

Rex Leonard Dull

F-105 History

18-Dec-64

6523

F-105D Operational Training Course (F-105) 111506E graduated six pilots in Class 65-D at the 4520 CCTW, Nellis AFB, NV. The course was six months long, starting on 1 July 1964, and the class was assigned to the 4526 CCTS. "Officers have acquired three years active dy svc commitment from date of crs completion."

The student pilots, their home bases, and home towns were:

Capt Rex L. Dull - 36 TFS Yokota AB, Japan - from Gary, IN
Capt John J. King - 80 TFS Yokota AB, Japan - from Los Angeles, CA
Capt Edward D. Nowokunski - 67 TFS Kadena AB, Okinawa - from Boston, MA
Capt John T. Stadler - 44 TFS Kadena AB, Okinawa - from Guthrie, OK
Capt Edwin L. Stanford - 67 TFS Kadena AB, Okinawa - from Arkadelphia, OH
1Lt Richard L. Pack - 80 TFS Yokota AB, Japan - from Los Angeles, CA

The class's Instructor Pilots were:

Capt Darwin E. Hammersley
Capt George W. Beran
Capt Paul Truman McClellan
Capt Hugh M. Milton III
Flight Lt Anthony "Bugs" Bendell - RAF exchange pilot
Don Riggs - US Navy exchange pilot

In November 1965, instructor pilot ... "Captain Paul McClellan was a member of the 1st Air Commando Squadron flying A-1E Skyraiders out of Bien Hoa and Pleiku Air Bases, RVN. While in support of the 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) his aircraft serial number 52-132898 was shot down by heavy ground fire while on his 8th strafing pass against North Vietnamese Troops." He was KIA on 14 Nov 1965 and his remains have not been returned. His name is on the Vietnam Wall at Panel 03E - Line 50. (Posting on 14 Nov 2006 by Dennis Lewis on web site <http://www.thewall-usa.com>)

Hq 4520th Combat Support Group Special Order P-170, dated 24 May 1965 provided by Jim Hannam via e-mail, 5 April 2010 & photo caption by Rex Dull via Bauke Jan Douma.

26-Aug-65 28-Oct-65

309

In a continuing series of TDY combat rotations by the three squadrons of the 6441 TFW at Yokota AB, Japan, the 36 TFS deployed for their third combat tour. Their first was to Korat in August 1964. This was their second deployment to Takhli RTAFB, Thailand, to replace the 80 TFS. The 36 TFS commander was Lt Col Howard F. "Red Dog" Hendricks.

Capt Douglas G. Lauck was one of the 36 TFS pilots on this deployment. This was his third 60-day TDY deployment with the 36th to Thailand and his second one to Takhli. During this deployment, he raised his total North Vietnam combat missions to about 48.

Other pilots on the deployment were:

Col Chester L. Van Eten, the 6441 TFW Commander	Capt Robert H. Jones
Maj Dean A. Pogreba, the 36 TFS Operations Officer	Capt Vernon D. Hesterman
Capt John O. Rollins II	Capt Thomas W. Sima
Maj Richard P. Fitzgerald	Capt Onofiro J. Andrews
Capt Lester W. Sundt	Capt Roderick G. Beckett
Capt John R. Layman	Capt Donnie R. Duplissey
Capt Rex L. Dull	Capt Robert H. Schuler, Jr.
Capt Clarence E. Fox	1Lt Delbert F. Miller
Capt Jerry L. Stamps	Capt Bruce G. Seeber

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Capt William A. Becker
Maj Wayne N. Whatley
Capt Fredrick William Shattuck, Jr.
Capt David L. Hatten
Capt Bernard G. Lyons
Capt James I. Miholick
Lt Col William L. Janssen from the 6441 TFW Staff
Capt Michael F. McNamara from the 6441 TFW Staff
Capt Jack R. Stresing from the 41 AD Staff

Capt Paul H. Storment
Capt Wayne D. Hauth
Capt David S. Graben
Capt Stanley S. Rynear
1Lt Benjamin D. Ulrich
1Lt Denis D. O'Donoghue

6441 TFW History, Jul - Dec 65, USAF microfilm PO232 & Doug Lauck, e-mail 25 Sep 2006 & 441 Cmbt Spt Gp Special Order TA-424 dated 5 Aug 65.

18-Apr-66

5176

The 6441 TFW selected the pilots for the squadron that became the 34 TFS to deploy to Korat. Most would come from the 36 TFS; consequently, the 36 TFS was slated to disband.

Bob Pielin from the 36 TFS, who had already flown 87 combat missions during temporary duty tours to Korat and Takhli, remembered how he helped select the pilots for the new squadron. "Fitz [Maj Richard P. Fitzgerald, the squadron's Operations Officer] and I initially made out a list of 25 pilots from the Wing resources to go as 34th members. The list was bounced back from HHQ as being too overloaded in pilots with over 50 missions. They recommended 6 guys in the 0 to 20 mission category, 6 in the 21 to 40, 6 in the 41 to 60, 6 in the 61 to 80, and anyone with over 80 to go TDY."

This distribution was to spread out their eventual departures from Korat as each pilot completed his 100-mission tour. Capt Pielin and Maj Fitzgerald reworked the list "... with some pronounced disapproval from those that were removed from the [original]. ... A 1.5 aircrew/aircraft ratio was authorized for 27 pilots plus Commander and Operations Officer. ... Bob Jones [Capt Robert H. Jones] was removed from the first list since he had his papers in to be discharged. When he found out about the 34th going PCS to Korat, he volunteered to go with [them] and get 100 missions before he got out. Red Dog [Lt Col Howard F. 'Red Dog' Hendricks the squadron commander] worked a 'deal', and he went TDY." (Bob Pielin e-mails, 23 Sep 2006 and 7 April 2007.)

The following list contains the positions and names of the initial twenty-nine pilots assigned to the 34 TFS. This is the revised list after Capt Pielin and Maj Fitzgerald reworked their original to provide a broader base of experience. One of the pilots, Gordon Walcott, annotated his copy of the printed list, dated 18 April 1966, with this comment: "This was the original 34th TFS crew roster when formed as an all-volunteer squadron from the 35 TFS, 36 TFS, and 80 TFS (Yokota AB, Japan)"

Commander - Lt Col Howard F. "Red Dog" Hendricks who had been commander of the 36 TFS.
Operations Officer - Maj Richard P. Fitzgerald

India Flight
Flight Commander - Maj Wayne N. Whatley
Capt Robin K. Nierste
Capt James I. Miholick
Capt Douglas G. Lauck
Capt Robert H. Jones
Capt Robert R. Reed

Lima Flight
Flight Commander - Capt James E. Hayes
Capt Merrill R. Lewis, Jr.
Capt Gordon M. Walcott
Capt Stanley S. Gunnersen
1Lt John Bernard Sullivan III

Juliet Flight
Flight Commander - Maj Kenneth T. Blank
Capt Carl L. Hamby
Capt Thomas H. Curtis

Metro Flight
Flight Commander - Capt Robert D. Pielin
Capt Alan K. Rutherford
Capt Ralph D. Watkins

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Capt David H. Groark
1Lt Phillip J. Kelley

Capt Wayne D. Hauth
Capt Rainford "Ray" McMaster Tiffin - 80 TFS

Kilo Flight
Flight Commander - Maj Jack R. Stresing
Capt William O. Lessard
Capt John R. Layman
Capt Rex L. Dull
Capt Clarence E. Fox
1Lt Denis D. O'Donoghue

E-mail from Monty Pharmed, 22 Sep 2006 forwarding letter to him from Lt Col (Ret) Gordon Walcott dated, 29 July 1988, which included a roster of 36 TFS pilots, dated 18 April 1966.

25-May-66

4957

On Wednesday morning, twenty F-105Ds (18 aircraft and 2 spares) now assigned to the 34 TFS left the 6441 TFW at Yokota for Kadena on the first leg of their movement to the 388 TFW at Korat. The aircraft took off in flights of four using call signs "Yule". Each flight departed Yokota at half-hour intervals beginning at 0800. The deployment's flight line-up consisted of:

Pilot	Call Sign	Acft Tail No	Yokota TO Time	Kadena Arr Time	Acft Maint Status at Kadena
Lt Col Howard F. Hendricks	Yule 01	62-4361	0800	0955	Tacan/Doppler probs
Capt Robin K. Nierste	Yule 02	62-4288	0800	0955	O/R
Capt James I. Miholick	Yule 03	62-4336	0800	0955	O/R
Capt Wayne D. Hauth	Yule 04	62-4303	0800	0955	Gnd blower inop
Maj Wayne N. Whatley	Yule 11	62-4306	0830	1025	O/R
Capt Robert H. Jones	Yule 12	62-4318	0830	1025	O/R
Capt Robert R. Reed	Yule 13	62-4308	0830	1025	Autopilot
Capt Douglas G. Lauck	Yule 14	62-4358	0830	1025	O/R
Maj Kenneth T. Blank	Yule 21	62-4370	0901	1058	O/R
Capt Thomas H. Curtis	Yule 22	62-4380	0901	1058	O/R
Capt Carl L. Hamby	Yule 23	62-4364	0901	1058	O/R
1Lt Phillip J. Kelley	Yule 24	62-4277	0901	1058	O/R
Capt Alan K. Rutherford	Yule 31	62-4270	0930	1134	Autopilot
Capt Rex L. Dull	Yule 32	62-4312	0930	1134	O/R
Capt Ralph D. Watkins	Yule 33	62-4378	0930	1134	CIN
1Lt John B. Sullivan III	Yule 34	62-4356	0930	1134	Fire Ctrl/Elec
Capt James E. Hayes	Yule 41	62-4352	1000	1200	Fire Ctrl
Maj Jack R. Stresing	Yule 42	61-0132	1000	1200	O/R
Capt Lothar A. "Andy" Olman	Yule 43	62-4379	1000	1200	Fuel Leak
Capt Robert D. Reichart	Yule 44	62-4354	1000	1200	O/R

(History of the 6441 TFW, 1 Apr 65 to 15 Nov 66, Supporting Documents, Mobility Control Center Log, pg 6, in AFHRA folder K-WG-6441-HI, IRIS# 0462464.)

Capt Alan K. Rutherford was one of the pilots on the deployment. "I recall so well how we formed up with 16 Thuds and midst many tears (from wives) and go get um's from the troops we launched to the war. We were going to 'kill the Cong'. We intended to overnight at Kadena, and then launch the next

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day with the squadron to Korat. Needless to say it got drunk and rowdy that night ...". (Al Rutherford, e-mail, 21 Sep 2006.)

Capt Douglas G. Lauck was another of the 34 TFS pilots moving to Korat. "We packed our household goods [at Yokota] and sent them along with our cars back to the States. Our wives and dependents had flights booked back to the States." (Doug Lauck, e-mail 21 Sep 2006.)

The pilots from the 34 TFS were to join with pilots from the 13 TFS at Kadena on 26 May and deploy to Korat. Unfortunately, circumstances required the 34th pilots at Kadena to return to Yokota on 26 May.

In the 13 TFS, "the squadron was cocked to move as planned on the 25th of May, but a staying order was received, delaying departure for thirty days. Rumors were rife that perhaps the move would not be made at all. Unfortunately, on the basis of the rumors and the lack of further communications, after numerous inquires to higher headquarters on the subject, many members of the new squadron cancelled proceedings to return their dependents to the United States. As a result, when the order to deploy on 23 June was received with a week's advance notice, many dependents were left to arrange their own moves. Much help was rendered by friends and Wing personnel, of course, to facilitate these peoples' departure. On 23 June, support personnel departed for Korat via C-130. Aircrews departed the following day."

388 TFW History, Jul - Dec 66, USAF microfilm NO583 frame 1742 & 44 TFS history, 1 Jan 65 - 30 June 1967, pp 4 - 5.

30-Sep-66

5151

Seven pilots assigned to the 34 TFS, 388 TFW, at Korat, completed flying 100 missions during September 1966. The pilots were in the original group who arrived at Korat in May and June 1966, They were:

Capt Clarence E. Fox
Capt James I. Miholick
Capt Gordon M. Walcott
1Lt Denis D. O'Donoghue
Capt Carl L. Hamby
Capt Douglas G. Lauck
Capt Rex L. Dull

When he left Korat, Lt O'Donoghue was assigned to an F-5 squadron at Williams AF, AZ. He "... delivered an F-5 to Bien Hoa AB during the Tet Offensive and hung around long enough to fly some F-37 missions with an old Willy F-5 instructor." In 1968, he joined the New Jersey ANG at McGuire AFB "... and flew Thud Bs and Ds for another 10 years."

Carl Hamby last flew the F-105 in March 1968. He had accumulated 738.5 hours in the airplane. (F-105 Pilot Flying Hour report dated 18 Nov 85 provided by the USAF Safety Center to Bauke Jan Douma.)

As a replacement pilot, Maj Edward C. Jones was assigned to the 34 TFS in September 1966. He had qualified in the F-105 while stationed with the 36 TFW at Bitburg in 1962. He had left Bitburg in 1964 and spent a year in Hq TAC in the F-105 maintenance shop. He was then assigned to Shaw AFB where he flew Functional Check Flights in RF-4Cs. While at Shaw he volunteered for SEA expecting to fly RF-4s but instead received orders as an F-105 pilot. He went to Nellis AFB for F-105 requalification training, to Fairchild AFB for USAF Survival School, then to PACAF Jungle Survival School at Clark AB, Phillipines, before arriving at Korat. (Ed Jones, phone interviews 26 and 28 April 10 and e-mail 26 Apr 10.)

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After landing from his 100th mission, Jim Miholick donned a World War II flying helmet and goggles with a white scarf around his neck. "I got the scarf, WWII flying helmet, goggles, and O2 mask from a B-57 driver at Clark AB; I can't remember the details. I do remember that I 'donated' the scarf to the squadron which later became the 100 Mission scarf. I had the O2 mask 'modified' by Life Support so I could talk to Ground Control during the taxi back to the chocks, so all the enlisted guys knew what I was planning." (Jim Miholick e-mail to Jake Shuler July 12, 2014.)

34 TFS web site on 2 April 2007 at <http://s88204154.onlinehome.us.34tfs/scarf.htm> & Denis O'Donoghue, e-mail 7 Apr 10.

31-Dec-66

678

One year after the start of their RTU mission, the 23 TFW at McConnell AFB KS, had trained a total of 105 pilots to fly the F-105. The wing had 30 F-105 instructor pilots who had completed at least 100 missions in South East Asia. The 560 TFS and 561 TFS each had 7 pilots, the 562 TFS had 12, and the 563 TFS had 4. Five additional 100-mission pilots were attached to the 23 TFW. 1Lt Leonard C. Ekman, assigned to the 561 TFS, had completed 185 missions in SEA, the most of any Air Force pilot.

The 100-mission instructor pilots in the 560 TFS were:

Maj Eleas Casillas	Capt Jack L. Graber
Maj Robert E. Phillips	Capt William S. Koenitzer
Capt Marion M. Angel	1Lt William E. Ardern
Capt Rex L. Dull	

The 100-mission instructor pilots in the 561 TFS were:

Maj Fred T. Coleman	Capt Robert Kieth Hannah, Jr.
Maj John C. Shay	1Lt Roger A. Ayres
Capt Ralph J. Beardsley	1 Lt Leonard C. "Lucky" Ekman
Capt Roderick G. Beckett	

The 100-mission instructor pilots in the 562 TFS were:

Lt Col James A. Young	Capt Wayne D. Hauth
Maj Phillip O. Bradley	Capt Robert L. "Bob the Wedge" Keller
Maj Robert D. Pielin	Capt Douglas G. Lauck (SEFE)
Capt Arthur L. Brattkus	Capt Robin K. Nierste
Capt Teddy Gay	Capt William S. Secker, Jr.
Capt Stanley S. Gunnensen	Capt Joseph R. Steen

The 100-mission instructor pilots in the 563 TFS were:

Maj Kenneth G. Frank
Capt Robert V. "Boris" Baird
Capt James I. Miholick
1Lt John C. Russell

23 TFW attached 100-mission pilots were:

Capt Clarence E. Cox
Capt John R. Layman
Capt Charles Loucks
Capt Clifford H. "Ted" Rees, Jr. (chief of tactical operations, 835th Air Division)
Capt Robert L. Chastain

23 TFW History, 1 Jul - 31 Dec 1966, USAF microfilm MO554.

01-Jul-67

4222

As of 1 July 1967, the 560 TFS at McConnell AFB, Kansas, had 19 officers and 151 enlisted men. The squadron commander was Lt Col Louis D. Braun, Jr. and his Operations Officer was Lt Col Richard A.

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Bevan. The squadron's Stan Eval Officer was Maj Jack L. Graber.

The members of A Flight, all Instructor Pilots were:

Maj Robert L. Harris
Capt Gerald L. Hawkins

B Flight IPs were:

Maj Robert E. Phillips
Maj James T. Brown
Capt Philip C. Montagano

C Flight IPs were:

Maj Eleas Casillas who last flew the F-105 in July 1967. He accumulated 1513.1 hours in the airplane.
Capt Rex L. Dull
Capt Robert C. Bigrigg

D Flight IPs were:

Maj William J. Koenitzer
Capt Marion M. Angel

The IPU flight IPs responsible for training the 23 TFW's Instructor Pilots were:

Maj Harrison W. Matthews
Capt John H. Schaub

23 TFW History, Jun - Dec 1967, USAF microfilm MO554, frames 1120 - 1121.

07-Jan-71

7844

Col Rex L. Dull flew the F-105 for the last time. Since his first flight in July 1964, he had accumulated 1466.7 hours in the airplane.

F-105 Pilot Flying Hour report dated 18 Nov 85 provided by the USAF Safety Center to Bauke Jan Douma.

16-Aug-17

7843

Rex L. Dull, age 79, died in Camdenton, MO, of a massive heart attack on Aug 16, 2017.

Obituary for Rex L. Dull

DECORATED FIGHTER PILOT, LOVING FATHER AND HUSBAND PASSES UNEXPECTEDLY

Rex Leonard Dull was born on July 24, 1938 in Arkansas City, Kansas to Clyde Dull and Wilda Fern 'Babe' Dull (nee Brundridge). He was raised across the Midwest hunting, fishing and camping, settling in Gary, Indiana. After deciding against a boilermaker career, Rex joined the Air Force in the Aviation Cadet Program at Harlingen AFB, Texas. He graduated from flying training course, earning his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant, his Navigator wings, and marrying the love of his life, Shirley, all on June 4th, 1959. After several Navigator assignments, including the RC-121 aircraft during the Cuban Missile Crisis, he applied for Pilot training and was sent to Craig AFB, Alabama. After graduation and earning his pilot wings, Rex and Shirley moved to Nellis AFB, NV, where he completed F-105 training. Rex then served at McConnell AFB in Kansas as an instructor pilot, at Nellis AFB and at Yokota AFB in Japan. He was later stationed at Korat AFB in Thailand and flew more than 100 F-105 combat missions over North Vietnam.

He then returned to Nellis where he converted to the F-111 and flew the fighter-bomber there, and on another tour in Thailand including more missions over North Vietnam. In 1977, the family moved to Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, where he served with distinction as a Fighter Squadron Operations Officer and Commander. Rex and Shirley then lived and served in Bangkok, Thailand with the Joint

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U.S. Military Assistance Group, where he was promoted to Colonel. Then he served in Southern California at the Air Force Inspection and Safety Center and in Frankfurt, Germany as the Air Force Liaison to the US Army's 5th Corps. Rex's final assignment was as the Inspector General at Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

Rex retired as a Colonel in May 1989 after 30 years of service to our country. He served as a highly decorated AF fighter pilot, including during the Vietnam War in Southeast Asia. Flying well more than 100 combat missions, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with one Oak Leaf Cluster for missions in Cambodia and Vietnam, the Air Medal with three silver and two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, in addition to approximately thirty additional medals, recognitions and citations, including one for Small Arms Expert Marksmanship with One Bronze Service Star for besting General Colin Powell in a marksmanship contest.

During retirement Rex devoted himself to his family and to volunteering for the American Legion, the Dogwood Thrift Shop, Meals on Wheels and many other causes.

Rex was a loving husband and father, an avid outdoorsman and skilled marksman, and frequently took the family camping, fishing and hunting. He was well-loved.

He is survived by his loving wife of fifty-eight years, Shirley Hutchens Dull; his younger brother, Terry (Laura); daughters, Julie and Kimberly and grandchildren, Spencer and Emily. His only son, Scott Michael, preceded him in death.

Services will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, August 26, 2017 at Kidwell Garber Funeral Home of Laurie. Visitation will be from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., Saturday at the funeral home. There will be a celebration of life event (with lunch) at the American Legion Zack Wheat Post in Sunrise Beach immediately thereafter.

The family requests donations in lieu of flowers to The Lamb House at 50 Illinois Street, Camdenton, Missouri 65020.

Arrangements are under the care and direction of the Kidwell-Garber Laurie/Sunrise Beach Chapel.

Bob Bradshaw, e-mail 16 Oct 2017 & <http://www.kidwellgarber.com/obituaries/Rex-Dull/#!/Obituary>.