

# Squadron Commanders



## 16th Special Operations Squadron

Lt Colonel R.E. Hamlin	Feb 68 - Oct 68
Lt Colonel G.S. Fink	Oct 68 - Mar 69
Lt Colonel G.J. Liotos	Mar 69 - Jul 69
Lt Colonel T. Simone	Jul 69 - Dec 69
Lt Colonel B.P. Brevig	Dec 69 - Apr 70
Major R.B. Hight	Apr 70 - Jul 70
Lt Colonel Y.A. Tucker	Jul 70 - Jan 71
Lt Colonel K.G. Harris	Jan 71 - Jan 72
Colonel H.G. Canham	Jan 72 - Jun 72
Colonel J.E. Davis	Jun 72 - Apr 73
Colonel H.W. Williamson	Apr 73 - Dec 73
Colonel C.O. Hopingardner	Dec 73 - Sep 74
Lt Colonel J.F. Daughtry	Sep 74 - Oct 74
Colonel J.G. Wyatt	Oct 74 - Sep 75
Lt Colonel D.R. Mets	Sep 75 - Dec 75
Lt Colonel W. Harms	Dec 75 - Jan 76
Lt Colonel T.W. Jackson	Jan 76 - Jan 77
Lt Colonel P.G. Friedman	Jan 77 - Apr 79
Lt Colonel F.W. White	Apr 79 - Apr 81
Lt Colonel J.A. Gallagher	Apr 81 - Aug 82
Lt Colonel G.F. Shipp	Aug 82 - Dec 83
Lt Colonel D.K. Sims	Dec 83 - Oct 85
Lt Colonel W.S. Evans	Oct 85 - Apr 87
Lt Colonel H.B. Chambers	Apr 87 - Jun 89
Lt Colonel B.B. Napier	Jun 89 - Oct 90
Lt Colonel D.P. Kegel	Oct 90 - Nov 91
Lt Colonel J.B. Conners	Nov 91 - Dec 93
Lt Colonel M.B. Byers	Dec 93 - Jul 95
Lt Colonel R.L. Killgore	Jul 95 - Jul 97
Lt. Colonel B.A. Heithold	Jul 97 - Present

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## 919th Special Operations Group

Colonel A.R. Dressen	Jul 75 - Nov 78
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Colonel B.H. Parker	Nov 78 - Jun 85
Colonel T.G. Whitnell	Jun 85 - Jan 88
Colonel W.D. Snyder	Jan 88 - May 91
Colonel E.R. Webster	May 91 - May 94
Colonel R. Blair	May 94 - Oct 95

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## 4th Special Operations Squadron

Lt. Colonel R.E. Spencer	Apr 95 - Nov 96
Lt. Colonel R.W. Hudson	Nov 96 - Nov-97
Lt. Colonel Eric Fiel	Nov-97 - Present

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Webmaster: Steven Raddigan

"Kid Raddigan"

Gunner

Ubon, Thailand 70-71

ICQ: 5383515

Email me with your comments or suggestions

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***Design by: RADware Solutions***

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# Spectre - In Review



## 1997

### 16th Special Operations Squadron

#### January

- Participated in DOS directed exercise, *Activation Leap*, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico.

#### February

- One aircraft and crew to NAS Fallon, Nevada, in support of numerous SOF ground and air assets.

#### March

- One aircraft and crew to NS San Diego, CA, in support of US Army and Navy SOF training at Coronado.

#### April

- Two aircraft and three crews to Brindisi, Italy, in support of NATO peacekeeping operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Tasked to provide close air support and armed reconnaissance/surveillance for the NATO Stabilization Force.

#### October

- Two aircraft with crew redeployed from Brindisi, Italy to Southwest Asia in support of *Inherent Fury/Iris Gold*. Participants awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

#### November

- Returned from Southwest Asia

#### December

- Deployed one aircraft and crew to NAS North Island, California to train with Navy SOF in the San Clemente Island Range.
- Deployed one aircraft and crew in support of JRX 98-1, Site Alpha, providing support to US Army SOF training. This is also used as a baseline for AFSOC ORI in 1998.
- Directly supported *Operation Christmas Wish, 1997*. Squadron members collected

clothing, toys, bicycles, and candy for a Honduran orphanage. Squadron members recondition the bicycles, and delivered the items to the children at Christmas time.

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## **4th Special Operations Squadron**

### **April**

- Returned from San Vito AS, Italy in support of OPERATION Joint Guard - NATO peacekeeping operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina .

### **March**

- Supported operation Silver Wake-- Marine NEO out of Albania

### **April**

- Provided protection for the Pope during his first visit into Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina

### **May**

- Flew 2 AC-130U and crews to Takhli, Thailand. This is the first time gunships have been in Thailand since leaving Korat, Thailand in December 1975. Takhli is the former operating base of 4 SOS during the Vietnam War.

### **October**

- Deployed to San Vito AS, Italy in support of Operation Joint Endeavor --- NATO operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina.
  - Flew 2 AC-130U aircraft nonstop, 36 hours from Hurlburt Fld, Florida to Teagu AB, Republic of Korea. This is the longest C-130 flight in history, proving the rapid deployment capabilities of Air Force Special Operations.
  - Participated in exercise Cobra Gold in the Republic of Korea
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# AC-130 Aircraft Listings



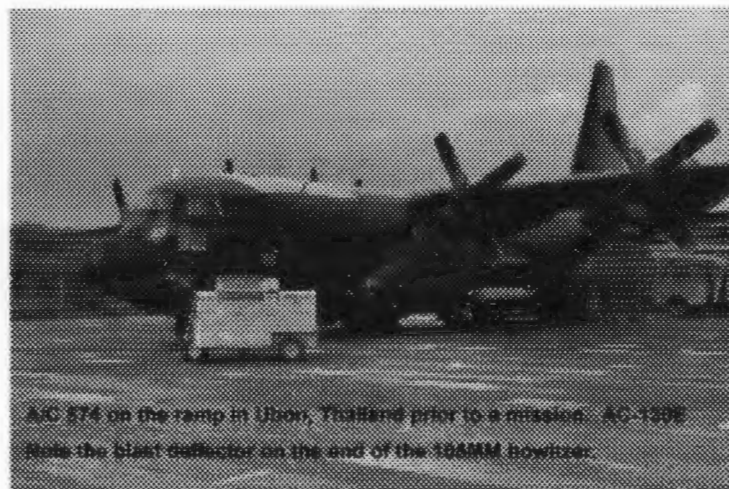
## AC-130A MODEL

- **53-3129 *First Lady***
  - The first production C-130A to come off the line.
  - Converted to 4-bladed props in the late 1980's
  - Retired from AFRES late 1995.
  - Now on display in the final AFRES configuration (grey paint, black markings, 4-blade Hamilton Standard props) at the USAF Armament Museum, Eglin AFB, Fla.
- **54-1623 *Ghost Rider***
  - On display at Dobbins AFB, GA with 3-bladed props.
- **54-1625 *War Lord***
  - Shot down over the Trail 21 April 1970
    - Lt. Col. C. Rowdey
    - Lt. Col. C. Davis
    - Maj. D. Fischer
    - Maj. W. Brooks
    - Lt. J. Tower
    - MSgt. R. Ireland
    - Sgt. T. Adachi
    - Sgt. D. Harris
    - Sgt. R. Hensley
    - A1C. D. Lint
- **54-1626 *Vulcan Express* also *Super Spooky***
  - Prototype AC-130A modification.
  - Initial configuration was 4x20mm and 4x7.62mm.
  - Now on display at the Air Force Museum, Wright-Patterson AFB OH, carries the name *Azrael*
  - Was seen 8/96 at the AF Museum by Tom Robison. He reports there was no name or artwork of any kind on the plane, and all the gun ports have been covered. Still has the Black Crow and the other "humps and bumps," otherwise it was difficult to tell it was an AC-130.
- **54-1627 *Gomer Grinder***
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **54-1628 *The Exterminator***
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **54-1629** Name unknown.
  - Battle damaged over Laos, crashed and burned at Ubon RTAFB, 24 May 1969.

- SSgt. C. F. Taylor
- SSgt. J. W. Troglen
- **54-1630 *Azreal - Angel of Death***
  - Flew at least three missions in Desert Storm
  - On display at the USAF Museum.
- **55-0011 *Surprise Package or Night Stalker***
  - Prototype Pave Pronto aircraft
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **55-0014 *Jaws of Death***
  - Reportedly flew more than 20 missions in Desert Storm.
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **55-0029 *Midnight Express***
  - Crashed at Ubon on May 29, 1969
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **55-0040** Name unknown or never named
  - 67th C-130 built
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ June 67 (Fuselage only)
- **55-0043** Name unknown.
  - Shot down by SA-7 SAM over the Ashan Valley 18 June 1972
    - Maj. C. R. Ayers
    - Maj. R. H. Harrison
    - Capt. M. G. Danielson
    - Capt. P. F. Gilbert
    - Capt. R. A. Wilson
    - MSgt. J. E. Mitchell
    - SSgt. R. M. Cole
    - SSgt. D. H. Klinke
    - SSgt. L. J. Newman
    - SSgt. R. E. Nyhoff
    - Sgt. S. L. Lehrke
    - Sgt. L. A. Hunt
- **55-0044 *Prometheus***
  - # 3 & 4 props shot off Dec. 1971.
  - Shot down by SA-2 SAM over Sepone Laos 28 Mar. 1972
    - Maj. H. P. Brauner
    - Maj. L. B. Ramsower
    - Maj. H. D. Stephenson
    - Capt. R. Castillo
    - Capt. R. C. Halpin
    - Capt. C. D. Miller
    - Capt. C. T. Wanzell
    - Capt. R. B. Young
    - SSgt. J. K. Cantford
    - SSgt. M. L. Paulson
    - SSgt. R. J. Pearce
    - SSgt. R. D. Smith
    - Sgt. W. A. Todd
    - A1C. R. R. Simmons

- **55-0046 *Proud Warrior***
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ
- **56-0469 *Grim Reaper***
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, scrapped, cockpit removed for use on AC-130U simulator at Sheppard AFB, TX
- **56-0471 *Blind Bat***
  - Test aircraft for the Black Crow truck ignition locating system. Never flew as a Spectre gunship.
  - Finished its tour of duty with the 105th TFW at Nashville as a slick.
  - Retired to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ in 1987 when the unit converted to H-models.
- **56-0490 *Thor***
  - Shot down near Pakse Laos 21 Dec. 1972
    - Maj. P. O. Meder
    - Maj. R. A. Walsh
    - Capt. J. R. Birch
    - Capt. D. R. Dickens
    - Capt. T. J. Hart
    - Capt. S. N. Kroboth
    - Capt. H. R. Lagerwall
    - Capt. R. L. Liles
    - Lt. G. D. Macdonald
    - TSgt. J. Q. Winningham
    - TSgt. J. P. Fuller
    - A1C. C. R. Fenter
    - A1C. R. E. Reaid
- **56-0509 *Raiders Kill um Dead or Ultimate End***
  - On display at Air Commando Airpark, Hurlburt AFB, Fla. in Ubon combat configuration (black paint, red markings, Aeroquip 3-blade props).

### AC-130E/H MODEL



AC 874 on the ramp in Ubon, Thailand prior to a mission. AC-130E  
Note the blast deflector on the end of the 105MM howitzer.

- **69-6567 *Ghostrider***
  - Lost to a SAM near the border town of Khafji 50 miles south of Kuwait City 31

Jan. 1991. Callsign Spirit 03.

- KIA were:
  - Maj Paul Weaver - Pilot
  - Capt T.C. Bland - Co-Pilot
  - Capt Dixon Walters - Electronic Warfare Officer
  - Capt Art Galvan - Fire Control Officer
  - Capt William Grimm - Navigator
  - SMSgt Jim May - Gunner
  - SMSgt Paul Buege - Sensor Operator
  - TSgt John Oeischlager - Gunner
  - TSgt Bob Hodges - Gunner
  - SSgt Damon Kanuha - Flight Engineer
  - SSgt John Blessinger - Sensor Operator
  - SSgt Tim Harrison - Gunner
  - SSgt Mark Schmauss - Illuminator Operator
  - Sgt Barry Clark - Gunner
- **69-6568 Nightstalker**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/97*
- **69-6569 Excalibur, Fatal Attraction**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/95*
- **69-6570 Bad Company (was The Hussy)**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/97*
- **69-6571 Name unknown.**
  - *Shot down near AnLoc 30 Mar. 1972*
- **69-6572 Grave Digger**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/97*
- **69-6573 Heavy Metal**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/97*
- **69-6574 Iron Maiden**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/95*
- **69-6575 Wicked Wanda**
  - *Modified to AC-130H, still active as of 12/95*
  - *Modified to AC-130H configuration*
- **69-6576 Predator (was Bad Company, was Widow Maker)**
  - *Modified to AC-130H configuration*
  - *Lost on March 15, 1994 over the Indian Ocean (off the coast of Kenya), loss of eight crewmembers.*
    - *Captain Anthony Stefanik, Fire Control Officer*
    - *Captain David J. Melhop, Navigator*
    - *Captain Mark A. Quam, Electronic Warfare Officer*
    - *Master Sergeant Roy Duncan, Loadmaster*
    - *Technical Sergeant Robert L. Daniel, Sensor Operator*
    - *Staff Sergeant Mark E. Moser, Aerial Gunner*
    - *Staff Sergeant Brian P. Barnes, Aerial Gunner*
    - *Staff Sergeant William C. Eyler, Sensor Operator*
- **69-6577 Death angel**
  - *Modified to AC-130H configuration, active as of 12/97*



**AC-130U MODEL**

- **87-0128 Terminator**
  - *FSD Prototype, delivered to Rockwell in October 1988*
- **89-0509 Total Carnage**
- **89-0510 Armageddon**
- **89-0511 Predator**
  - *1st production U-model, deliver to the USAF april 1992*
- **89-0512 Dead On**
- **89-0513 Killer Instincts**
- **90-0163**
- **90-0164 Bad Intentions**
- **90-0165**
- **90-0166 Hell Raiser**
- **90-0167 Terminator II**
- **92-0253 Eight Ball**

*Information Courtesy of : Frank Vaughn, Paul Hart, Bill Bosley, Tom Robison, D. Kind, Craig Landefeld*

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*Webmaster: Steven Raddigan*

*"Kid Raddigan"*

*Gunner*

*Ubon, Thailand 70-71*

*ICQ: 5383515*

*Email me with your comments or suggestions*

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*Design by: **RADware Solutions***

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# AC-130 Aircraft Listings



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