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## **For: Contributors and Collaborators**

### **Book Project Proposal & Outline**

Note: This is a fluid project. Certain aspects of the following are subject to change according to input over time. Your suggestions and comments are invited. (For contributors, please submit your files as .docx and/or .jpg formats to the above email address.)

#### **The Project:**



#### **“Evolution”**

#### ***The Story of the U.S. Army Parachute Team Through the Years***

#### **Conception and Purpose:**

No substantive or comprehensive mass market title has been published regarding the U.S. Army Parachute Team since 1990. Certainly, no *current* work is available to either the past/present Team members or the general public. The book’s target publication date is mid-2023 or sooner if possible. The initial research period is envisioned to take place during first half of 2022 with production beginning thereafter.

The book’s primary intended audience is the members of the Golden Knights Alumni Association and their families and friends. When published, it will be provided to the GKAA at cost with no profit mark-up. When published, if the GKAA approves, it may

then use the book for any purpose that suits its needs. When available, the book may be sold at any price that the Association sets over cost. As I publish print-on-demand books, the books do not need to be stocked and will be supplied as needed.

The book's primary focus will be to illustrate and tell the story, to the degree possible, of the evolution of the U.S. Army Parachute Team across the years in an organized and literary fashion. My chief aim is *not* to write a purely historical account of that progression, rather to bring the story of the Team to life for the reader as it has grown and performed from its inception to today.

This project is undertaken independently, exclusive of any authorization or approval of The Department of the Army, The Department of Defense or The Golden Knights Alumni Association. It will be sourced from both public and private information and permissions will be sought where necessary.

### **Book Description & Outline**

#### The Mechanicals

Envisioned is a hardcover book of the coffee-table style; it is projected to be 8.5" X 11" in size, with an initial estimated content of approximately 300 pages in a black-and-white interior format with a full-color cover. (A color interior may be considered.) The current cover design will be the full color U.S.A.P.T. Golden Knight insignia set against a solid black matte background with the title information in gold letters.

### **Book Contents Pre-Build**

Note: (A) = Indicates article or feature – these may include personal stories regarding training, road, show, demonstration or competition incidents and other informative features.

#### Proposed Content:

- Title page
- Copyright page
- Credits page(s)
- Foreword
- Introduction
  
- (A) *The Current USAPT Mission and Purpose*
- Explanation of Today's Teams and Their Individual Roles and Missions: Demonstration, Competition & Tandem, Aviation & Headquarters

### ***"The Beginning"***

## 1959-1960

- (A) The Origins and Initial Mission – Strategic Army Corps Parachute Team and Brigadier General Joseph Stilwell, Jr.
- First Team(s) & Photos
- (A) *Anecdotal Features – Key Figures*
- (A) *Personality Profiles of the First Team*
- USAPT Official Unit Designation and Formal Organization Orders

### ***“The Evolution”***

*Note: All year-to-year Team Rosters as noted may be grouped in one strategic section.*

## 1960 – 1970

- (A) *Becoming a GK, Then and Now*
- Year-to-Year Team Rosters and group photos if available
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features
- (A) *The Viet Nam Effect*

## 1970-1980

- Year-to-Year Rosters and group photos if available
- (A) *Women as GKs*
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features
- (A) *The Typical Golden Knight – Then and Now*

## 1980 – 1990

- Year-to-Year Rosters and group photos if available
- (A) *A Week in the Life of a Golden Knight*
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features
- (A) *Life on the Road*
- (A) *Behind the Public Face of the Team – Preparations Prior to Demonstrations or Competition.*

## 1990 – 2000

- Year-to-Year Rosters and group photos if available
- (A) *The Parachuting Equipment and Uniforms of the Team Through the Years*
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features
- (A) *The Aircraft and Flight Crews Through the Years*
- (A) *The Gulf War Effect*

## 2000 – 2010

- Year-to-Year Rosters and group photos if available
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features
- (A) *9/11 and the Team*
- (A) *The Iraq/Afghanistan Effect*

## **2010 – Present Day**

- Year-to-Year Rosters and group photos if available
- Notable Events and Anecdotal Features

### **Special Sections and Features Under Consideration**

- U.S.A.P.T Selection – The Road to Knighthood
- Practice and Training
- World and National Records
- The Knights and International Diplomacy
- Interaction with Other Military Demonstration Teams Around the World
- Most Notable Demonstrations
- Awards and Commendations
- Select Biographies
- GKs Killed In Action in both Operational or Hostile Actions
- Rituals, Challenge Coins, Etcetera
- The Golden Knights Alumni Association Role
- The Honorary Golden Knights and their Contributions

Note: Multiple endpapers will be reserved as “Notes” and “Signature/Autograph” pages.

-End-

To Collaborators and Contributors,

*Please insure that any photos you forward are accompanied by complete captions regarding subjects and location. Also, please rough out your stories and episodes in writing then forward them to me by email (see top of page for address). Once I receive them, prior to their use, I will interview you by phone or video call to edit and/or rewrite them. Please do not call me just to tell me a story. I work best from something already in writing.*

This project’s successful conclusion will not be possible without you. I would like to express to you, in advance, my heartfelt appreciation for your time and interest.

Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email with your questions, concerns or suggestions. Thank you!

Mike Marcon

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