

CAMEO B3

KUWAIT STUDENT.

By James Collins.

Bill Wagner told me this story on February 28, 1991.

Bill, a teacher, of photography at a university in Manchester NH, had issued a midterm exam to his students. He was examining the team project turned in by one of the students and found a project from a previous class year submitted as an original work. Mr. Wagner brought the Kuwaiti student outside of the classroom and told him he failed because he cheated. There were cries, lamenting, and screaming to such an extent that people came out from other classes. Because of the disturbance, Bill told the student to leave.

Next morning, Bill came to work at Kollsman in Merrimack NH, 22 miles from Manchester . The Kuwaiti was waiting in the main parking lot saw Bill, fell down on his knees and was kissing Bill's shoes. The student showed Bill a Kuwaiti document – he could not go home until he completed his course and had only two months left on the schedule to finish. If he did not complete the study, the student would have to wait another year to see his family. If a failure for cheating showed up on his record, the Kuwait government would jail him and he most likely would die in jail. Bill told the student to meet him the next night so Bill could review the student's files to see if this had ever happened before.

Upon entering the factory early in the morning, Bill learned from the guards that the student had arrived at one o'clock in the morning – he had walked 22 miles in the rain. Security called the police and they interrogated the student. He had slept on the ground in the rain to meet Bill and then walked 22 miles back to Manchester. Bill gave him a chance to resubmit the project – only one day. It was completed and was well above average.

Bill still gets letters from the student – every Christmas.

ICELAND

BY JAMES COLLINS.

Over the 18 years that I supported the FAA, I had a quality manager named Bill who told me of his two-year stay in Iceland with the U.S. Air Force. The descriptions of the

volcanoes, how they use the steam for heating and a number of other tales were of interest, but one was memorable.

I asked Bill what the Air Force personnel did for entertainment in Iceland. He told me that the Airmen got the greatest kick out of watching the locals trying to pass one another on the sidewalk. I asked him to describe the situation. What could be so funny about people passing on the sidewalk?

Bill said, "You have to understand all of these people are descendants of the Vikings. The men are massive, blonde, stubborn, wannabe Vikings. When we went to town, we went to the area where the sidewalks were narrow. We then crossed to the other side of the street, put our backs against the wall and had a cigarette. Eventually, two of these Icelanders would be walking on the other sidewalk going in opposite directions. The sidewalks were narrow and neither would move out of the way. They would slam into each other; back off and slam into each other a second time. This could continue for up to seven or eight collisions. It usually ended when one of them slipped and fell and hit the ground. We never saw one of these men back down from these confrontations. It was like watching wild sheep head butting each other to prove dominance. After all, in Iceland, there was not much else to see. "

THE END

CAR INSPECTION RULE

by James Collins

Auto mechanics are notorious for ripping off women customers. A simple solution can greatly reduce the problem. When you go to your mechanic (A) for inspection, you tell them that they are one of your two favorite and most responsible mechanics. However, you want them to know that your father has mandated the following rule, which you are going to follow. If your present mechanic finds anything today that needs repair, you will thank them and take the car to mechanic 'B' where they will do the work. Next year you will take the inspection to mechanic 'B' and if they find anything, you will bring the car back here to do the repair.

All the women of the family were amazed at how the number of repairs dropped off. Each mechanic wanted their competitor to find the repair so they could get the work.

THE END

