

Quips from Bob May Feb 2020

'What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies;
If ATC screws up,.... The pilot dies.'

'Never trade luck for skill.'

The three most common expressions (or famous last words), in aviation are: 'Why is it doing that?'

'Where are we?'

And ...

'Oh S...!'

'Airspeed, altitude and brains. Two are always needed to successfully complete the flight.'

'Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we have never left one up there!'

'Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it.'

'The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you.'
Attributed to Max Stanley (Northrop test pilot).

Airman, maintain thy air speed, lest the earth rise up and smite you!

'There is no reason to fly through a thunderstorm in peacetime.'

Sign over the Squadron Ops. Desk at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 1970

'If something hasn't broken on your helicopter, it's about to.'

'You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal.'

As the test pilot climbs out of the experimental aircraft, having tom off the wings and tail in the crash landing, the crash tmck arrives; the rescuer sees a bloodied pilot and asks, 'What happened?'

The pilot's reply: 'I don't know, I just got here myself!'

- Attributed to Ray Crandell (Lockheed test pilot)

Another post:-

Some actual maintenance complaints submitted by US Air Force pilots, and the replies from the maintenance crews.

Problem: Target Radar hums

Solution: Reprogrammed Target Radar with the lyrics

Problem: "Left inside main tire almost needs replacement."

Solution: "Almost replaced left inside main tire."

Problem: "Test flight OK, except autoland very rough."

Solution: "Autoland not installed on this aircraft."

Problem: "The autopilot doesn't."

Signed off: "IT DOES NOW."

Problem: "Something loose in cockpit."

Solution: "Something tightened in cockpit."

Problem: "Evidence of hydraulic leak on right main landing gear."

Solution: "Evidence removed."

Problem: "DME volume unbelievably loud."

Solution: "Volume set to more believable level."

Problem: "Dead bugs on windshield."

Solution: "Live bugs on order."

Problem: #2 Propeller seeping prop fluid

Solution: #2 Propeller seepage normal - #1 #3 and #4 propellers lack normal seepage

Problem: "Autopilot in altitude hold mode produces a 200 fpm descent."

Solution: "Cannot reproduce problem on ground."

Problem: "IFF inoperative."

Solution: "IFF always inoperative in OFF mode."

Problem: "Friction locks cause throttle levers to stick."

Solution: "That's what they're there for."

Problem: "Number three engine missing."

Solution: "Engine found on right wing after brief search."

Problem: Aircraft handles funny

Solution: Aircraft warned to straighten up, "fly right" and be serious

And lastly.

One liners...

-Airline captain: "If only I made as much money as people think I make, had as much time off as my neighbours think I have and had as much fun on stopovers as my wife thinks I have".

-Sign seen at refueling point: WARNING Do not operate any radio transmitter within 100 metres of the pumps. If your life is not worth anything the fuel is!

-Any attempt to stretch fuel is guaranteed to increase headwinds.

-A thunderstorm is nature's way of saying "Up yours!"

-Keep looking around, there's always something you missed.

-Remember, you're always a student in an airplane.

-Any pilot who does not at least privately consider himself the best in the business...is in the wrong business.

-It's best to keep the pointed end going forward as much as possible.

-Hovering is for pilots who love to fly but have no place to go.

-The only thing worse than a captain who never flew copilot is a copilot who was once a captain.

-A terminal forecast is a horoscope with numbers.

-Takeoffs are optional. Landings are mandatory.

-The first thing every pilot does after making a gear up landing is to put the gear handle DOWN

Renting aeroplanes is like renting sex: It's difficult to arrange on short notice on Saturday, the fun things always cost more, and someone's always looking at their watch.