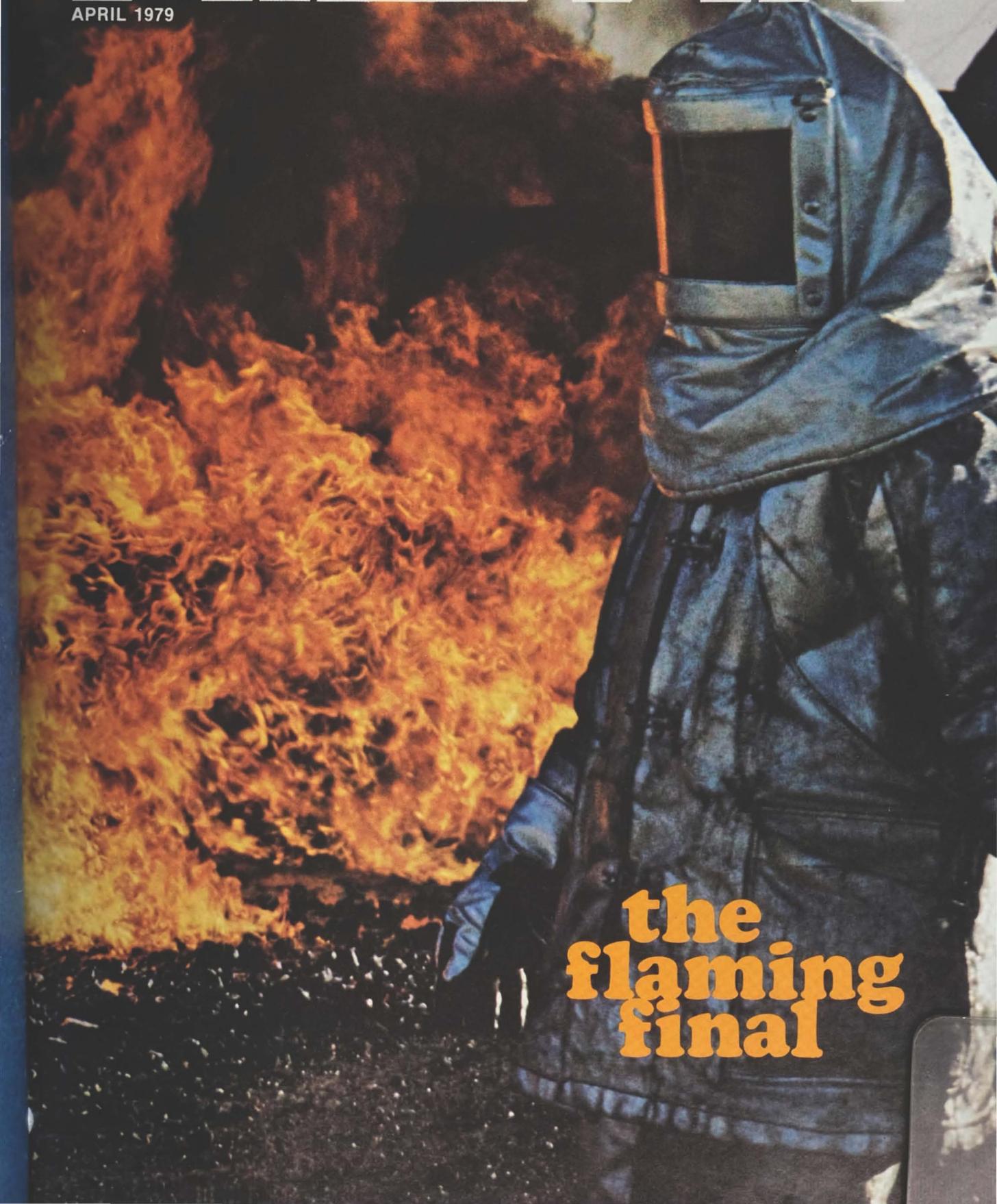


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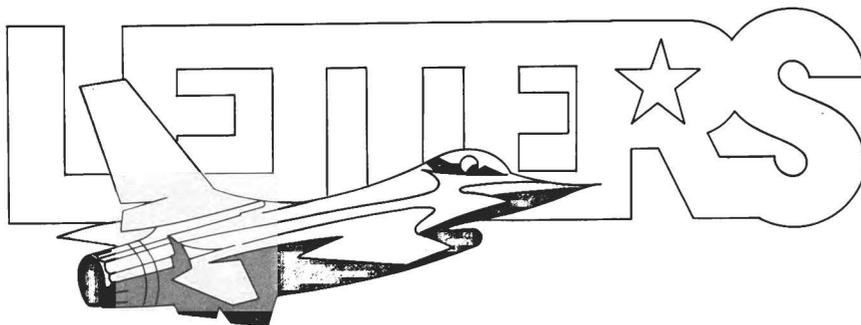
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# AIRMAN

APRIL 1979



**the  
flaming  
final**



### POWERED FLIGHT SPECIAL

Having read and enjoyed every article in AIRMAN's special issue commemorating the 75th anniversary of powered flight (December 1978), I am moved to offer my sincere and profound congratulations for having put together an issue worthy of a place in any library.

I wish every opinion-influencing American would read and absorb all the historical facts presented in the articles. It would be especially great if all congressmen and educators would read this issue completely.

Brig. Gen. John C. Gordon,  
USAF (Ret.)  
San Antonio, Texas

### PROJECT UFO

After reading your article "Project UFO" (January 1979), I was impressed that Maj. Ron Gruchy of the Air Force Office of Information in Los Angeles was there to see that Air Force (dress and grooming) standards were met.

I am fascinated by the subject of UFOs and in reading the AIRMAN article I learned many things I would never have known.

Thank you for keeping us informed.  
A1C Janis G. Marks  
Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

In "Project UFO" actor Caskey Swaim is quoted as saying his military experience in the Army helped him in his role, "especially in the situations where NCO awkwardness is expected."

Is he referring to peculiar situations where NCOs are expected to be awkward, or the idea that they possess an awkwardness attributable only to NCOs? In either case, he stereotypes NCOs just as Hollywood does all the time.

AIRMAN could just as well have left that part of the article on the cutting room floor.

MSgt. John S. Allen  
FPO New York

In reference to your January 1979 cover caption (contents page), "On the TV sound stage with Project UFO," I'm sorry, but you have the wrong UFO, wrong series, and wrong network.

MSgt. Douglas K. Howard  
Ellsworth AFB, S.D.

• True, our January cover had nothing to do with the TV series, "Project UFO," but was merely intended to get across the concept of the unidentified flying object. And you're right; it was not filmed on the series set, but elsewhere. Please keep in mind, however, that the article is not about "Project UFO," the TV series, or UFOs, but about how the Air Force supports moviemakers with technical advice during scripting or filming or both.

### BAND ON THE RUN

I have just read your article "Band on the Run" (January 1979). It is very well done and the band richly deserves those accolades.

During my career in the Air Force, bandspeople lifted the morale of my troops—and my morale as well—all over the world. The reaction to the band by citizens of various countries was always tremendous.

The U.S. Air Force Band is a tremendously important part of our great Air Force. Well done.

Lt. Gen. E. B. LeBailly,  
USAF (Ret.)  
Whidbey Island, Wash.

### NO QUESTION MARK

Having recently received my December 1978 issue of AIRMAN, I want to thank you for publishing Maj. Jay B. Welsh's article "Never a Question Mark."

On January 6, 1979 General Spaatz's hometown, Boyertown, Pa., held a Question Mark 50th anniversary celebration. Unfortunately, neither General Quesada nor I could attend,

but Mrs. Spaatz and her youngest daughter were there. A museum in General Spaatz's honor is being established in Boyertown and AIRMAN's Question Mark article will be properly displayed.

Several times in the past I have written to your magazine, and to the Chief of Staff (of the Air Force) expressing admiration for your effort and stating that AIRMAN, in my opinion, is the best service magazine published anywhere.

Keep up the good work because this is a very critical time for our Air Force and your voice can be material to the eventual decisions our commander-in-chief, our congress, and our people make.

Lt. Gen. Ira C. Eaker,  
USAF (Ret.)  
Washington, D.C.

### GIANT THRUST

I was very impressed with the overall quality of the January (1979) issue. A quick glance whetted my appetite even more when I noted the article, "With a Giant Thrust."

As a proud former member of the 43rd Munitions Maintenance Squadron, however, I take exception to the omission of any mention of the efforts put forth by the many 461X0s who worked day and night in the bomb dump to provide all the iron bombs that made this operation go so smoothly.

While I realize that not every contributor to an operation of this size can be recognized, you should remember that without "ammo" the Air Force and SAC would lack any real punch.

TSgt. Raymond L. Martinez  
Nellis AFB, Nev.

### INSURANCE REFUNDS

Your "Air Force Report" item (January 1979) on how to reap the benefit of a German automobile insurance rebate was helpful.

However, you could have gone a step further by advising service members to contact the Non-Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA), which has acted as a focal point for members filing for such returns.

NCOA membership is not required to apply for the rebate. Contact the association at 10635 IH35 North, San Antonio, Texas 78233.

CMSgt. Paul G. Mussolino  
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio