

Deke

Thursday, 21 February 2008

DEKE. An American fighter pilot during the Vietnam War, Deke was shot down and held as a prisoner of war for three years. Upon his return home, no one wanted to Deke to fly again, due to "psychological instability". Disillusioned and feeling he had nowhere else to go outside of the military, Deke decided the only opportunity he'd have to fly again was as a mercenary pilot. The Middle Eastern dictator Colonel Sharif had been hiring experienced pilots with no background checks and Deke signed on. Deke was later contacted by a group of Joes asking for information about Sharif's air defenses. Deke didn't hesitate to help, assisting Stalker, Leatherneck, Slip-Stream and Crankcase by detailing the locations of the surface-to-air missile (SAM) sites that protected Sharif's airfield. One of Sharif's spies had overheard Deke and the Joes' meeting at a sidewalk cafe and an officer named Captain Habib arrested the pilot and interrogated him. Deke was tied to a chair and beaten while Habib asked where the Americans were hiding. He refused to sell out the Joes until Habib threatened to blind him with a screw-driver so that he could never fly again. Habib untied Deke's arms so that he could sign his typed-up "confession". Habib taunted him, explaining there was another hidden SAM site and mocked him for being cowardly enough to sell out his friends. Fed up, Deke jammed his pen into the desk and through Habib's hand. He managed to escape and headed for the airfield, where the Joes were all ready headed. They planned to steal a Russian jet while a squadron of American fighters attacked. Knowing that the American pilots were dead without knocking out the hidden SAM site, he climbed into his fighter and took off. As the Joes escaped with the Russian jet inside a transport plane, Deke crashed his fighter into the SAM site before it could fire, sacrificing his life to save his fellow American pilots.

(SM 3)