

**Story by Bob "Spider" Reisig in the  
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Almost every crew member has had an unruly passenger from time to time, but this one takes the cake. Captain Ron Litton and I were flying the Convair from Great Falls to Billings, Casper, and then into Denver.

When we were about half way to Casper the flight attendant came up to Ron and said there was a big cowboy on board that was drunk and was trying to proposition a lady passenger to go to bed with him when they got to Casper.

This lady didn't want to have anything to do with this cowboy so he said he was going to cut her hair off. Ron told the flight attendant to try and get the knife away from the cowboy and bring it to the cockpit. She did and was informed by Ron that the cowboy would get the knife back when we got to Casper and he was off the plane.

After arriving in Casper and the air stairs were lowered no one was getting off the airplane. Captain Litton climbed over the ACM from a 3rd level carrier we had on board, and a matter of moments I heard through the door a lot of banging and then thump, thump, thump. I thought one of two things at that moment and that was either this cowboy was thrown down the stairs or Ron was.

As I was jumping over the ACM to get out he asked me if this sort of thing happens very often. I said it's a first for me. When I got the cockpit door open and looked down on the ramp there was the cowboy spread out on the tarmac right in front of all the passengers waiting in the terminal to board the plane to Denver.

When the cowboy regained his thoughts and got up, Ron informed him that he could go to jail and be fined very heavily for threatening a fellow passenger and crew members. The cowboy took off his jacket and Ron thought here we go again, I'm going to have to deck him again, and the cowboy said, "Here, hit me anywhere, just don't take me to jail."

The local police and FAA had arrived by this time and asked the Captain if he wanted to press charges, but Ron just said sober him up and take him home. Later I asked Ron what had transpired when he got out of the cockpit.

He told me that the cowboy was blocking the aisle and wouldn't let anybody off the airplane. When he got to the cabin the cowboy was giving the bulkhead karate chops and then took a swing at him. Ron knowing karate a little bit better than the cowboy promptly decked him and then thought he didn't want him to get up and start anything else so he picked him up by the back of his collar and pants and literally threw him down the air stairs.

Later as we were continuing our trip on to Denver, Ron made a PA announcement to all the passengers, some of whom were looking out the windows of the terminal and now on board, explaining what had happened so they didn't think this was a normal occurrence.