



R & R

Rough & Ready



FEBRUARY 2011

CHINESE STEALTH?



Images that appear to show Beijing's prototype stealth fighter jet during a 'taxi test' at a facility in western China.

"The first clear pictures of what appears to be a Chinese stealth fighter prototype have been published online.

"The photographs, published on several unofficial Chinese and foreign defense-related websites, appear to show a J-20 prototype making a high-speed taxi test — usually one of the last steps before an aircraft makes its first flight— according to experts on aviation and China's military.

"Several experts said the prototype's body appeared to borrow from the F-22 and other U.S. stealth aircraft. The U.S. cut funding for the F-22 in 2009 in favor of the F-35, a smaller, cheaper stealth fighter that made its first test flight in 2006 and is expected to be fully deployed by around 2014."

Our Valentine for the Barracks Babes

Since we sent the Rocket Girl poster to the guys for Christmas (for obvious reasons), we thought it would be only fair to include something for you military gals in February... and at the same time give you an opportunity to express your love for the hunks and show-off some artistic talents, too... during your 'spare' time, of course. (We can all dream, can't we?!) See reverse side.

Note: We sized it so you can make copies to use as a doodle pad. You may have to requisition more copy paper. If you get any hassle, say it's for target practice (just kidding, guys) and the justification: Morale booster.

Happy Valentine's Day!

ON THE HOMEFRONT

Valentine Lore

If the first bird a girl sees on Valentine's Day is:

- a robin - she'll marry a sailor
- a goldfinch - a millionaire
- a sparrow - a poor man
- a woodpecker - she'll never marry.

So go many of the tales -- some fact, some fable -- that have entwined themselves as part of the lore of love and Valentine's Day. Here are some valentine customs in other countries:

- In Korea and Japan, ladies give a gift of candy to the men, and on March 14, White Day, the men give candy to the ladies.
- In Britain, flowers and candy are given, but as part of the event, children sing songs and are given candy, fruit or money.
- In Denmark people send snowdrop flowers to friends. Men write a joking or rhyming letter to a girl and sign it with one dot for each letter of their name.
- Taiwan celebrates both on February 14 and July 7. Roses are a special flower at this time. One rose means "you are the only one," 11 roses mean "you are my favorite." After that, it gets more expensive because 99 roses mean "forever," and 100 roses mean "marry me."
- Scotland has parties for men and women, who draw names for a partner. Then they have a dance and may hold marriages.
- In Wales, carved wooden love spoons decorated with keys and padlocks are given. The decorations symbolize the unlocking of the heart.

Sending your loved one a card on Valentine's day has been with us properly since the 1800's when commercial valentines were first introduced.

Today, 1 billion cards are sent for Valentine's Day, second only to Christmas (2.5 billion).

Flowers are another tradition of Valentine's Day. Red roses are said to de-

note true love. A pansy declares loving thoughts, a periwinkle suggests early friendship and a red tulip professes powerful love.

~

Here's what one military brat does:

Little David comes home from first grade and tells his father that they learned about the history of Valentine's Day.

"Since Valentine's day is for a Christian saint and we're Jewish," he asks, "will God get mad at me for giving someone a valentine?"

David's father thinks a bit, then says "No, I don't think God would get mad. Who do you want to give a valentine to?"

"Osama Bin Laden," David says. "Why Osama Bin Laden?" his father asks in shock.

"Well," David says, "I thought that if a little American Jewish boy could have enough love to give Osama a valentine, he might start to think that maybe we're not all bad, and maybe start loving people a little bit. And if other kids saw what I did and sent valentines to Osama, he'd love everyone a lot. And then he'd start going all over the place to tell everyone how much he loved them and how he didn't hate anyone anymore."

His father's heart swells and he looks at his boy with new found pride. "David, that's the most wonderful thing I've ever heard."

"I know," David says, "and once that gets him out in the open, the Marines could blow the crap out of that &*&@!"

~

I don't understand why Cupid was chosen to represent Valentine's Day. When I think about romance, the last thing on my mind is a short, chubby toddler coming at me with a weapon.



~ Source Unknown

Well, DUH!

Army vehicle disappears

AN Australian Army vehicle worth \$74,000 has gone missing after being painted with camouflage. Police are seeking public help to find the four-wheel drive, which was

Federal Agents Raid Gun Shop, Find Weapons

Store Owner Arrested Previously

By Brian Barber
World Staff Writer
On July 2, undercover narcotics agents served a warrant at Tisa's home. Federal agents on Monday searched a south Tulsa gun shop owned by the man who officials allege had kept in his

FROM THE BRAT BRIGADE

POLE DANCING?

First Grade Drawing - PRICELESS!

A first grade military brat handed in this drawing ▶ for her homework assignment.

The teacher graded it and the child brought it home.

She returned to school the next day with the following note:



Dear Ms. Davis,

I want to be perfectly clear on my child's homework illustration.

This picture is NOT of me on a dance pole on a stage in a strip joint surrounded by male customers with money.

I work at Home Depot and had commented to my daughter how much money we made in the recent snowstorm. This drawing is of me selling a shovel.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harrington

Laughter is the brush that sweeps away the cobwebs of the heart.

~ Mort Walker



The BARRACKS BABES' Doodle Pad

More From The Brat Brigade

KIDS' IDEAS ABOUT LOVE

Kids, aged 5 to 10, were asked what they thought of love and marriage.

Love and Marriage: *If falling in love is anything like learning how to spell, I don't want to do it. It takes too long.* ~Glenn, age 7

Kissing: (on seeing a couple kissing) *He is trying to steal her chewing gum!* ~Roy, age 6

Beauty: *It isn't always how you look. Look at me. I'm handsome like anything, and I haven't got anybody to marry me yet.* ~Brian, age 7

How People In Love Act: *They act mooshy. Like puppy dogs, except puppy dogs don't wag their tails nearly as much.* ~Arnold, age 10

Strategies For Making People Fall In Love With You: *Shake your hips and hope for the best.* ~Camille, age 9

The Best Age To Get Married: *Twenty three because you know the person forever by then.* ~Pam, age 10

Good Advice About Love: *Be a good kisser. It might make your wife forget that you never take out the trash.* ~Erin, age 8

Mission Statement:

Having close ties to the military most of my life, I am a big fan of the military and wish to bring them some joy and humor with a little bit of attitude. No offense is ever intended toward any particular group. I am a mother, grandmother, and mother-in-law of one of your own. Don't ask me who (I don't want him to be embarrassed by my naughtiness) and don't ask me how old I am... I'll only smile and say, "I'm somewhere between the age of consent and collapse, closer to collapse."

~ Marie Renn, Editor

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