



Photographs 1964-1973

7th ACS/SOS Commanders

1964 to 1973



Lt Col Horace S. Reece

Jul 1964 – Sep 1966

Sembach AB, Germany



Col William A. McLaughlin

Sep 1966 – Aug 1970

Sembach AB/Ramstein AB, Germany



Col Richard C. Reeder

Aug 1970 – Mar 1973

Ramstein AB, Germany

7th ACS/SOS Unit Emblems



The 7th SOS traces its lineage to the 27th Observation Squadron (1944-1945)



The original unit emblem of the 7th ACS in 1964. USAFE did not approve of the emblem, so it was later redesigned.



The new emblem was approved in 1965. The unit was redesignated the 7th Special Operations Squadron in 1968.

7th ACS/SOS Aircraft

C-47A/B Gooney Bird



7th ACS C-47 at Sembach AB, Germany



The 7th SOS had six C-47s assigned in 1964. One aircraft was lost in 1969.



C-47 aircraft 43-48273

C-123 Provider



The 7th ACS was equipped with four C-123s from 1964 to 1968.



7th ACS C-123 at Sembach AB, Germany.



U-10 Super Helio Courier



7th ACS U-10 at Sembach AB, Germany



Super Helio Courier aircraft 63-8091. One of two U-10s the 7th ACS flew and the only one with floats.



C-130E(I) Combat Arrow



7th SOS HALO drop from aircraft 64-0572.



Combat Arrow aircraft 64-0551 on the ramp at Ramstein AB, Germany, circa 1968. This was the first C-130E(I) assigned to the 7th SOS.



UH-1



7th SOS UH-1 at Sembach AB, Germany.



Loss of aircraft 43-39540 and its Crew, April 1969



On 3 April 1969 the squadron experienced the loss of one of its two C-47 aircraft and its crew. Maj Paul C. Jones was the instructor pilot, Capt Randolph S. Crammer was the copilot, and SSgt Donald J. Bissell was the flight engineer. The aircraft was on an instrument training flight and had departed Sembach AB for Ramstein AB when the accident occurred. From eyewitness accounts, the plane entered a steep nose low spin at approximately 1,700 feet and impacted the ground. Post-crash investigation revealed that the vertical stabilizer on the C-47 had collapsed, thus putting the aircraft into a condition from which the crew could not recover.



Son Tay POW Raid, November 1970



7th SOS crew that flew the Son Tay Raid. Pictured, standing left to right: Robert Renner, William Kennedy, James Shepard, Leslie Tolman, Kenneth Lightle, and Earl Parks. Kneeling, left to right: Thomas Mosley, James McKenzie, Thomas Stiles, Thomas Eckart, William Guenon, Randal Custard, and Irl Franklin.



People of the 7th ACS/SOS

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



Capt Whelchel and Capt Miller



People of the 7th ACS/SOS



Col Richard Reeder (wearing standard fatigues and BF Hat) with Maj Hampton

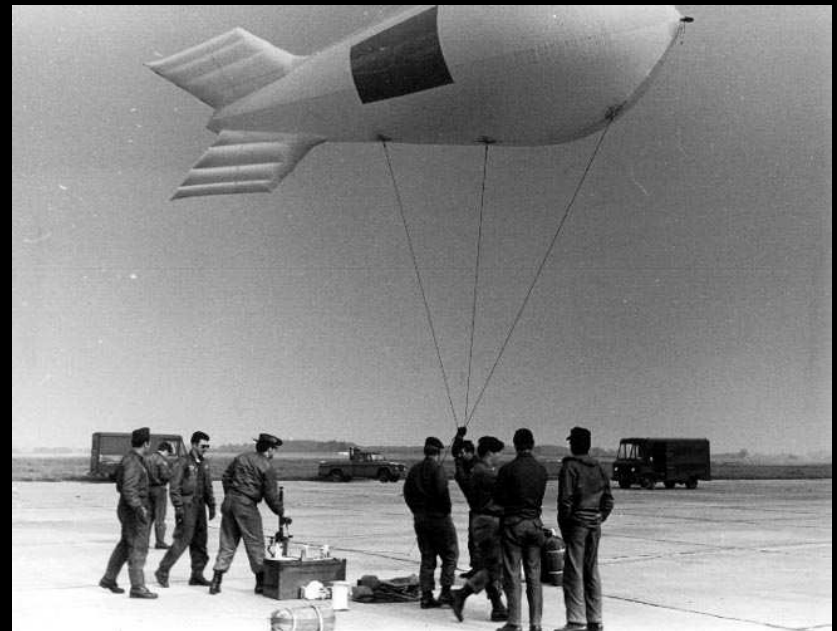


7th ACS Maintenance work on U-10 engine.



7th ACS Flight Engineer and Maintenance work on a C-47 engine.

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



7th ACS Combat Controllers

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



Maj Hampton at his desk



Maj Bill Crummy and Col William McLaughlin, known to squadron members as "Col Mac."

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



Crewmember with First Sergeant MSgt Christilaw



7th SOS Son Tay Raid crewmembers

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



7th ACS Loadmasters

People of the 7th ACS/SOS



Lt Col Richard Reeder (center) and Col William McLaughlin (second from right)

“Adapt or Perish”