

Frank M. Smith

F-105 History

18-Sep-66

226

The fourth F-105 RTU Class 67BR graduated at McConnell AFB KS. The class started on 16 May 66 with 15 pilots. It was named "The Lickity Splits" and consisted of 2 Lt Cols, 8 Maj's, and 5 Capt's.

On 27 Jun 66, Lt Col Charles F. Neff, Jr. was the second 23 TFW RTU student fatality when he crashed in F-105D 59-1767 during a training mission.

The class deployed 14 F-105s with the 560 TFS to George AFB CA between 23 Aug - 19 Sep 66 for conventional weapons delivery training. The squadron commander was Maj Everett W. Harris. Maj Alfred J. Lagrou, Jr. was the Top Gun and Outstanding Pilot.

Other pilots completing the course were:

Lt Col Benjamin C. Murph	Maj Homer T. Terry
Maj R. Diaz, Jr.	Capt Gale B. Anstine
Maj William C. Eagle	Capt George R. Hennigan
Maj John A. Graff	Capt William W. Kennedy
Maj Robert W. Johnson	Capt Frank M. Smith
Maj Robert Earl Kline	Capt Frederick L. Watkins
Maj Claude C. Mitson	

23 TFW History, Jul - Dec 66, USAF microfilm MO554.

01-Oct-66

6727

Thirty seven pilots and EWOs were in the 13 TFS, 388 TFW, as of 1 October 1966.

Lt Col Gerald F. "Jerry" Fitzgerald - Commander
Maj George H. Williams
Maj Frederic C. Hiebert
Maj Robert Diaz, Jr. (Attached)

A Flight

Capt Edward D. McCabe
1Lt Roger J. Hegstom
Capt John L. Mesenbourg
Capt Oscar W. Frazer
Capt Frederick L. Watkins

B Flight

Capt Roger L. Counts
Capt Walter C. Williams
1Lt Jerry L. Garner
1Lt Maxie A. Hatcher, Jr.
Capt Thomas E. Mason, Jr.
Capt Allen L. Anderson, Jr.

C Flight

Capt Edwin L. Stanford
Capt Donald J. Quigley
Capt Charles H. Haberstich
1Lt John M. Thigpen
1Lt Russell M. Lanning
Capt Frank M. Smith

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Weasel Flight (Pilot & EWO Crews)

Maj Robert E. Brinckmann

Capt Vincent A. Scungio

Maj William P. Robinson

Maj Peter Tsouprake

Maj Richard D. Westcott

Capt Herbert L. Friesen

Maj James W. O'Neil

Capt George E. Kennedy

Maj Kenneth R. Ryckman

Capt Clyde A. Hayman

Capt John E. Hill

Capt John R. Buick

Capt Marion M. Angel

Capt Robert E. Tondreau

Capt Larry D. Waller

Capt James P. Padgett

13 TFS crew roster from Dick Baughn via Bauke Jan Douma e-mail 19 Jan 2011

19-Dec-66

2386

Maj. Marlin R. Blake from the 13 TFS, Korat, RTAFB, Thailand, flew his 22nd combat mission. One F-105F and three F-105Ds carrying six 500-pound bombs. "Oakland" flight: Waller/Padgett (Maj Larry D. Waller/Maj James Phillip Padgett), Fitz (Lt Col Gerald F. "Jerry" Fitzgerald), Smith (Capt Frank M. Smith), Blake. "Iron Hand to Hanoi. Two circuits up and down Thud Ridge. One SAM across canopy about 1,000 feet away. Outstanding mission. Larry Waller was Weasel and Padgett EWO. The best."

100 Mission Log of Maj. Marlin R. Blake

16-Mar-67

2598

Maj. Marlin R. Blake from the 13 TFS, 388 TFW, Korat, RTAFB, Thailand, flew his 62nd combat mission. He led four F-105Ds in "Stinger" flight.

Stinger 1 - Major Marlin R. Blake flying 58-1152

Stinger 2 - Capt David H. Coats flying 60-0430

Stinger 3 - Capt Edgar W. "Ed" Michie flying 62-4359

Stinger 4 - Maj Wray C. Lasswell flying 59-1759

Spare - Capt Frank M. Smith in 60-0449

Stinger was the fourth of five F-105 flights from Korat: Crab (Iron Hand), Hotrod, Tampa, Stinger, Fosdick. Plymouth and Bobcat were two other Iron Hand flights. Mayor and Texas were two F-4 CAP flights. Wasp and Nitro were EB-66 ECM flights.

"Refueled and went towards Hanoi. About 50 miles south started getting SAM signals. About 42 miles out we had three SAMs fired at us. Broke down and they missed. Continued outbound and dropped our 3,000-pounders on Route 6. Bad weather all over. Everything all fouled up from start to almost end. Refueling off course. Formation spread. Weather bad. SAMs."

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100 Mission Log of Maj. Marlin R. Blake

31-Jul-67

3812

The 388 TFW history covering the period 1 April - 31 July 1967 listed 79 names of F-105 Wild Weasel, Ryan's Raiders, and strike crews in the 13 TFS.

One of the Wild Weasel crews in the 13 TFS was Capt Robert E. Dorrough and his EWO Maj Clarence S. Summers who arrived on 29 June 1967.

One of the strike pilots was Lt Col Gerald F. "Jerry" Fitzgerald, former 13 TFS squadron commander, who flew his 100th mission on 1 June 1967.

Capt Frank M. Smith was a 13 TFS strike pilot departing on 1 Jun 67. He was awarded the Silver Star for the period Apr - Jul 67.

388 TFW history, Apr Dec 67, Vol II, 13 TFS history, 1 Apr - 31 July, microfilm NO584, frames 0040 - 0051.