT, PROVED THAT R2'S CAN MAKE TWO WHEEL LANDINGS WITH PROPER PLANNING AND HANDLING AND FINALLY THROUGH YOUR EFFORTS ROOSY RDS HAS A GOOD SOURCE FOR RED MEAT

WELL DONE

## Props

- HARNESS
- CIGARETTE HOLDER
- FLOAT CIRCLE
- PLAYBOY
- FLIGHT SUIT
- TAPER GOWN
- RED HAT VC-8