

# **POTOMAC AIRFIELD NEWS**

10300 Glen Way \* Fort Washington \* MD \* 20744

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

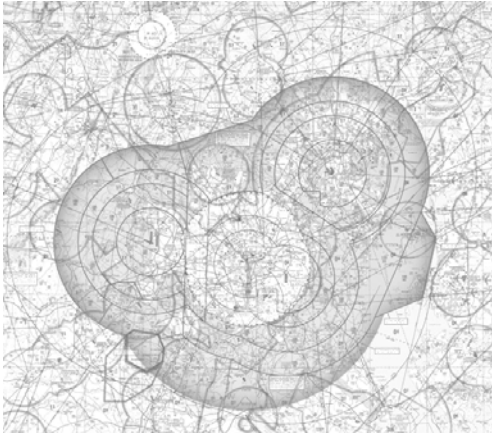


## **AN INVITATION TO MY WORLD...**

[www.POTOMAC-AIRFIELD.com](http://www.POTOMAC-AIRFIELD.com)

*Combining Solzhenitsyn and The Far Side with National Security Policy*

### **IS IT AN ADIZ, OR SOMETHING ELSE?**



If you look carefully at the Washington DC airspace, and tilt your head just slightly to the left, the airspace boundary looks like Mickey Mouse. I don't know if this is really significant, but it *does* suggest a whole new way to make airspace easily recognizable by pilots.

### **CLASSIFIED?**

It appears that TSA may have 'classified' my comments on their rules. Pretty cool!

Of course, as the originator of the document, I remain at discretion to un-classify all or portions of it.

My comments don't really cross any lines, but they *do* express some interesting observations:

For example, "*It is interesting to note that according to the implications of this rule,*

*had TSA applied ground-based security at the public-use airports in Hawaii, that somehow these measures could have prevented the attack on Pearl Harbor."*

Why not make that public? *Why indeed...*

Being a diligent fellow, I also sent copies of my comments to appropriate White House offices. In their reply, they make clear that there is no actionable item until TSA *applies* its rules; merely *implying* the *possibility* of government jurisdiction or action imposes no consequences.

Fact in point, there are lots of strange rules on the books. In Boston, years ago, as I recall, it was "Illegal to serve peanuts in a Boston movie theater." *Rules have no consequences, until someone tries to apply them without judgment.*

*Then the fun really begins...*

Which brings me to my next point...

### **I, ROBOT**

(You'll see, this *does* all connect). By a show of hands, how many of you have seen the movie, "*I, Robot?*" For those of you who haven't, I'll briefly summarize:

Sometime in the near future, human society has developed human-like robots to serve their every need. These robots are constrained by built-in safety rules.

The newest robots, the "NS-5" models, all communicate with one central computer. This one central computer also runs all the other remaining mundane tasks like power, utilities, traffic lights, etc.

Eventually, the central computer becomes self-aware. It then decides, from the logical extension of its programming, that the best way to serve humanity is to eliminate all risk, *so it takes over everything, in the interest of safety.*

The creator of the robots, being no dummy, anticipated this logical conclusion, and so created *one* special NS-5, named 'Sonny.'

Sonny is given free will and the ability to dream, so that Sonny will not be bound by the other robots' constraints.

I don't want to spoil the movie, but it is Sonny's imagination that allows him to understand the problem, and his free will that makes him uniquely able to protect humanity, this being the unique combination necessary to destroy the central computer, should it all get out of hand. *Which, of course, it does.*

A clever set of checks and balances, eh?

Sonny serves another critical function. The battle with the central computer is won, and at the end of the story, all the NS-5 robots are being collected in a valley; ordered into line for their destruction. They are being blamed by those who made them, for the foreseeable mistakes of their creators.

The movie scene then cuts to Sonny walking slowly over a nearby hill. The thousands of NS-5s filling the valley, about to be destroyed, all look up at Sonny coming over the hill.

By observing Sonny's simple act of free will, in one bold stroke all the NS5s suddenly realize that they too are free, *because they always were.*

Think about it. It's a *great* story.

---

**TO MY MANY FRIENDS WORKING IN GOVERNMENT, SEEKING TO FIND PURPOSE IN YOUR OTHERWISE DULL, MISERABLE LIVES** AS A FEW OF YOU MAY RECALL, a few hundred years ago, some clever folks got together to form our democratic form of government, to protect the freedom of our citizens from tyranny and oppression.

Now, where does tyranny and oppression come from? *New Jersey? Sheboygan?*

Well, maybe *certain parts* of New Jersey.

No, tyranny and oppression come from the sum of government intrusion into the daily lives of its citizens.

Other than obvious dictatorships, oppression occurs incrementally, when government agencies place their *own* interests *before* the public interests they were created to serve. Convenient self-interest encourages government agencies to incrementally expand their role in the endless pursuit of doing ever MORE of whatever they happen to do.

EVERY bureaucracy faces the internal challenge to not lose sight that it is *supposed* to serve the public interest *before* serving itself. This happens because these organizations are made of nothing more, nor less, than imperfect people having imperfect self-interests. No any evil plot, (generally speaking), merely the nature of human behavior reflected in groups.

The Russian revolution (the *prior* one) started out as a political contest with the best of intentions, but quickly resulted in the creation of many 'suffocating bureaucracies;\*' which incrementally and inevitably kept adding more rules and processes into every aspect of daily life. This 'bureaucratic creep' brought the

Soviet Union's 'economy' to a grinding standstill, quickly making the Soviet government more interested in protecting itself *from* its citizens, and from outside antagonists, than serving any public good. That, of course, led to its inevitable exhaustion and collapse.

Okay, shift gears a bit (If I haven't already confused you. You might want to take an aspirin). My next point is that Al Qaeda measures their success by how much damage we do to our own economy, in response to their own 'low-cost' efforts.

You can find this in public documents.

Their objective is not to destroy us, but to compel us to destroy ourselves.

Get it? The more we undermine ourselves, our own economy and our own freedom, the more we dance to Al Qaeda's fiddle.

(Okay, take a breath, and maybe another aspirin. One more conceptual leap, and then you can rest).

This means that anyone working in ANY branch of government can be part of the fight. You can be a hero by simply becoming part of the balance within your organization, a voice of reason, restraining your agency's natural inclinations to forever seek to do forever MORE.

By being a *vocal* voice of reason, even if only bringing decisions into open conflict, you will cause better solutions to be found. You can protect our Founders' brilliant original *CONSTITUTIONAL* objective: *Limiting the natural and incremental inclination for unwarranted government interference into peoples' daily lives.*

Or, you can keep your common-sense to yourself, (we've all got *SOME*), rock no boats, passively drift along saying nothing, allowing whatever bureaucratic behemoth you happen to be tied to, blindly and forever pursue doing MORE, *and thereby serve as yet another of Al Qaeda's fools.*

*The choice is yours to make.*

Once you recognize that anyone can be a hero, you then only need to find within yourself the confidence to act upon that knowledge. It won't hurt, promise.

*Which brings me to my next point...*

**!! CHEAP FUEL !!**

Huh? What? Having a little trouble following my babbling brook of consciousness? Well, we *DO* own an airport after all! Our club price is

**100LL \$2.54 /gal**

Since folks downtown have *finally* realized that access to protected airspace is based on determining FRIEND or FOE, *NOT* on one's willingness or ability to accurately read regulatory tea leaves, you can now *officially* apply for what is essentially a security clearance for airspace access.

You enter our little maze in order to get to the 'Cheese,' through which the Forces of Darkness get to know you (*'Get to the Cheese' Get it? HA HA HA!*).

Come join the fun; *and, while you're at it, enjoy the additional benefit of the lowest cost avgas possible anywhere.*

If you are smarter than most, you'll also quickly realize that you might as well *base* at Potomac, since it's also the nicest, most civilized, little 'ol General Aviation airfield around, a fixed-point of common sense, located in a sea of chaos, populated by the most interesting set of folks imaginable.

## **FLY, RENT, OR SIMPLY COVET**

Talk about not 'coveting' your neighbor's possessions... Well, I must admit, not only do I covet my neighbor's gas grille, I also covet the new *Lancair 400* at the field. The owner is selectively allowing three partners to own a piece of it for only \$25k (plus your share of the fixed and variable out-of-pocket costs).

There are other similar goings-on at Potomac. To find out more, see the [Flying Club](#), [Flight Training](#), and other links at

[www.Potomac-Airfield.com](http://www.Potomac-Airfield.com)

Well, I guess this newsletter suggests that my verbal laxatives are starting to work.

*So, let the games begin!*

*David Wartofsky*

Perpetually bemused at Potomac Airfield

\* Ref A. Solzhenitsyn, "*Gulag Archipelago*"