

We are supposed to cut-weld preparations along cracks in diffusion-bonded wing carry-thru sections found piled outside Department 88, so that welders can fill the cracks with titanium weld.

The Air Force wants the wing carry-thru sections NOW, but we keep asking questions about the unclear weld preparation blueprints.

Our foremen try to end our questions by reading the blueprints upside-down and giving us obviously bad advice. They are beginning to avoid us by hiding in the offices or walking laps around the inside of the building. When we press them, they refer us to supervisors who shake their heads and refer us to manufacturing engineers who shake their heads and carry the blueprints into engineering offices which send the blueprints back to us unchanged or even more unclear.

"JUST CUT IT!" the foremen scream at us.

We are beginning to feel uneasy. We are beginning to wonder about those jokes about the wings falling off of the bombers.

For the first time in our careers, Goodstone Aircraft Company has made us feel like responsible adults. There must be something seriously wrong.

THE STUD

He had worked out at Gold's Gym until he could bench-press 450 pounds.

He walked around the machine shop waving a 50-pound lead hammer above his head with one hand, and his hammer blows echoed off the machine shop walls like gunshots.

Then he started talking about how much he liked to fuck his boyfriend.

For the first time in the machine shop's 20-year history, no one was telling any faggot jokes.