HISTORIC A-7 LEAVES THE 185TH BASE

Written by Woody Gottburg Thursday, August 15 2013 13:23

THE WEATHER DIDN'T CO-OPERATE WITH THE IOWA NATIONAL GUARD THURSDAY MORNING AND CLOUDS AND A LOW CEILING PREVENTED THE CH-47 CHINOOK HELICOPTER FROM TAKING OFF WITH ITS LOAD OF AN OLD WAR BIRD.

PLANS WERE TO AIRLIFT THE CORSAIR A-7 FIGHTER TO THE CAMP DODGE GOLDSTAR MUSEUM TO BECOME PART OF AN OUTDOOR DISPLAY.

COLONEL BRIAN MILLER, THE 185TH COMMANDER, SAYS THE PLANE HAD BEEN SETTING AROUND THE SIOUX CITY BASE FOR ABOUT 15 YEARS, BEFORE PLANS WERE MADE TO REFURBISH IT AND MAKE IT READY FOR THE DISPLAY.

EVEN MOVING IT BY HELICOPTER REQUIRED DOING SOME LOOKING FOR THE PROPER EQUIPMENT:

{audio}COLMILLERHARNESS.mp3{/audio}

COLONEL MILLER SAYS THE PLANE'S PILOT, CAPTAIN ANDY MILLER AND TECH SERGEANT BRUCE JOHNSON, THE MAINTENANCE CHIEF, BOTH HAD THEIR NAMES PAINTED ON THE REFURBISHED AIRCRAFT.

DESPITE A POSTPONED START, THE GIANT HELICOPTER LIFTED OFF WITH IT'S CARGO ABOUT 11 A-M AND HEADED TO ITS FINAL DESTINATION NEAR JOHNSTON, IOWA.