

Thirteen Eglin Airmen Featured In James Bond's New Movie Entitled 'Thunderball'

Thirteen airmen assigned to the 48th Air Recovery Squadron have turned para-actors and now claim the legendary serial numbers "007."

No they haven't turned secret agents a la James Bond but they have played a small part in the soon to be released movie "Thunderball," the latest United Artists Production of Ian Fleming's novels.

The airmen, all highly skilled paratroopers, assisted in a sky-diving scene filmed in Miami Beach, Fla., last week.

"We jumped out of an HC-97 in Biscayne Bay at an altitude of 1500 ft. said TSgt Lewis Roberts. "We played the good guys and were helping James Bond destroy the villains who were about to blow up the East Coast."

Others who played movie star for the two day shooting were SSgts. Harry Cohen, Kerry Kelly, William Kelsey, William McDougall, and Loch Williamson. The airmen were Dennis Kraft, Roy Schrezer, Nick Randell, Andrae Raymond, Gordon Thaver, Herb Rommish, and Randy Picklesimer.

So the life of "007" continues. And as for 13 para-rescuemen at Eglin, James Bond means more than just a fictional character out of the talented mind of the late Ian Fleming.

