

12. Aircraft Commander (1:17)

Well, they call him 'Aircraft Commander' but he's the pilot usually. You could have an Aircraft Commander and he'd not even fly the airplane. Have somebody else flying - a pilot and a co-pilot. You could have that. Normally our Aircraft Commander was the pilot. The Aircraft Commander usually is the pilot of the airplane. He's the guy in charge. He's the guy that says "bail out" and that means he's got to go last.

That's why I want to train. As I used to tell the people, "I want you guys to know how to get out of this airplane because I got to go out last."

Your likelihood of finding them is pretty slim. A person in the water and all they've got is a life jacket - your chances of seeing them are pretty darn slim. Yeah that's right; sometimes you lose them. They may be on the bottom anyway. You don't know that. They may have seen you go over two or three times and you didn't see them. We did probably do one more pass sometimes and we got a little bit on the short end of the fuel. But, you know, you're not supposed to do that.

Related Primary Leadership Principles

Authority of Position

Character

Courage

Decision-Making

Mission

Team-Building

Training