

A LESSON I'LL NEVER FORGET

The job came in one of those green folders which meant it had been run before as a "PFP" or "Proven For Production" job and thus was 100% guaranteed proven to work smoothly and perfectly and I loaded the "proven for production" program into my machine's computer memory and loaded a 12" x 7" slab of aluminum into the vise and turned up the feed dial to 100% just like the "proven for production" job-instruction sheet said to do and punched the Cycle Start button on the Computer Controls box and watched the cutter rip into the slab of aluminum which hung in the air between the vise jaws and began to tremble as the cutter began to scream and I watched full of "proven for production" confidence until the slab shook and popped loose from the vise jaws and was grabbed and spun by the cutter faster and faster until it approached 1000 rpm until I finally staggered to the control box to slam the edge of my fist into that huge red "EMERGENCY STOP" button just in time to keep the cutter from hurling the aluminum slab like a razor-sharp discus at 100 mph and maybe cutting me in half.

At Goodstone Aircraft Company
naivete
can be deadly.

ADVANTAGE

The medication the graveyard shift machinist took left him unperturbed and cool as a cucumber no matter what the supervisors or the manager said to him no matter how loudly or abusively they insulted or threatened him no matter what impossibly difficult jobs they gave him and no matter how soon they wanted the jobs done no matter how angry other machinists got at the terribly inept and dangerous setups he left them on their machines no matter how much they screamed and threw clamps and bolts and stools around. It always kept him absolutely unruffled and indifferent.

That medication may have kept him from having a nervous breakdown but it was about to give one to everyone he worked with.