



VOICES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More airmen need to be eligible

The secretary of the Air Force wrote recently that her service is short 1,500 pilots.

Part of their problem is the USAF requirement that all fliers be commissioned officers.

A partial solution to the gap is to go back to the proven Army Air Corps staffing where several pilots were enlisted. They did it then; they

can do it now. The cockpit career field should be widened so that many more airmen are eligible for wings.

(And if you think a 21-year-old high school graduate can not measure up to the rigors of flying in combat, then you were not in Vietnam.)

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