

ARMY AIR FORCES GUNNERY SCHOOL
TYNDALL FIELD, FLORIDA

RECEIVED
NOV 9 1943
WALT DISNEY FOUND

November 3, 1943.

2573A
Nov. 16, 1943

Dear Mr. Disney,

Undoubtedly you will be surprised when you receive this letter in which a favour is asked; while you do not even know the boys in whose name this letter is written.

Mr. Disney, more than a thousand times we have admired your artistic caricatures and it is this kind of drawings and their paintings that make me address this request to you.

We are a group of Satch Boys now following the Course for Aerial Gunners and we would like to have an insignia for our Group.

Can you do us a favour and draw an insignia for our group? We will really appreciate it!

For your information, please note that the Satch Insignia has an orange triangle as background with a black frame.

We hope, that you do not disappoint us by refusing our request.

Thanking you in anticipation for your troubles, I remain,

Sincerely yours

Address:
Sgt. Cadet J. L. VAN INGEN SCHENAU.
ROYAL NETHERLANDS MILITARY
Flying SCHOOL.

TYNDALL FIELD.
PANAMA-CITY.
FLORIDA.

A GREMLIN IN A WOODEN SHOE

In autumn 1943, the student tailgunners of Royal Netherlands Military Flying School were at the AAF Gunnery School at Tyndall Field, Florida. One of them, Sgt. Cadet J.L. van Ingen Schenau, got the idea to write a letter to Walt Disney since Disney had designed several cartoons for in use in the AAF. On November 3rd he wrote a letter with the very simple straight forward question: "...we would like to have an insignia for our group. Can you do us a favour...". Van Ingen Schenau made a small drawing in the letter in order to illustrate the insignia.

Disney developed the cartoon, showing the rearward shooting gremlin in a wooden shoe. It became a full hit! The new logo was used on the nose of the B-25s of 'Patrouille Wolff' for the ferry of the B-25s from the NAA Factory to Australia. The cartoon was used on several other NEIAF / ML-KNIL aircraft as well for decoration.

The original drawing went to one of the 18Sq crew members and was used to run a small production of badges for non-commercial use.

Use it with pride!
With kind regards,

Coert Munk, 1 October 2017

