

Clarence Edward Fox

F-105 History

09-Dec-63

5226

At the 4520 CCTW at Nellis AFB NV, Class 64-F of F-105D Operational Training Course 111506E graduated 24 pilots. The course started on 7 October 1963 and was assigned to the 4523 CCTS commanded by Lt Col Claude D. Phillips. The student pilots and their home stations were:

Lt Col Robert L. Bobbett - Bolling	Capt Neal L. Funston - 388 TFW McConnell
Lt Col James M. Morris - 388 TFW McConnell	Capt Ralph L. Kitchens - 388 TFW McConnell
Maj John P. Anderson - 8 TFW Itazuke	Capt Jack L. Spearman - 388 TFW McConnell
Maj William J. Bailey - 8 TFW Itazuke	Capt Paul H. Storum - 8 TFW Itazuke
Maj John I. Brown III - 355 TFW George	Capt Larry D. Wiggins - 388 TFW McConnell
Maj Robert A. Farnsworth, Jr. - 8 TFW Itazuke	1Lt Edward R. Bracken - 8 TFW Itazuke
Maj Louis G. Pazel - Luke	1Lt Clarence E. Fox - Homestead
Maj John C. Shay - 355 TFW George	1Lt Thomas W. Gallagher, Jr. - 8 TFW Itazuke
Capt Onofiro J. Andrews - Cannon	1Lt Edward J. Haerter - 355 TFW George
Capt Robert B. Bennett - 8 TFW Itazuke	1Lt Robert H. Jones - 457 TFS George - F-104C
Capt Thomas H. Curtis - Shaw	1Lt Bernard G. Lyons - Homestead
Capt Gerald E. Detweiller - 388 TFW McConnell	1Lt Jerry L. Stamps - Homestead
Capt Robert R. Dyczkowski - 355 TFW George	

Two pilots from Offutt AFB attended selected parts of Class 64-F from 9 - 19 Oct 63: Lt Col E. B. Elrod and Maj V. E. Chandler. Also, 1Lt Jared P. Lowe from Shaw AFB attended the class from 10 Oct 63 for 19 hours of academic training.

Lt Col James M. Morris was the commander of the 563 TFS at McConnell and was later assigned as commander of the 8 TFS, 49 TFW, at Spangdahlem.

As an F-104C pilot at George AFB, 1Lt Bob Jones had "... deployed to Hahn Germany for the Berlin wall dust-up, and to NAS Key West for the 'Cuban Missile Crisis'. I was the last active duty 2Lt to fly the zipper." During his F-105 training, "... I was airborne on my first 'unsupervised solo' in the Thud ... along with Tom Curtis (whom I waxed) the day Kennedy was killed." After his F-105 upgrade, he "... was assigned to the 36 TFS 'Pukin Pups' at Itazuke in the fall of '63." (Bob Jones, e-mail 24 Apr 10)

SO AA-8 dated 8 Oct 63 in History of the 4520 CCTW, 1 Jul - 31 Dec 63, AFHRA Call # K285.5435, IRIS # 0488615.

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 Etten, 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.

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Capt Clarence E. Fox
Capt Jerry L. Stamps
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

1Lt Delbert F. Miller
Capt Bruce G. Seeber
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. Gunnerson
1Lt John Bernard Sullivan III

Juliet Flight
Flight Commander - Maj Kenneth T. Blank

Metro Flight
Flight Commander - Capt Robert D. Pielin

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Capt Carl L. Hamby
Capt Thomas H. Curtis
Capt David H. Groark
1Lt Phillip J. Kelley

Capt Alan K. Rutherford
Capt Ralph D. Watkins
Capt Wayne D. Hauth
Capt Rainford "Ray" McMaster Tiffin

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 Pharmer, 22 Sep 2006 forwarding letter to him from Lt Col (Ret) Gordon Walcott dated, 29 Ju 1988, which included a roster of 36 TFS pilots, dated 18 April 1966.

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."

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.)

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