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National Air and Space Museum

Robert Stidd Vietnam Color Slides

Patti Williams

2023

National Air and Space Museum Archives
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Collection Overview

Repository:	National Air and Space Museum Archives
Title:	Robert Stidd Vietnam Color Slides
Date:	1967-1968
Identifier:	NASM.2023.0039
Creator:	Stidd, Robert
Extent:	0.05 Cubic feet (Two letter folders)
Language:	English .
Summary:	Color slides taken or collected by Robert Stidd relating to his involvement in the operations and missions of Bell UH-1H Iroquois "Huey" Smokey III while he served in Vietnam with the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion, 1967-1968.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Sharon Stidd, Gift, 2023, NASM.2023.0039

Processing Information

Arranged, described, and encoded by Patti Williams, 2023/

Preferred Citation

Robert Stidd Vietnam Color Slides, NASM.2023.0039 , National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.

Restrictions

No restrictions on access

Conditions Governing Use

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Biographical / Historical

In 1995, the National Air and Space Museum acquired a Bell UH-1H Iroquois "Huey". This aircraft, U.S. Army serial number 65-10126, began its military career as a brand new UH-1D accepted by the Army in October 1966. One month later, 65-10126 was flying in Vietnam with Company A of the 229th Aviation Battalion, 1st Cavalry Division. It remained in Company A for ten months before the Army transferred the helicopter to Headquarters Company, 11th Aviation Battalion, where it served through June 1968 as Smokey III, a name given to the aircraft by its crew. These

particular Hueys were fitted with a device that produced dense smoke by spraying oil into the exhaust system. The smoke screened friendly helicopters from the enemy, but because the operation worked best when the smoke was deployed low and slow, flying the smoke ships was an especially risky mission.

Robert Stidd (1944-2021) enlisted in the Alaska Army National Guard and served three years before being recruited into active duty due to the Vietnam War. Stidd was the door gunner on 11th Combat Aviation Battalion's Smoke Ship, Smokey III

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of 132 color slides taken or collected by Robert Stidd relating to his involvement in the operations and missions of Bell UH-1H Iroquois "Huey" Smokey III while he served in Vietnam with the 11th Combat Aviation Battalion, 1967-1968.

Arrangement

None

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Bell UH-1H Iroquois "Huey" Smokey III
- Vietnam War, 1961-1975

Types of Materials:

- Color slides

Container Listing

Box 129 (Shared),
Folder 1

[Slide Carousel 1, March 1967, Vietnam \[Smokey III, Bob Stidd\]](#)

Notes: Captions provided by Jim Palmer, Crew Chief. Slides are in caption number order, placed in pages from left to right beginning at top row.

Box 129 (Shared),
Folder 2

[Slide Carousel 2, April 1967, Vietnam \[Smokey III, Bob Stidd\]](#)

Notes: Captions provided by Jim Palmer, Crew Chief. Slides are in caption number order, placed in pages from left to right beginning at top row.