

## Who Was "Airman Puppybreath"?

by Roger Wyatt

Upon arrival at Incirlik AFB (Adana, Turkey) for TDY duty in 1962, A2C John Hutchinson discovered that he had forgotten to pack his "fatigue" uniform and had only the civilian clothes he had worn for travel.

A quick trip to the local base exchange (BX) provided a shirt, pants, and stripes for Hutch to wear on duty. As he left the BX, he purchased a black marker pen so his name could be printed on the blank white strip above the left pocket of his new fatigue shirt.

After some comments about the strange names one can encounter in the military, Hutch carefully printed the name "Puppybreath" on his new shirt.

The whole GEEIA team from Torrejon would break into suppressed laughter whenever the NCOs or officers from Incirlik would refer to Hutch as "Airman Puppybreath." Not once did anyone question his unusual name!

John Hutchinson provided a lot of comical moments and sing-along guitar music for the enjoyment of his appreciative 2872<sup>nd</sup> GEEIA teammates.

Our TDY assignment at Incirlik AFB lasted 30 days and Hutch wore that shirt with "Puppybreath" the whole time we were there. The day I left, Hutch drove me to the flight line, and he was still wearing the shirt. However, I never saw it again once we returned to home base at Torrejon. He must have removed the label when he returned from the TDY trip.