

MARK J. CAIRNS

CLARK VAN HOTEN

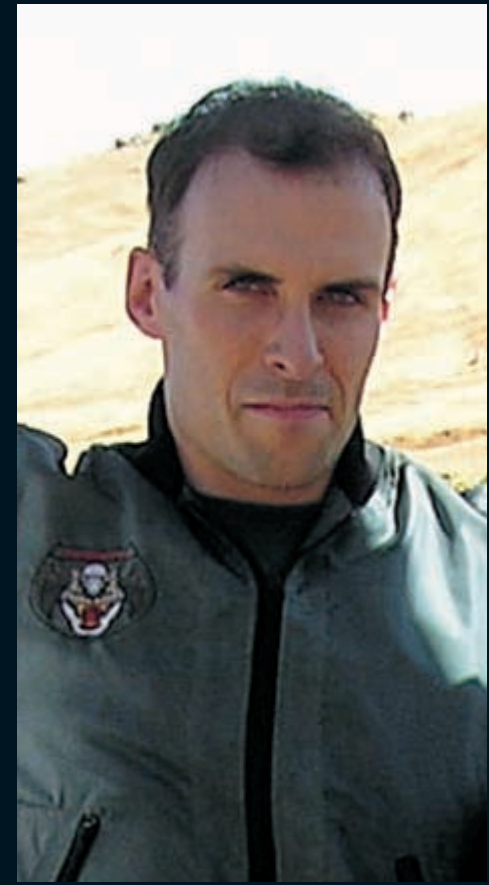
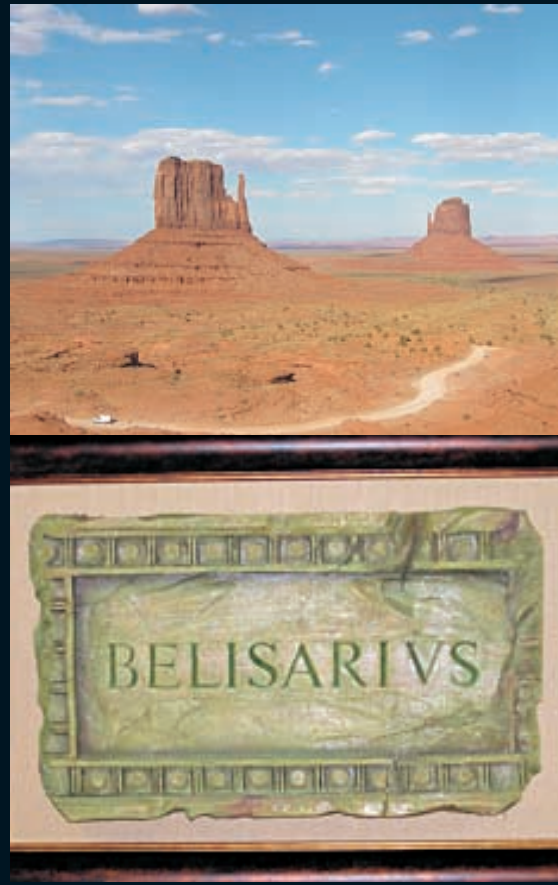


MARK and CLARK on

AIRWOLF
THE TRIP

AUGUST 2004

CAST • CREW • LOCATIONS • ORIGINAL PROPS



Airwolf buddies **CLARK VAN HOTEN** and **MARK J. CAIRNS'** Airwolf trip of a lifetime through nine USA states where they met and interviewed Airwolf Cast, Crew; visited actual Airwolf filming locations and reunited original Airwolf Props with their full-size counterparts.

READ ON...

First port of call, our good buddy and huge, long-time Airwolf fan (who has previously owned the original Airwolf body parts and other original props), **ROY NELSON**:



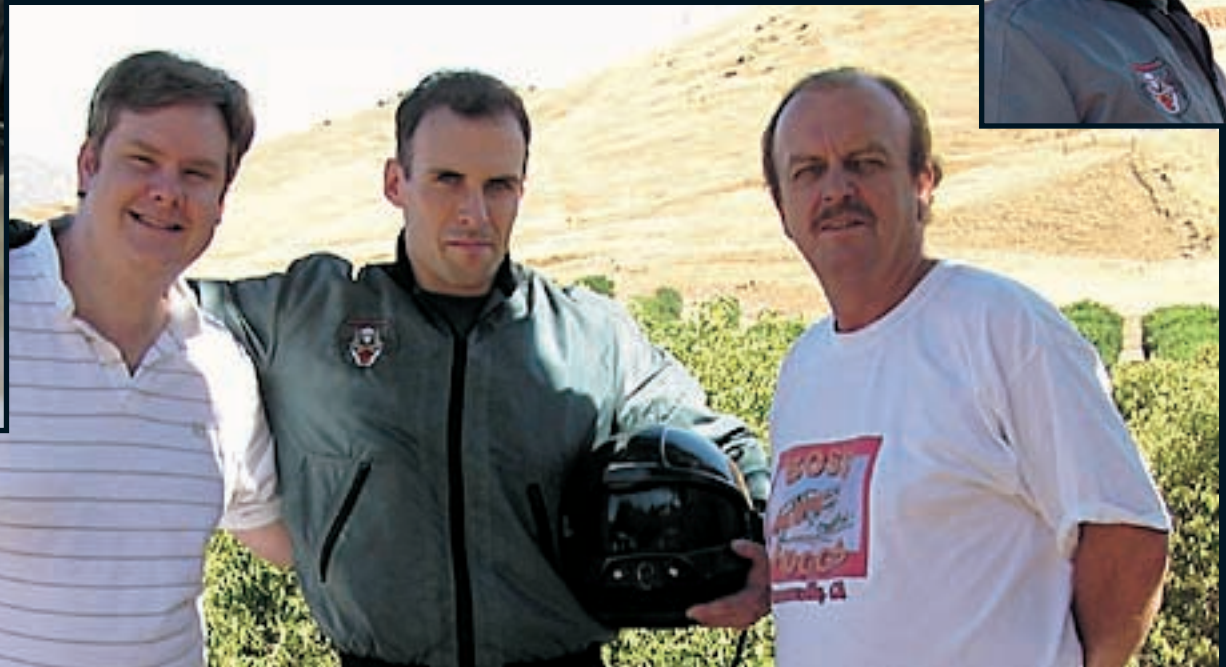
(Above): ROY NELSON

The Three Amigos (L~R):
CLARK VAN HOTEN
MARK J. CAIRNS
and ROY NELSON

(Below):

MARK wearing one of the Original Airwolf Crew Jackets owned by ROY NELSON as well as holding the very first, fully-functioning unit off the production line of the fantastic, all-new, 3rd Season Airwolf Helmet Replicas by STEVEN W. STULL

(Right):
MARK wearing STEVEN W. STULL's new Replica Helmet. Great fit!



ROY NELSON still has quite a few original Airwolf pieces including an original helmet and one of the glass Wing Sponson Landing Lights from the actual Airwolf helicopter:



(Above):
Original Wing Sponson
Landing Light from full-
size Airwolf helicopter.

(Right):
ROY's 3rd Season
Original Airwolf
helmet (LEFT) with its
original control box
for the visor and
electrics with the
fantastic, all-new,
fully-functioning 2004
replica (RIGHT) by
maverick prop-maker
STEVEN W. STULL



We then visited popular Airwolf Guest Star **LANCE LeGAULT** at his ranch in California. A superb host and entertainer!

SPECIAL NOTE — Lance's surname is pronounced "Luh-Goh" and *not* "Luh-Gault" as in the word 'fault'



(Above):
LANCE LeGAULT was highly impressed with STEVEN STULL's Replica Helmet

(Left):
CLARK VAN HOTEN, MARK CAIRNS and ROY NELSON with Airwolf Guest Star LANCE LeGAULT on his superb Californian ranch

“QUOTE”

“In “SWEET BRITCHES”, I was driving the Chevy 4x4 over that desert terrain with my foot to the floor trying to catch that son-of-a-bitch stuntman on the motorcycle, with Don Bellisario yellin’ in my ear from the camera ship to drive faster! My old bones ached at the end of that shoot. I really got into that part. It was a lot of fun playing Bogan.”

LANCE LEGAULT

READ HIS FULL & EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW in a future issue of the all-new colour Airwolf magazine, “THE WOLF’S LAIR”. First issue out 22 January 2005

TO SNARE A WOLF • SWEET BRITCHES • WILDFIRE

READ THE FULL STORY IN THE *ALL-NEW* AIRWOLF MAGAZINE, “THE WOLF’S LAIR” — From January 2005

Next port of call was **The Firm's Headquarters** in the Westlake area of Thousand Oaks, California. We'd access to the entire grounds now owned by the 'Baxter' corporation. Fantastic feeling walking where angels don't fear to tread!



Visiting Firm Headquarters on a Sunday was great as the entire place was empty and we'd full access to the entire grounds both front and rear. The building is actually made from huge red granite slabs and has an extensive car park [parking lot] to the rear where the main entrance is located beside a pool area



We obtained high-security passes to do a walkabout on the **Universal Backlot & Soundstages** (Tour Tram doesn't allow tourist folks off!). We found the original Airwolf soundstage (now just a store for set walls) and some other famous sets.

Full vista panoramic shot from Mulholland Drive of the entire Hollywood area in San Fernando Valley, to the North of Los Angeles (off to the left in the distance). It's all smaller than you'd think!

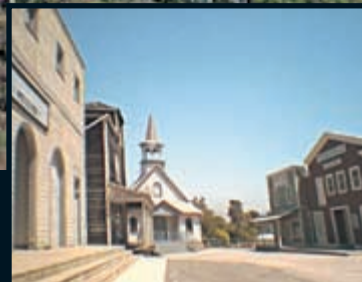
RED RING shows extent of NBC-Universal Studios, with Burbank and Warner Bros Studios immediately in the background [above YELLOW RING]. Note Universal's new "STUDIO WALK" [YELLOW RING] theme park, iMAX and restaurant facilities has swallowed about 80 per cent of the original backlot from the 1980s. Everything's gone now but a small part of the "JAWS" set and some of the locations in the smaller photos below



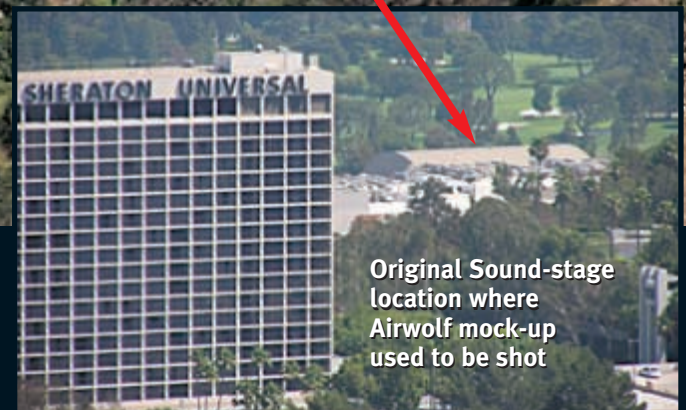
CLARK on what little's left of the *Back To The Future* square set on the Universal backlot.



MARK on the New York set used in *'ONE WAY EXPRESS'*



Six Points western set used for *'ANNIE OAKLEY'* episode in the 3rd Season



Original Sound-stage location where Airwolf mock-up used to be shot

One of the real highlights and huge information sources of the trip was ex-New York Cop and Airwolf's 1st Season Producer & Writer **BURTON ARMUS**. He entertained us for an entire afternoon at his fabulous villa.



(Above):
And They Were Us...
CLARK, BURTON ARMUS and MARK

(Left):
Outside BURTON's beautiful Spanish villa on Mulholland Drive

(Far Left):
Airwolf's 1st Season Producer and Writer, BURTON ARMUS

“QUOTE”

*“The bomb run in “TO SNARE A WOLF” was crazy! Alan Levi designed it and I don't know how the hell he got away with it; it made no sense; it was superfluous; there was no logical reason to do it but Don Bellisario showmanship. It was out in Oil country, in virgin territory so the Government was involved, there were rattlesnakes, fire concerns and then you've this crazy Special FX guy, Whitey Krumm who was certifiable! When Whitey blew things up... they blew! When I heard Whitey and Levi were doing that stunt I said, “Get the f**k away from me!” [Burton laughed] I was afraid we'd all go jail on that one. I grabbed Thom Blank and said, “Take me home! Get me the f**k outta here!”*

BURTON ARMUS

We'd dinner at Universal's Studio Walk facility with Airwolf's Film Editor and Associate Producer **LEON ORTIZ-GIL** who was Don's "*Action Editor*" on the show and responsible for every aerial battle during the first 3 seasons!



CLARK with Airwolf's Film Editor and Associate Producer, LEON ORTIZ-GIL

“QUOTE”

“With regard to the ‘guns-in-guns-out’ bloopers plaguing many episodes, it was simply overlooked; by me, by Don, by the network... everybody! We were under so much pressure from CBS to cut costs and deliver the final reel on time all the time, it was simply a case of having so many stock shots to remember that I simply overlooked it due to time pressures.”

LEON ORTIZ-GIL

READ HIS FULL & EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW in a future issue of the all-new colour Airwolf magazine, “THE WOLF’S LAIR”. First issue out 22 January 2005

READ THE FULL STORY IN THE *ALL-NEW* AIRWOLF MAGAZINE, “THE WOLF’S LAIR” — From January 2005

As we stayed in the Van Nuys area of Los Angeles for a couple of days we couldn't leave the area without visiting **Kevin LaRosa** and the mk2 version of **Jetcopters'** hangar.



(Above):
JetCopters' new hangar and offices in Van Nuys.

(Right):
The P-51 Mustang, owned by KEVIN LaROSA used in 3rd Season episode, 'EAGLES'.



(Below):
MARK and CLARK with Jetcopters' owner and pilot from Airwolf, KEVIN LaROSA



“QUOTE”

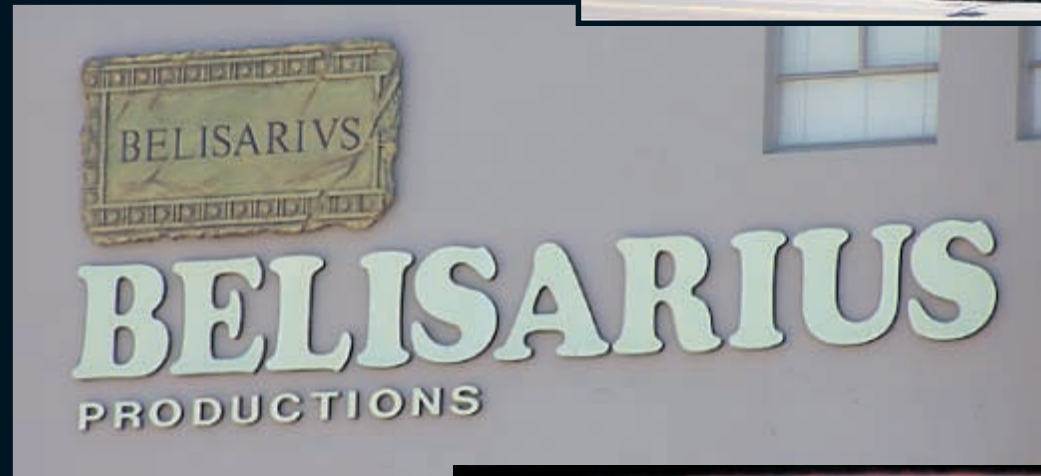
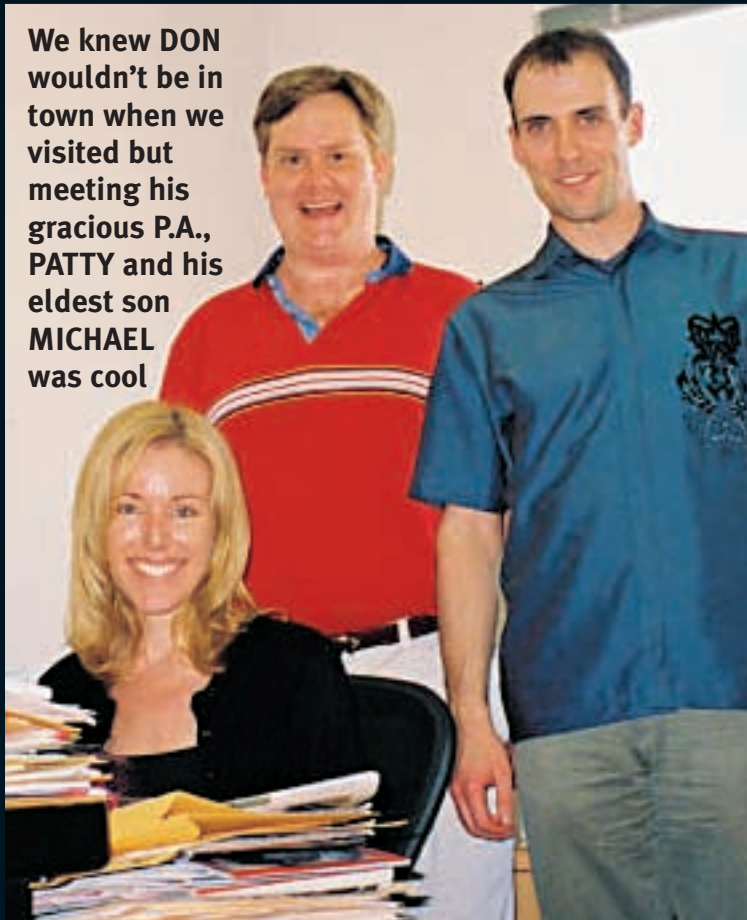
“In the early 1990s, I was approached by a Japanese TV production company who wanted the Airwolf helicopter for a TV commercial back in Japan. They didn't realise the original chopper no longer existed [after the crash in Germany] but they insisted they wanted it, so they came up with the cash and we rebuilt Airwolf with the original body parts using the 'Redwolf' 222! I got the Airwolf flight suit on, the helmet, everything and all they wanted me to do was hover it about 3-feet above the ground. I never got to see the commercial though so I don't know how it turned out.”

KEVIN LaROSA

As we were driving through the intersection at Sunset & Gower in Hollywood, a sign on the side of a building caught our eye... **Belisarius Productions.**



We knew DON wouldn't be in town when we visited but meeting his gracious P.A., PATTY and his eldest son MICHAEL was cool



(Right): As soon as one exits the lift on the tastefully minimalist 4th floor offices, you're immediately greeted by this huge, framed resin Belisarius sign made famous at the end of the closing credits



Straight after Belisarius Productions' offices we'd arranged to meet Airwolf's 2nd Season Producer & Writer **T. S. COOK**. A total gent, the creator of 'MOFFETT'S GHOST' amongst others, was a mine of information.

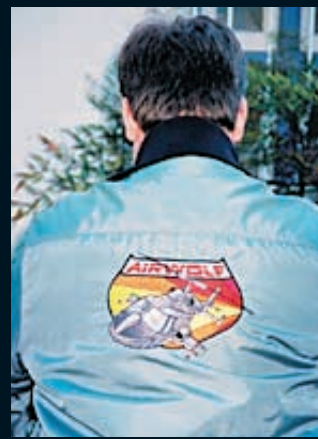
“QUOTE”

“After I wrote “MOFFETT'S GHOST”, I polished a few scripts for the show and mid-season Don asked me to come in and take over the last thirteen and run the show. I'd inherited three scripts by then so we'd only to work on ten more to end the season. My mandate from CBS was to take Airwolf from being an international spy show against the 'Red Menace' (still around in those days) and make it more a domestic problem solver within the US. I don't think Don liked that; he saw it as a spy show, a super thriller because you have to have a credible threat against Airwolf. When I left the next season they snapped back doing international big villain-type stuff so I guess it didn't really work.”

T.S. Cook



(Above):
'The Big Bad Wolves Have Come Down From The North' — CLARK, TOM S. COOK and MARK



(Left):
CLARK wearing TOM's crew jacket

(Far Left):
Airwolf's 2nd Season Producer and Writer, TOM S. COOK

Our next literal port of call was the **Queen Mary** liner beside San Pedro Pier, in Long Beach, California.



(Left):
The full view of the Queen Mary with the Russian submarine to its right.

(Below):
Now a floating hotel the Queen Mary liner brought back memories of the Zebra Squad storming it in **'DESPERATE MONDAY'**



(Above):
MARK recreating the famous shot in **'DESPERATE MONDAY'** where Dom appears in The Lady from behind the bow to shadow Hawke and the kidnapers in the escaping Huey



Whilst in Long Beach we caught the Catalina Express high-speed catamaran service out to **Santa Catalina Island** [‘San Remo’ in ‘SINS OF THE PAST’].



(Right):

The famous William Wrigley-built Casino, now a cinema [movie theatre], fitness club and focal point on Santa Catalina island

(Above):

The street where Hawke tries to escape on a moped from Darius' two hoods

(Top Right):

MARK and CLARK just down from the spot on the stoney beach where Hawke washed ashore, half drowned from his midnight escape from Darius' men on the boat.



As we left California we headed overnight to the dry heat of Arizona and Utah to experience the spiritual home of The Lady, **Monument Valley**. We found that The Lair actually consists of shots from 4 separate locations within the area.



(Above from L~R):
A vista of the famous 'Left Mitten', 'Right Mitten', 'Merrick Butte' and the main formations of Monument Valley to the right where most of Airwolf's "Valley of the Gods" stock footage was shot on two separate occasions — December 1983 and July 1984



(Left):
One of the Lairs used in 'THE HUNTED'... in reality, 'Thunderbird Mesa'

(Right):
The Lair that the Santini Air Jeep drove to... 'Rain God Mesa'



Whilst in **Monument Valley**, we re-united the original miniature Airwolf body parts with their spiritual home.



(Left and Below Right):

We were transporting the original “working” soundstage Airwolf miniatures of the ADF pod, Chain Gun [only one ever existed!] and Sunburst Ejection Pod back to Florida to join their full-size counterparts off the real chopper at Clark’s home. But first we felt we should bring them to their original spiritual home in the “Valley of the Gods” and especially the ‘Rain God Mesa’. The entire area is accessible through a 17-mile dirt road looping right through Monument Valley Navajo Tribal Park.

(Right):
Used for ascending shots, the rear walls of the ‘Rain God Mesa’ [LEFT OF IMAGE] provided another magnificent backdrop



Half way across the States, we had the joy over two days of the company of 'Archangel', **ALEX CORD** with his angel wife, **SUSANNAH** on their ranch in sunny Northern Texas. The most gracious and likeable couple on earth!

“QUOTE”

*“One of the things I didn't like about that job [Airwolf] was that I really wanted to BE Archangel! At the end of the day I didn't get to go home in a white limo, driven by some beautiful babe; I went home to my own little existence. Part of the charm of the character was the mystique; you didn't know much about him. I loved that! Oh, for the record, my birthday is actually **May 3rd, 1933** [and not August 3rd, 1931 as everyone thinks!]”*

ALEX CORD



(Above):
Retired actor and real-life cowboy, ALEX CORD twenty years after playing 'Archangel' on Airwolf



(Top):
MARK and CLARK with ALEX on his ranch



(Middle Left):
The CORDS... ALEX and wife SUSANNAH



(Left):
ALEX CORD training 'Cloud', one of his quarter horses in an exercise arena

READ THE FULL STORY IN THE **ALL-NEW** AIRWOLF MAGAZINE, “THE WOLF’S LAIR” — From January 2005

Back in Florida and we finally reunited the **original working miniatures** with their full-size **Airwolf Body Parts**, now proudly owned by Clark Van Hoten



(Top Right): CLARK VAN HOTEN proudly holds the Nose Scoop from the original Airwolf helicopter with other Body Parts and miniatures around him

(Above): MARK J. CAIRNS sits amongst the VAN HOTEN AIRWOLF COLLECTION



Airwolf's full-size jet exhausts — inside and out!

The Van Hoten Airwolf Collection has an amazing array of Airwolf wonders including the full-size parts & Arcade game



(Inset Above):
The same keyboard that
Dom typed on



(Left):
CLARK and MARK
had a few games on
the full-size Airwolf
Arcade game

(Far Left):
CLARK VAN HOTEN
holding the working
Sunburst Ejection
Pod miniature
beside the full-size
original. Note the
differences in scale!

(Below L+R): Full-size Airwolf Body Parts, Chain Guns
and Nose Scoop, Dom's computer keyboard, working
Sunburst Ejection Pod miniature, working ADF pod
miniature and working Chain Gun miniature



(Left):
The working
Chain Gun
miniature
operated
by sliding a
simple broom
handle and
spring wires!



AIRWOLF THE TRIP

Some other touristy highlights along the route included a visit to **DALLAS**, Texas where we visited Southfork Ranch, home of the **Ewings**; as well as **Dealey Plaza** where JFK was shot.



(Above):

MARK outside the real Southfork, north of Dallas, home of the fictional Ewing family during the **'DALLAS'** Supersoap's 13-year run during the 1970s and 1980s. The Lorimar production company were only allowed to shoot here by its actual owner for 3 months in the year. Only the exteriors were filmed on location, the interior of the mansion was a soundstage set in Culver City, California.

(Left):

Dealey Plaza in Dallas where lone gunman, Lee Harvey Oswald killed President John F. Kennedy in Nov. 1963 from the 6th Floor window of the Texas Book Depository (as it was then known).



AIRWOLF

THE TRIP

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READ ALL THESE EXCLUSIVE NEW AIRWOLF CAST & CREW INTERVIEWS IN THE *ALL-NEW*
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