

Significant Events 31st Fighter Wing since 1947

Nov. 6, 1947 -- Established as 31st Fighter Wing at Turner Field, Ga.

1948 - 100 Personnel deployed TDY for 180 days to Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany to support the Berlin Airlift (no other specific dates available...)

July 1952 – In Operation Peter Fox One, the 31st Fighter-Escort Wing conducted first ever mass jet fighter flight across the Pacific Ocean; using aerial refueling to fly non-stop from Georgia to Travis Air Force Base, Calif.; Hickam AFB, Hawaii; Wake Island, Guam, Iwo Jima, Tokyo, and then Misawa AB, Japan

August 1953 - 31st Strategic Fighter Wing flew non-stop from Turner Field, Ga. to Nauassour AB, French Morocco, the first-ever mass jet fighter flight across the central Atlantic to North Africa.

August 1958 – 308 Tactical Fighter Squadron NATO alert at Aviano AB, Italy

Oct. - Nov. 1961 – 31st Tactical Fighter Wing deployed to Spangdahlem AB, West Germany for U.S. forces augmentation during the Berlin Crisis

Oct. - Dec. 1962 – Planned and organized key segments of the USAF response to the Cuban Missile Crisis, 90 miles from Homestead AFB, Florida

Dec. 1966 - Oct 1970 – Wing moved *en-masse* to Tuy Hoa AB, South Vietnam

Vietnam Operations

Feb. - April 1968 – Tet Offensive and siege at Khe Sahn

Dec. 1968 – passed 50,000 combat sorties

Sept. 1969 – flew the 100,000th combat sortie

April 1972 - June 1973 – Rotated TDY from Homestead AFB to Udorn RTAFB, Thailand

December 1972 – A commercial aircraft crashed in the everglades while attempting to land at Miami International Airport. The USAF Hospital at Homestead AFB recalled all medical people and deployed them to hospitals around Miami to assist recovery efforts and provide care to wounded.

1973-85 – F-4 pilot replacement training (31st Tactical Training Wing)

June 7, 1985 – First F-16 arrived at Homestead AFB, Fla.

Oct. 1, 1991 -- Redesignated 31st Fighter Wing

August 1992 – Hurricane Andrew destroyed most of the infrastructure of Homestead AFB.

Most of the wing's aircraft evacuated to Moody AFB, Ga.; Shaw AFB, S.C.; and Eglin AFB, Fla., before the storm.

1993 -- The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission announced that the base would be realigned and the wing inactivated. During the year, squadrons were either inactivated or reassigned to another wing.

March 31, 1994 -- The wing inactivated at Homestead AFB

April 1, 1994 -- Wing activated at Aviano AB, Italy

Balkan operations 1994 through 2004

April 1994-31 Jan 1996 – Provide Promise (Bosnia)

April 1994-31 Dec 1995 – Deny Flight (Bosnia)

April 1994-Feb 1999 – Able Sentry (Albania)

May - Aug 1995 – Deliberate Force (Bosnia)

July - Aug 1995 – Quick Lift (Bosnia)

May - Nov 1996 – Nomad Vigil (Albania)

Dec. 1996 - Dec. 2004 – Joint Endeavor/Joint Guard/Joint Forge (Bosnia)

– Decisive Edge/Deliberate Guard/Deliberate Forge (Bosnia)

Feb. - March 1997 – Silver Wake (NEO Albania)

June 1998 – Determined Falcon (Kosovo/former Yugoslavia)

June 1998-Mar 1999 – Balkan Calm (Kosovo/former Yugoslavia)

Sept - Dec 1998 – Sky Anvil (Kosovo/former Yugoslavia)

Aug. - Oct. 1998 – Silver Knight (Albania)

Oct. 1998 - March 1999 – Eagle Eye (Kosovo)

Mar-Jun 1999 – Allied Force (Kosovo/former Yugoslavia)

April-Jul 1999 – Shining Hope (Albania)

May 1999-Dec 2004 – Joint Guardian (Kosovo/former Yugoslavia)

1998 – Operation Northern Watch, Incirlik AB, Turkey

March - Sept 2000 – Operation Southern Watch, Southwest Asia

June - Dec. 2001 – Operation Northern Watch, Incirlik AB, Turkey

March - May 2002 – Operation Northern Watch, Incirlik AB, Turkey

Sept. - Dec. 2002 – Operation Enduring Freedom, Southwest Asia

Dec 2003-Aug 2004 – Operation Enduring Freedom, Southwest Asia

May 2005-Jan 2006 – Operation Iraqi Freedom, Balad AB, Iraq

Jan 2007-May 2007 - Operation Iraqi Freedom, Balad AB, Iraq

May 2007-Sept. 2007 - Kunsan AB, South Korea