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# News

## PART 3



Bruce Dickinson's taste in dodgy trousers seems to be spreading...

## "IF ANYTHING IS GOING TO WAKE THE DEAD, THIS WILL!"

### IRON MAIDEN VOCALIST REPORTS FROM THE ROAD

**HERE, IN** the third exclusive installment of our Iron Maiden Somewhere Back In Time tour diary, frontman Bruce Dickinson reports from the other side of the Atlantic and describes the band's efforts to rattle some corpses on a former graveyard site...

#### FEBRUARY 19 LOS ANGELES, USA

"Where was I? Where am I? Rain and drizzle? It must be LA. Gig day. The antibiotics have kicked in and aliens have left my chest. Ed Force One is in the movies this afternoon. Off to film her over the desert, snow capped mountains, and in formation with a fighter pilot flying the camera ship. Find a phone booth, underpants on the outside of the trousers, and it's onstage

at the LA Forum. Pyro and a steamy gig. Everybody who thought they were anybody wanted to get in... but they couldn't! Love it. Ran away and hid after the show."

#### FEBRUARY 20 LOS ANGELES, USA

"The aftermath. Things hurt. Feet, legs, etc. Ed Force One has gone to Mexico without us. We are all having a recovery day. I record some radio shows in the evening for BBC 6 Music. I'm so tired I fall asleep in the middle of one!"

#### FEBRUARY 21 GUADALAJARA, MEXICO

"Oooh! It's a posh charter jet to Guadalajara for all of us, then onto Monterrey after the show. Guadalajara

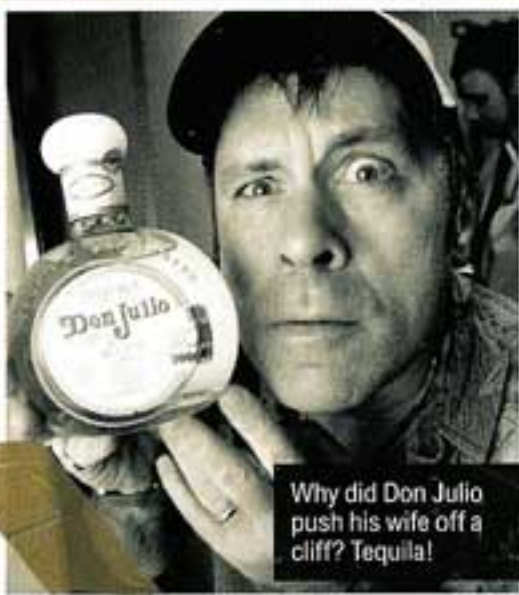
is Mexico's Silicon Valley (that's what the sign says anyway), and I acquire a big Sombrero and a papier mâché piñata Eddie. Great gig. We then land at the wrong airport. Posh Charter Jet 0, Ed Force One 2."

#### FEBRUARY 22 MONTERREY, MEXICO

"Where was I? Where am I? Oh, it's Monterrey. Did I mention altitude? Mexico is high and you gotta watch the breathing, folks. Fourteen thousand tonight at a wonderful indoor arena. Early to bed. Dig out pilot uniform. Might need it."

#### FEBRUARY 23 MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

"Nearly 8,000 ft up and I fly Ed Force One on a fairly uneventful trip. Now the fun and games start. Mexico City is up to its neck in bureaucracy and officialdom. Getting in was easy. But getting out? I stay with the plane and make 'nice nice' with all the powers that be to try and negotiate a slot departure in a couple of days time. Dinner this evening with



Why did Don Julio push his wife off a cliff? Tequila!



"Olé smoke! Am I right?"

EMI, quick go in the gym, go see the 'Iron Maidens' at the Hard Rock café with Steve [Harris, bass]. Lauren [Steve's daughter] played the same night. I leave just before midnight. Most people arrested shortly afterwards. Good night out, then!"

#### FEBRUARY 24 MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

"Fifty thousand people in a stadium built on a graveyard. If anything is going to wake the dead, this will. What a gig! It's that sound reverberating of a crowd in full 'Maiden Maiden' chants. Amazing. Fair bit of oxygen in use tonight. Davey is ill with a bug and the doc has given him some pills. I run around as usual and realize that at 8,000 ft, things are not the same! Almost fall off my perch!"

#### FEBRUARY 25 MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

"Leisurely breakfast. Straight out to the plane. Lovely day. Slots are all in order for Ed Force One. Cleared to start but what? A problem? It's an international incident. A Mexican stand-off. Hoist the Jolly Roger. We may not make it to Costa Rica. To be continued..."