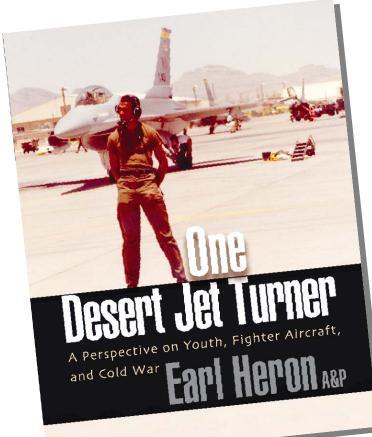
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Author Earl Heron enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in the spring of 1980. He served three years as an F-4 and F-16 mechanic at Nellis Air Force Base, Las Vegas, Nevada, before accumulating more than 900 flying hours as a flight engineer on the C-130 at Pope AFB, Fayetteville, North Carolina. After six years in the Air Force, he left the military to complete a baccalaureate degree in technology and management. He holds the FAA Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) mechanic certificate.



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