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Gwalior air base was soon

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the hearts and minds of people and

one day, Browne saw that there

were many people from services

and the civilian community wait-

ing to meet him. There was hardly

any place to sit. Seeing him, he

broke into a smile and said, "Char-

Les! What are you doing here?

Please find yourself a place to sit!"

Browne sir adds, "His office resem

bled a PWD office, and I remarked

place to even stand." His reply has

remained ingrained in memory,

'You are my Oorial, you can even

doing to catch up with him.

Browne sir adds, "Much later,

when I became the Air Chief, I put

something that I learnt from Air

Marshal Denzil Keelor into prac-

tice. We articulated the vision

statement of the Indian Air Force

which aptly sums up the man,

rajeshsharma1049@gmail.com

'People First - Mission Always.'"

lie down anywhere you feel!"

will not slow down!'

Concluded.

Visiting him in his Delhi office

making them work hard, happily.

the Defence Security Corps (DSC).

राष्ट्रदुत

#RESTRO-REVIEW

Party @ Paro

Party in the heart of the city at a rooftop lounge, Go Paro





anch Batti, a landmark intersection of four roads, has makeover which has touched its sur-Rajputana Store, the Sony and remodelled into a modern

The interiors have kept the heritage look with a modern feel of a place, that is both welcoming and impressive. 'Paro. as it has been named. So, if you want to party in

rooftop lounge, Go Paro. Once a 16-room residence it's original character has been retained in pink indigenous plaster, common to city's heritage architecture. The central space is the main dining with

the heart of the city at a

swaying chandeliers. The interiors exude serendipity at any given time of the day and as the lights turn on, the bar area turns into a high-voltage epicentre of people looking for miracles in a glass. And they do find it. The bar is housed in a UNESCO Heritage-protected building, over 100 years old, with the beautifully restored

er-than-life glass chandeliers adding historical charm. Immersing themselves in the diversity of Indian cuisines, the cocktails here are rooted in local flavours. Shehar, the rose-infused gin pays homage to the blushing hues that define the cityscape. Ratnagiri Rhapsody, on the other hand, unveils a captivat-

old house Jharokhas and larg-

Two hors d'oeuvres that are all time favourites are *Pav* Bhaji rolls, wherein rolls, as in a cream roll, have been stuffed with bhaji or the Truffle Mushroom Galouti Kebab. Somewhat of a gourmet delight with mushrooms and truffle essence, it creates melt in-the-mouth Lakhnawi

ing blend of cumin and kokum.

The Garam Masala is a mas-

terful fusion of whiskey,

cumin, cinnamon and ginger.

Galouti experience in every

Think of Konkani cuisine and one conjures up images of seafood, seafood and more seafood. But Paro, sometime back, curated a meal which was not only a delight for the vegetarians but also brought authentic vegetarian fare at a sit down lunch. The *amuse-bouche*, served

as a starter, was, believed it or not, made from buttermilk and triphala. The 'kadi shot. served in finger-sized terracotta tumblers, were a sure hit with everyone. For the uninitiated, 'amuse-bouche' is a French word for a palate cleanser, not ordered by the guest but served at the discretion of the Chef, while the former wait for the main course Followed by a colourful,

somewhat large size, Canape was a thepla made colourful by the blobs of mango jelly mint spread and tamarind The *edamame* pancakes

with desiccated coconut, a fusion side dish, was wellreceived, looking to the fact that immature soya beans, due to their rich food value, have pecome popular. The Japanese dish is the toast of most vegetarian meals nowadays.

There was the *clay-roasted* paneer tikka with Konkani house spice, and M-Yeto chef. who had especially flown in with this team to curate this Konkani meal, excelled himself with the Kokum chili caviar with an overwhelming flavour of asafoetida and garlic.

The Bengal Gram Dal served with a bun had a fusion twist and was very filling. Like everything else, it had coconut, coarsely ground masala, garlic, coconut, cummins, and chillies at its base.

The non-vegetarians natu rally revelled in pan-smeared prawns, fish and chicken curry. The in-house masala used in the sea food was a happy mix of Maharashtrian, Konkan and Goan cuisine. That the seafood was M-Yeto's signature dish goes without saying.

Enhance your visit with soulful live folk music on the first floor. As the colder months approach, enjoy the stunning rooftop at sundowner time and soak in the vibrant atmosphere, making for a memorable evening.

Party at Paro then, is the bottom line



Ranade recalls, "He adopted a smart scheme to get rid of the cattle. We had many Ex-Army men deployed for guard duties as part of the Defence Security Corps (DSC). These guards were motivated to round up the cattle. For catching every two animals, they would get a bottle of rum, an offer that the guards found lucrative. He also let the villagers know that he would get rid of their cattle in his own way if they allowed them to stray across into his territory. With these two actions, the cattle menace on the base was reduced to zero!"





ir Vice Marshal A K Shyam was another in the Squadron, who also doubled as the unit Adjutant. Keelor had asked him to practice to perfect his own signature (which he can even reproduce today!) and use it to dish out the routine correspondence within the unit and station. Strapped up in the aircraft to go for a mission one day, an airman came running to the cockpit to tell him that an

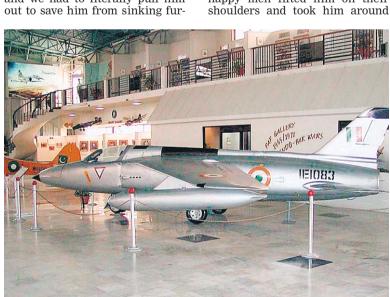
important letter had to go, and his

signatures were required. Shyam,

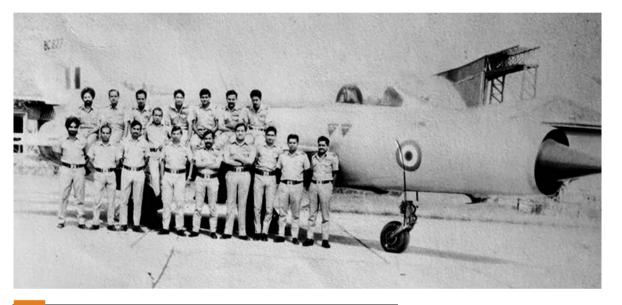
in all sincerity, signed at the bot-

tom of the paper without even going through it. A few days later, the staff from the Commander in Chief's office at Shillong rang up to say that a letter to the chief had arrived with a lot of mistakes and was being returned, since the boss didn't take kindly to errors. Denzil was quick to take this blunder in his stride and had just this to say to Shyam, "Arre baccha! At least ask me to sign letters to higher formations vaar! Be careful from next

> The former Air Chief describes the saddest time in 4 Squadron during the tenure of Keelor. During a mission, while he and his formation had just got air borne, Keelor's aircraft engine ceased, forcing him to eject close to the airfield. "I was the first one to reach the paddy field where he had parachuted down. The boss was more than waist deep in slush and we had to literally pull him



#AIR MARSHAL DENZIL JOSEPH KEELOR, PVSM, KC, AVSM, VRC



the Squadron in celebration. Such

was their attachment and love of

son and understood the requ

Keelor was truly a people's per-

ments of his men. It was not as if

he just looked after their welfare.

he was a hard task master at work

and a humane person rolled into

emergency leave. Even if they had

expended their leave quota, they

were allowed to go home to tend to

their problems. He would give

them money for their travel and

emergent expenditure, and not

one man ever faulted giving back

"Often men had to rush on

During a welfare meeting chaired by Keelor soon after, the happy men lifted him on their shoulders and took him around the Squadron in celebration. Such was their attachment and love of their CO." Keelor was truly a people's person and understood the requirements of his men.

their CO."

ther. I still remember how he was shivering due to the cold when we got him out.'

Pending Commander Keelor was ordered to be attached to the Station HQ, temporarily out of the Commanding Officer's chair. It was during those few months that the Squadron missed him most, their morale plummeting to their boots. Thankfully, he was reinstated back to his chair under orders from Air HQ.

"During a welfare meeting chaired by Keelor soon after, the happy men lifted him on their

the loan amount on arrival back from leave.' "In fact, on the first of every month, when we officers received our frugal pay, he would check with all of us if we had enough cash to pay our bills. Even at the cost of a personal financial strain, he would readily pay up for us. He was truly our father figure and a demi-god for us. At work, he let us work independently, and due to this, we learnt to take decisions right from the beginning of our careers.'

The ultimate quality of the man was that he trusted everyone 500 per cent, and never did anyone ever betrav his faith. "Keelor sir took this trust factor to a different level. Even when he had to fly an aircraft, he never ever did his external checks on the machine. He just walked to the aircraft and



hopped into the cockpit! He believed that his men had done their work as required of

"This forced the men to be thorough with their jobs, for, if something went wrong because of them, they would betray the faith that was reposed in them by their boss. And even if things went wrong sometimes, the men were bold enough to own up, since they knew that their boss would not let harm come to them.

Air Marshal Aiit Bhavnani, for mer Vice Chief of the Air Staff served as the CO of No. 7 Squadron, located at the Gwalior base with Air Commodore Keelor at the helm of affairs. "Gwalior was chosen to receive the Mirage 2000 aircraft from France and Keelor sir was selected by Air HQ to get the base

G walior air base was soon abuzz with fighter flying. Thanks to his untiring efforts of winning the hearts and minds of people and making them work hard, happily. Visiting him in his Delhi office one day, Browne saw that there were many people from services and the civilian community waiting to meet him.

in order for receiving the state-ofthe-art modern aircraft. Gwalior was a ramshackle base when Keelor took over. It just had barbed wire fencing which created the boundary with the many civilian villages around Maharajpur, where the airfield was located. Additional land was needed to be acquired and the modern technical and administrative infrastructure had to come up in quick time. "Air Commodore Keelor sir

seemed to have enormous amount of energy and *josh* to get the work done. He was in constant liaison with the local authorities and the royals of Gwalior to get his base to the standards required. The locals who had resisted initially parting with their land, were convinced by Keelor sir's charm and reassurances. On his regular visits to the villages around the airfield, he assured the heads that more than adequate compensation would be paid to them when they let go of their pieces of land.

And true to his word, once the land was acquired, he made put in all kinds of pressure on the local government to ensure that the vilagers were well-remunerated.'

An army aviation unit was based at Gwalior in those times. Colonel Dilip Ranade, a veteran now, and then a captain, remembers the dynamic AoC. "We found Keelor sir dropping in to our Squadron quite often, especially when flying was going on. He would hop into any one of the to him in jest that there was no

choppers taxving out, and go for a

quick round of the airfield before being dropped back.' The AoC obviously wanted a bird's-eye view of how his base was developing to become the best in the IAF. The so-called security fencing of the base was broken at many places, leading to cattle straying into the technical area and often getting on to the runway. This

be dangerous for fighter operations which were to commence soon. Ranade recalls, "He adopted a smart scheme to get rid of the cattle. We had many Ex-Army men

needed to be stopped since it would

rganizational transforma-

one train, only to get off at the next stop and board another. And so it continues. But, unlike a hapless visitor clinging to the hope that the next leg will be the final one, you understand that your trip is never really going to end. Organizational transformation

is a journey that never stops. It's up to you to keep steering in the correct direction. Accordingly, staying on the right course with your organiza tional transformation mandates your continued evolution as a leader as well.

> certainly a testimony to your lead ership skills. Not everyone can help devise, implement, and motivate to the level required by sweeping change, the steep failure rate attests to that. And, as an accomplished leader, you're well aware that meaningful change can't possibly take place without equal conviction and energy from everyone on your team. Acknowledged inclusion is everything.

> over. As you and your organization move forward, so too must you continue to hone, sharpen, and, if need be, change elements of your leadership. Your organization isn't what it was yesterday, and neither should you stay the same.

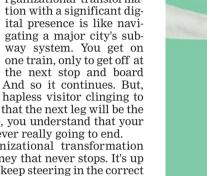
The former Air Chief adds, "He was way ahead of everybody, in every thought and action, all the time. When once questioned as to why he was in a hurry, he said, 'I have set the pace for myself, you better learn to keep pace with me. I On the 28th of August, the legend flew away into yonder beyond the blue skies, and it will take some

> **Follow The Money** They must focus on the business

#WORKPLACE-EVOLUTION

Lessons Every Leader Must Embrace

Organizations of all types have shredded hundreds of millions of dollars on poorly planned and executed swipes at transformation



A successful transformation is **Managing Technology**

But the challenge is by no means

Organizations of all types have shredded hundreds of millions of dollars on poorly planned and executed swipes at transformation. Although the reasons for those pervasive missteps can vary, one undeniable mistake has to do with finances. Below are eight lessons every leader must embrace if they want to avoid the same misfortunes.

and understand how it creates value. Leaders must understand the business strategy, regarding each product market, is the firm in an exploratory or exploitative posture? This assumes that the organization has a strategy that is wellarticulated and supported by appropriate structures, processes, and information



See Through Walls

he next generation of leaders omorrow's leaders will be lacksquare will understand, or should, if far more comfortable with they want to succeed, that they deriving value through partner must invest in managing technoloships and other types of engagegy as well as in the technology itself. ments. They must understand If there is any remaining doubt the role that technology plays in today, there will not be in the future, enabling these partnerships and technology, per se, is an equalizer. learn to manage the technology Only in the management of it can that stretches across internal firms eke out an advantage. organizational boundaries

Understand What Technology Does

T nless they appreciate that technology often plays a critical role in establishing or maintaining a strategic position, future leaders may well spend inappropriately. But that appreciation must evolve to an understanding of how various types of technology, those that enable transactions, decisions, or relationships, for example, contribute to an organi zation's strategic actions. More often than not, in the first half century of technology, it was thought about only tactically.

Manage Business And Technology As One he moments of dissension and the finger-pointing at failures will dis-

appear as executives come to see that technology failure is often due to weak or non-existent business strategy or failure to create a business-driven technology strategy. Alignment will increasingly be seen as only the first step, it will occur to all that the design and management of business cannot be done apart from the design and management of technology.

Scrap The Org. Chart

W e are already seeing the blending of corporate roles. It will be commonplace in the future. Leaders will have to be comfortable in both the business and technology realms. This re-identity is already underway. **Get Underneath The Hood**

eaders of the next generation must be able to discern business

processes below the overarching posture of an organization that advance strategy. Moreover, they must see technology as part and parcel of these processes, the two are inseparable. This is going to require untying the functional straitiackets in which many organizations have existed. Above all, what really matters moving forward is your under



vou've posi tioned your self to be just as aware how different your organiza tion will look in the future, and how you can adapt to help that journey

you are a valu-

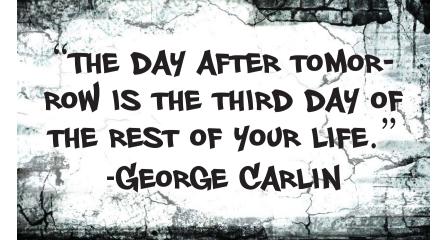
Armed with

that powerful

mindset,

THE WALL





BABY BLUES

I THINK I'LL GO FOR A WALK BEFORE IT GETS TOO HOT.



YOU'LL HAVE TO GET THE KIDS DRESSED AND FED.



By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott





By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman

