

HOTFOOT 75

JOHN HOWELL - JULY 21, 1982

JH: People kind of held their breath while it was some sense of relief in taking off because they'd been on the ground so long, they really xx out of Iranian air space. To relax and mill around and we'd visited, the group of us about what happens in Frankfurt and we'd decided we're going to have our big party and find a place to sleep and wake up the next morning and figure out how to get home. We had no idea we were going to be greeted in Frankfurt at the time. One aspect of the plane leaving Frankfurt that is not mentioned here is there was a delay for de-icing as I remember. Evidently, the original plan had been, as soon as our plane from Tehran landed we'd go up one gate and out the next, get on the plane, taxi out on the runway and after we got on the plane there was a delay for de-icing and it took a while for us to get in line; all the other planes had to be de-iced and it took a while for the de-icing equipment to get to us and for that to occur, so I guess it was an hour or two before we started rolling down the runway. That's about it.

KF: Good. I'm sorry it took an hour and a half longer than we planned.

JH: Well, it's the story of my life.