

David E. Weaver

F-105 History

23-Jan-64

5223

F-105D Operational Training Course 111506E, Class 64-G, graduated from the 4520 CCTS, Nellis AFB, NV. The class began training on 6 November 1963 and was assigned to the 4526 CCTS commanded by Maj Warren Foss. The 25 student pilots in this class were:

Lt Col Aaron J. Bowman	Capt Bruce G. Seeber (Held over on 1 Dec)
Maj Joseph W. Brand	Capt Delbert F. Smith
Maj James L. Glessner, Jr.	Capt Harold Victor Smith
Maj William C. Redeen	Capt Jack R. Stresing
Capt James Q. Collins, Jr.	Capt Lester W. Sundt
Capt Homer D. Deavult	Capt David E. Weaver
Capt Kenneth D. Furth	1Lt James E. Foston, Jr.
Capt Glen H. Hales	1Lt Wayne D. Hauth
Capt John R. Layman	1Lt Douglas G. Lauck (Assgnd to 36 TFS, 8 TFW, Itazuke)
Capt Robert N. Middlebrooks	1Lt Larry C. Mahaffey
Capt Robert G. Moore	1Lt Robert H. Schuler, Jr.
Capt Elmer R. Olson	1Lt Benjamin D. Ulrich
Capt William W. Raitt	

Special Orders AA-12 and AA-19 (Seeber) dated 6 Nov 63 in History of 4520th Combat Crew Training Wing, 1 July - 31 Dec 1963, AFHRA Call # K285.54-3, IRIS # 0488615.

17-Nov-64

29-Dec-64

1051

Pilots from the 80 TFS from Yokota AB, Japan, continued arriving at Korat RTAFB, Thailand, to replace the 35 TFS. This was the 80th's first combat deployment of the Vietnam war and they were the third F-105 squadron from Yokota to fly combat missions at Korat. Maj John P. Anderson commanded the 80th.

In addition to Maj Anderson, twenty pilots eventually deployed with the squadron:

Maj Phil Coll	Capt Robert D. Pielin
Capt Robert D. Reichardt	Capt David E. Weaver
Capt John Atkinson	"Pappy" Detwiler
Capt Giles W. Gainer	Capt Chan E. McInelly
Andy Olman	Capt Robert L. "Bob The Wedge" Keller
Capt Lawrence D. Wilson	Capt Wayne Ensminger
Capt Gary Banks	Capt Murphy Neal Jones
Maj Delbert F. Smith	Capt Chuck McClaren
Maj Arthur Mearns	Capt David H. Groark
Capt Victor Vizcarra	Capt Gordon M. Walcott

Capt Vizcarra described the primitive conditions he found at Korat. "The whole base with the exception of the flightline was on dirt, no concrete or asphalt roads or sidewalks. Sidewalks that did exist were wood planks like in the old west. Throughout the base, in the center of nowhere, there were pipes sticking out of the ground with funnels on top about waist high - urinals! There was no Officer's Club (O'club); enlisted and officers ate together in the mess hall. You either walked or rode bicycles to wherever you needed to go. The phones were connected with open wire lines that were strung out from beneath the hooches."

Victor Vizcarra, e-mail, 10 Sep 00 & "Thud Pilot", unpublished memoirs, Chap. 1, pp 2 - 3.

18-Jan-67

1512

Four flights of F-105s from the 388 TFW "... struck the Don Muc Railroad Bridge (21-27-12N 106-14-01E). Especially significant, was the fact that the entire strike force was flown by pilots of the 34 TFS. This was the first time in the history of the 388 TFW that one of its assigned squadrons conducted a complete strike from within its own resources."

David E. Weaver

F-105 History

"The Force Commander was Lt Col Richard M. Heyman, Jr., and the Deputy Force Commander was Capt David E. Weaver. Flight assignment was as follows:

"Muskrat" - Lt Col Heyman, 1Lt Donald O. Austin, Capt Weaver, 1Lt Catren.

"Rip" - Maj William E. Augsburger, Maj Clarence Kough, Jr., Maj Edward C. Jones, Capt Alan J. Fick.

"Tamale" - Maj McKenzie, Capt Kennedy (two members were forced to air abort).

"Cheeta" - Maj Callahan, Maj Johnston, Capt John W. Swanson, Jr. (one member air aborted)."

"The flights reported heavy AAA in the target area and also 15 NM from the target during ingress and egress. Heavy 85 mm was encountered during the ingress and egress to the target. BDA photos ... substantiated pilot observations as two spans of the bridge were destroyed, leaving it in an unservicable condition."

Maj Augsburger was awarded a Silver Star for galantry for flying this mission. (7th AF SO G374 14 March 1967)

388 TFW history, Apr - Dec 1967, USAF microfilm NO463 frames 1218 and 1219.

28-Feb-67

5155

Four pilots assigned to the 34 TFS at Korat completed flying 100 missions during February 1967. They were:

Capt Phillip A. Goodwin

Capt John T. Stadler on TDY to the 34th from the 67 TFS at Kadena.

Capt David E. Weaver

1Lt Gary G. Catren

This was the last time Capt Goodwin flew the F-105. He had accumulated 340 hours in the airplane.

This was also the last time Capt Weaver flew the F-105. He had accumulated 651.5 hours in the airplane.

Lieutenant Cartren flew his 100th mission as #2 in a two-ship flight led by Lt Col Richard M. "Dick" Heyman, Jr., the 34th squadron commander. He flew the mission "... somewhere toward the first of the month as I was able to get home and married by the 26th of Feb 66. ... We were working in Laos and I begged a weather recce into Pac 1 so I could finish. We got shot at, we shot back and I took a 37/85 (?) mm through one of the fins of my left wing tank while I was inverted pulling into the dive. Without that lucky shot, I would have finished 100 still cherry."

His 100th mission was the last time 1Lt Catren flew the F-105. In six months of training at Nellis and six months of combat, he had accumulated 374.1 hours in the airplane. "That was the end of my relationship, but not my love affair, with the Thud." His subsequent assignments were:

Mar 67 - July 67 - McChord - Base Ops - T-33 - (TDY Randolph - IPIS - T-39 - May 67)

Aug 67 - Sep 67 - Tyndall - F-106 conversion

Sep 67 - Jul 68 - Paine Field - 498th FIS - F-106

Jul 68 - Jan 70 - F-106 - Hamilton - 84th FIS

Jan 70 - July 73 - RAF Exchange Program - RAF Coltishall - British Electric Lightning conversion/intercept instructor

Sep 73 - Dec 74 - Clark - Nuclear Release Officer (T-33)

Jan 75 - Mar 75 - TDY Tyndall F-106 Requal

Mar 75 - Jul 77 - McChord - 318th FIS - F-106

Aug 77 - Jun 78 - Newport News - Navy Staff College

July 78 - Jun 81 - Vicenza, Italy - 5 ATAF Conventional Attack Officer

David E. Weaver

F-105 History

Jun 81- Jan 84 - Davis Monthan - AGS Squadron Commander
Jan 84 - Jul 85 - Langley - TAC Hq - ADTAC IG Aircraft Maintenance
Jul 85 - Jul 86 - Langley - TAC Hq - Asst. DCM Fighter Maintenance
Aug 86 - Jul 89 - RAF Alconbury - DCM (RF-4, A-10, Aggressor Sq)
Jul 89 - Dec 90 - Bergstrom - 12th AF HQ - Asst. DCM

He retired as a colonel in December 1990.

34 TFS web site on 2 April 2007 at <http://s88204154.onlinehome.us.34tfs/scarf.htm> & F-105 Pilot Flying Hour report dated 18 Nov 85 provided by the USAF Safety Center to Bauke Jan Douma & Gary Catren, e-mails 1 & 2 Apr 11.

15-Sep-67

2366

(Approximate date). At Phoenix, Arizona, this month, certificates of recognition were given to 23 F-105 pilots and EWOs who recently completed 100-mission tours in SEA."

The men, and the squadron from the 355 TFW and 388 TFW to which they were assigned (when known), were:

BG William Spalding Chairsell - 34 TFS	Maj Kevin A. "Mike" Gilroy - 354 TFS
Col Robert Ray Scott - 333 TFS	Maj William B. Hoefft - 354 TFS
Maj Jack C. Brown	Capt Donald J. Hankins - 34 TFS
Maj Ray H. Bryant - 469 TFS	Capt Larry G. Lighty - 357 TFS
Maj Merlyn Hans Dethlefsen - 354 TFS	Capt Thomas A. Loken - 333 TFS
Maj William C. Eagle - 34 TFS	Capt Stow
Maj Thomas B. Hitchcock	Capt Norman L. "Norm" Suits - 421 TFS
Maj Robert N. "Bob" Johnston - 13 TFS	Capt Lloyd A. Sjulstad - 333 TFS
Maj Bruce H. Kline	Capt George H. Vipond - 67 TFS
Maj Robert F. Loken - 421 TFS	Capt David E. Weaver - 34 TFS
Maj Milton V. Rickman - 357 TFS	1Lt Glenn Gidel - 354 TFS
Maj Larry D. Waller - 13 TFS	

Republic Thunderchief Worldwide Report, Vol III No 2, Oct 67.

05-Jul-10

6590

Guys -We have lost another 34th TFS member.He was great guy who and a great fighter pilot. His wife Donnett's message follows. -- Homer

On July 5th, 2010 at approximately 4pm Lt. Col. David E. Weaver departed on his final mission to meet his Maker led by a flight of Four Good Angels. He went into a coma on The 4th of July. Up to that time he was pain free but on the morning of the 4th he had severe pain in the stomach area and hospice admistered a mild dose of morphine. He relaxed and went to sleep and the end came about 4 pm on the 5th. He was at home and I was with him. I believe all your prayers kept him pain free until the final days.

There will be a 10am funeral mass on July 15th at All Saints Catholic Church at 1534 N Recker Rd., Mesa, Az. 85205---480-985-7655.

Please no flowers but if anyone wants to donate to Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E Flower St. Phoenix, Az. 85014 that would be appreciated. They were truly a blessing.

Thank you everyone for caring. My life will never be the same but we had a good run for 48 years.

Good Bless all of you

Donnett

Homer Terry, E-mail 8 July 2010.