

**Luke Field/Air Force Base and
56th Fighter Wing
Heritage Pamphlet
1940 - 2012**



**56th Fighter Wing History Office
Prepared by Mr. Rick Grislet
As of 14 September 2012**



Blazon

Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last.

Motto

CAVE TONITRUM (Beware of the Thunderbolt)

Significance

The orange background was the color of the Army Air Corps and represents the 56th Fighter Group's World War II service. The chevron, representing support, is blue to signify the wing's flights in support of the nation's quest for peace. The lightning bolts are symbolic of speed, aggressiveness, and the capability to strike immediately in any direction.

"Cave Tonitrum," Beware of the Thunderbolt!

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2d Lt Frank Luke, Jr.

In September 1918, Luke made aviation history in World War I when he wreaked havoc on the aerial fleets of Germany. During an 18-day period, of which Luke only flew 8 days, he destroyed 18 enemy aircraft. Because he targeted the most dangerous prey, the heavily defended observation balloons, he became known as the “Arizona Balloon Buster.” He was the first aviator awarded the Medal of Honor. On June 6, 1941, Litchfield Park Air Base (AB) was redesignated Luke Field in his honor and memory.

56th Fighter Wing History

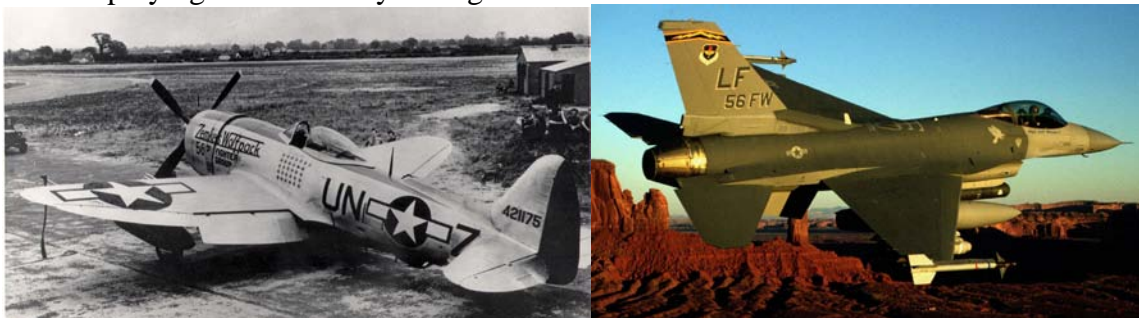
The 56th Fighter Wing, one of the most highly decorated aviation units in history, traced its heritage to the 56th Pursuit Group which first activated on 15 January 1941 at Savannah AB, Georgia. The unit was redesignated a fighter group and equipped with the P-47 Thunderbolt when it was reassigned to England. The 56th flew its first combat missions of World War II on 13 April 1943. During its two-year involvement in the air war in Europe, the group damaged or destroyed 1,598.5 enemy aircraft. What seemed incredible was that the 56th posted that record while losing only 25 fighters in aerial combat. The group also produced 40 fighter aces.*

After World War II, the 56th Fighter Group was assigned at Selfridge Field, Michigan. On 15 August 1947, the 56th Fighter Wing was activated with the 56th Fighter Group as a subordinate unit. The wing's mission was air defense. The unit wrote another chapter in aviation history when on 14 July 1948 its F-80 Shooting Stars made the first ever west-to-east crossing of the Atlantic by military jets. The flight was a month after the Soviets set up their blockade of Berlin, and put the Soviets on notice that this nation had the capability to deploy a large package of military aircraft across the Atlantic in minimum time. The wing was inactivated on 1 January 1964.

On 16 March 1967, the 56th activated as 56th Air Commando Wing in Southeast Asia, and redesignated as 56th Special Operations Wing on 1 August 1968. While there, the 56th supported and conducted combat operations against opposing armed enemy forces.

Renamed the 56th Tactical Fighter Wing, the wing was reassigned to MacDill Air Force Base (AFB), Florida, on 1 June 1975 and conducted combat aircrew training in the F-4 and later fighter training in the F-16. When the military downsized in the early 1990's, one step removed the fighter aircraft from MacDill. However, the renamed 56th Fighter Wing would remain part of the active fighter force. On 1 April 1994, the 56th Fighter Wing was reassigned to Luke AFB.

Today, the 56th Fighter Wing, a unit which historically has proven to have some of the world's greatest fighter pilots, continues the mission that has been identified with Luke AFB since 1941: "Training the world's greatest F-16 fighter pilots and maintainers while deploying mission ready warfighters."



NOTE: * There is more below about the 56th Fighter Group which today is the 56th Operations Group.

56th Fighter Wing Commander



BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL D. ROTHSTEIN

Brig. Gen. Michael D. Rothstein is the Commander, 56th Fighter Wing, Luke Air Force Base, Arizona. The wing's mission is to train the world's greatest F-16 pilots and maintainers while deploying mission-ready warfighters. As part of Air Education and Training Command, and home to 138 F-16 aircraft and 24 squadrons, the 56th is the largest fighter wing in the U.S. Air Force and graduates more than 300 F-16 pilots and 500 crew chiefs annually. The wing oversees the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field and is steward of the Barry M. Goldwater Range, a military training range spanning more than 1.7 million acres of Sonoran desert.

General Rothstein was commissioned in 1988 as a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy. An F-16 pilot with more than 2,500 hours, he has previously commanded the 57th Operations Support Squadron at Nellis AFB, Nevada, and the 609th Air Operations Group at Shaw AFB, South Carolina. He also served as the Director of Operations and Plans, U.S. Air Forces Central at Shaw AFB, and Chief, Activities Synchronization, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command in Kabul, Afghanistan. Prior to his current assignment, General Rothstein was the Commander, 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa Air Base, Japan, a combat-ready F-16CJ fighter wing with nearly 3,100 personnel and forces and facilities worth over \$2 billion. He was responsible for a 13,000-person installation supporting eight associate units representing three U.S. military services (Air Force, Army, and Navy) and the Japan Air Self Defense Force.

EDUCATION

1988 Distinguished graduate, bachelor's degree in political science, U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado
 1995 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
 1995 USAF Weapons Instructor Course, Nellis AFB, Nevada
 1999 Master of Military Arts and Sciences degree, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
 2006 Master of Strategic Studies degree, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama

ASSIGNMENTS

1. August 1988 - January 1990, student, Euro-NATO joint jet pilot training, Sheppard AFB, Texas
2. January 1990 - August 1990, student, F-16 replacement training, 72nd Fighter Squadron, MacDill AFB, Florida
3. September 1990 - February 1992, F-16 pilot, 80th Fighter Squadron, Kunsan AB, South Korea
4. March 1992 - June 1995, F-16 instructor pilot, 13th Fighter Squadron, Misawa AB, Japan
5. July 1995 - December 1995, student, U.S. Air Force Weapons School, Nellis AFB, Nevada
6. January 1996 - May 1998, Chief, Weapons and Tactics, 69th Fighter Squadron, and Chief, F-16 Weapons and Tactics, 347th Wing, Moody AFB, Georgia
7. June 1998 - June 1999, student, Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas
8. June 1999 - January 2002, Chief, Advanced Programs Branch, then Assistant Chief, Operations and Training Division, U.S. Air Forces in Europe, Ramstein AB, Germany
9. April 2002 - April 2004, assistant operations officer, 421st Fighter Squadron, and operations officer, 34th Fighter Squadron, Hill AFB, Utah
10. April 2004 - November 2005, Commander, 57th Operations Support Squadron, Nellis AFB, Nevada

11. December 2005 - May 2007, student, then special assistant to the Commandant, Air War College, Maxwell AFB, Alabama
12. May 2007 - March 2008, Commander, 609th Air Operations Group, and Director of Operations, U.S. Central Command Air Forces, Shaw AFB, South Carolina
13. March 2008 - May 2009, Director, Operations and Plans, 9th Air Force and U.S. Air Forces Central, Shaw AFB, South Carolina
14. June 2009 - June 2010, Chief, Activities Synchronization, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command, Kabul, Afghanistan
15. August 2010 - September 2012, Commander, 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa AB, Japan
16. September 2012 – present, Commander, 56th Fighter Wing, Luke AFB, Arizona

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Rating: Command pilot

Flight hours: More than 2,500

Aircraft flown: F-16C Block 30/40/50, T-38 and T-37

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal with three oak leaf clusters

Aerial Achievement Medal

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant June 1, 1988

First Lieutenant June 1, 1990

Captain June 1, 1992

Major August 1, 1998

Lieutenant Colonel May 1, 2001

Colonel December 1, 2006

Brigadier General August 2, 2012

(Current as of September 2012)

56th Fighter Group Chronology

- 15 January 1941 56th Pursuit Group (Interceptor) activated and assigned at Savannah AB, Georgia, equipped with Seversky P-35, and Curtis P-36 Hawk aircraft.
- 26 May 1941 Group moved to Charlotte Army Air Base, North Carolina, and switched to Bell P-39 Airacobra and Curtis P-40 Warhawk aircraft.
- 15 May 1942 Unit redesignated 56th Fighter Group (FG).
- June 1942 56th Fighter Group reequipped with Republic P-47B Thunderbolt.
- 13 November 1942 The first 56th pilots break sound barrier when P-47s dove from 35,000 feet and reached speed of 725 miles per hour.
- 6 January 1943 All the Group personnel boarded the Queen Elizabeth for passage to England from the New York port of Embarkation.
- 12 January 1943 56th Fighter Group reassigned to Kings Cliffe, England, and joined air war in Europe.
- 5 April 1943 Moved to a permanent location at Horsham St Faith (Norfolk), England, after extensive combat training elsewhere, as part of the VIII Fighter Command.
- 8 April 1943 Unit reached operational status.
- 13 April 1943 56th Fighter Group aircraft flew first combat missions of World War II, fighter sweeps over occupied France.



12 June 1943, Capt Walter V. Cook, 62d Fighter Squadron, recorded the 56th Fighter Group's first aerial victory against a Foch-Wulf 190 near Blankenberghe, Belgium. Cook flew Little Cookie, his P-47C, Tail No. 41-6343. Pictured with his Crew Chief

12 August 1943

First time belly tanks used on the wing's P-47s, but lacked the range to escort bombers deep into Germany.



19 August 1943

Capt Gerald W. Johnson was first 56th Fighter Group ace.

25 November 1943

Group's first fighter-bomber mission, fifty P-47s dropped 500-pound bombs on an airdrome facility in France.



8 May 1944

Captain Robert S. Johnson of the 61st and 62d Fighter Squadrons surpassed the World War I record of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker, when he shot down two enemy aircraft in one day and raised his total to 27.

6 June 1944

During D-Day Invasion, group flew 142 protective cover and air-to-ground sorties.

5 July 1944

Lt Col Francis S. Gabreski shot down his 28th aircraft to become the top ace in the European Theater of Operations, but was shot down and captured two weeks later.



Lt Col Gabreski shakes hands with his Crew Chief, SSgt Ralph Safford, while his Assistant Crew Chief, Schacki, looks on.



7 July 1944

Capt Fred Christensen, Jr., of the 62d Fighter Squadron, set new record when he destroyed six enemy aircraft during single engagement.

1 November 1944

1st Lt Walter R. Groce, of 63d Fighter Squadron was first pilot in the group to take part in shooting down a jet fighter

13 April 1945 Group fighters attacked German airdrome and destroyed or damaged 190 of the enemy Aircraft parked there.



21 April 1945 The last group combat mission flown over Munich. During its 2-year involvement in World War II, 56th Fighter Group destroyed 667 enemy aircraft in aerial combat, destroyed another 324 on the ground, probable kills totaled 58, and another 543 were damaged. 56th posted that record of 1592 aircraft damaged/destroyed while losing only 25 fighters in aerial combat. Unit produced 40 aces.

11 October 1945 The entire group returned to the United States aboard the Queen Mary.

18 October 1945 56th inactivated at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey.

1 May 1946 56th Fighter Group activated at Selfridge Field, Michigan.



Maj Lucian A. Dade, Jr., 62d Fighter Squadron, flew this P-47D-25 with a bubble canopy during June 1944. Shown is Tail Number 42-26417, painted with the D-Day paint scheme. Dade later commanded the 56th Fighter Group. He also commanded Luke's 3600th Maintenance and Supply Group in the mid-1950s.

56th Fighter Wing Chronology

- 15 August 1947 56th Fighter Wing activated at Selfridge Field, and assumed command jurisdiction over 56th Fighter Group. Other subordinate groups activated as the 56th Airdrome Group, 56th Maintenance and Supply Group, and the 56th Station Medical Group.
- 14 July 1948 Sixteen 56th Fighter Wing Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star jets flew first west-to-east crossing of Atlantic by military jets in 13 days. The mission named Fox Able One proved to the Soviets USAF's ability to deploy large fighter contingents long distances in short time.



A 56th Fighter Wing Lockheed F-80 Shooting Star being loaded with munitions in 1949.

- 1 December 1948 The wing was reassigned from Strategic Air Command to Continental Air Command's Tenth Air Force.
- 25 April 1950 Wing began conversion from F-80s to North American F-86 Sabrejet.
- 6 February 1952 56th Fighter Wing and 56th Fighter Group inactivated at Selfridge AFB.
- 18 August 1955 56th Fighter Group activated at O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1 October 1959 56th Fighter Group reassigned to K. I. Sawyer AFB, Michigan.
- 1 February 1961 56th Fighter Wing activated at K. I. Sawyer AFB.
- 1 January 1964 56th Fighter Wing inactivated.

- 16 March 1967 56th Fighter Wing activated and redesignated as the 56th Air Commando Wing.
- 8 April 1967 56th Air Commando Wing assigned to Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB, Thailand.



Douglas A-1E Skyraider aircraft of the 1st and 602d Special Operations Squadrons, 56th Special Operations Wing, Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai AFB, Thailand.

- 1 August 1968 56th Air Commando Wing redesignated 56th Special Operations Wing.
- May 1975 56th Special Operations Wing involved in rescue of crew of merchant ship, Mayaguez, after it was seized by Cambodian pirates.
- 30 June 1975 56th Special Operations Wing redesignated as the 56th Tactical Fighter Wing, reassigned to MacDill AFB, Florida, and conducted McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II training.



56th Tactical Training Wing McDonnell Douglas F-4D Phantom II aircraft Tail Number 65-0674 on the ramp at MacDill AFB, Florida.

22 October 1979

First Lockheed F-16A/B Fighting Falcon, Tail No. 78-0100, delivered to wing as it converted from F-4 to F-16.



56th Tactical Training Wing Flagship Tail No. 78-0056

1 October 1981

Unit redesignated a tactical training wing.

27 June 1988

Wing received its first F-16C.

30 July 1991

Congress approved the closure of MacDill AFB.



1 October 1991

56th redesignated a Fighter Wing.

1 June 1992

Wing became a unit of ACC.

25 February 1993

56th Fighter Wing's 63d Fighter Squadron reassigned without personnel or equipment to 58th Fighter Wing at Luke AFB.

14 May 1993

56th Fighter Wing's 62d Fighter Squadron inactivated.

19 August 1993

56th Fighter Wing's 61st Fighter Squadron inactivated.

- 4 January 1994 56th Fighter Wing transferred all assets to 6th Air Base Wing. All 56th Fighter Wing units except wing inactivated. 56th Fighter Wing remained assigned at MacDill AFB without personnel/equipment.
- 28 February 1994 USAF announced 56th Fighter Wing to be reassigned to Luke to take over host unit responsibilities from the 58th Fighter Wing effective 1 April 1994.



Col James E. Brechwald, Vice Commander, unfurls the 56th Fighter Wing Flag for the first time at Luke AFB on 1 April 1994

- 1 April 1994 58th Fighter Wing redesignated a special operations wing and reassigned to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. Most 58-numbered units inactivated as did the 311th Fighter Squadron and 314th Fighter Squadron. 56th Fighter Wing moved from MacDill to Luke and assumed assets/mission of 58th Fighter Wing. 308th Fighter Squadron moved from Moody AFB, GA, to Luke and assigned to 56th Fighter Wing. All 56-numbered groups and squadrons, including four new medical squadrons, activated and assigned to 56th Fighter Wing as were the 61st Fighter Squadron and 309th Fighter Squadron. Additionally, the 62d Fighter Squadron, 63d Fighter Squadron, 310th Fighter Squadron, 425th Fighter Squadron, 461st Fighter Squadron, and 550th Fighter Squadron were reassigned from 58th Fighter Wing to 56th Fighter Wing.

- 10 May 1994 Anti-encroachment meeting at Luke chaired by member of Governor's Save Luke AFB Committee concluded that unchecked development could not continue because of area's lack of water.
- 1 August 1994 USAF moved to ensure continued availability of water for Luke by locating environmental law attorney at base to represent Luke in on-going water rights adjudication process.
- 5 August 1994 461st Fighter Squadron inactivated as part of plan to reassign the McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle program to Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina.
- 24 August 1994 Mission Ready Technician Program to provide mission ready crew chiefs to F-16 units USAF-wide implemented in wing.



- 21 September 1994 Capt Sharon Preszler graduated becoming the first female Air Force F-16 pilot.
- 1 October 1994 56th Support Squadron inactivated. Maintenance of Goldwater Range assumed by civilian contractor.
- 1 January 1995 311th Fighter Squadron activated to conduct foreign training. Unit had provided foreign training under 58th Fighter Wing and had inactivated on 1 April 1994.
- 31 March 1995 550th Fighter Squadron inactivated ending all F-15 training at Luke. Since program began in 1974, 3,303 students trained in F-15A/B/C/D, and 495 pilots and 402 weapons systems officers trained in F-15E for total of 4,200 graduates.
- 19 April 1995 Luke acted as staging area for local rescue team which assisted in Oklahoma City bombing disaster.

- 1 July 1995 LANTIRN confidence check area used to calibrate avionics prior to flying to range for mission moved to west to accommodate Mountain Vista Ranch and Sun City Grande.
- 13 July 1995 Arizona Senate Bill 1062 became law and required sellers of dwellings in high noise zones around military airports to disclose that fact to potential buyers.
- 24 August 1995 City of Glendale annexed Luke AFB as part of efforts to protect base from encroachment.
- 9 September 1995 Members of 56th Medical Group provided medical assistance for victims of AMTRAK train derailment west of Luke.
- 1 October 1995 Intricate chain of command caused reassignment of Mission Ready Technician Program to 82d Training Wing, Sheppard AFB, Texas. Program became tenant at Luke.
- 1 December 1995 311th Fighter Squadron inactivated. Its foreign training mission and most its jets transferred to 162d Fighter Group (Air National Guard) in Tucson.
- 22 March 1996 1995 Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) study released and delineated smaller noise print than previous studies.
- 1 May 1996 House Bill 2355 became law and required state real estate department to prepare noise maps allowing potential home buyers to determine if prospective dwellings located in high noise areas.
- 16 May 1996 Last Peace Carvin II F-16A/B jets left Luke as part of plan to upgrade program to Block 42 F-16C/D jets.
- 25 June 1996 Terrorist attack on facility in Saudi Arabia killed 19 Americans and injured 250 more. Among injured were three men from 56th Fighter Wing.
- 8 August 1996 21st Fighter Squadron activated to conduct F-16 training for Taiwan AF.



- 11 September 1996 President Bill Clinton visited Luke during area stop. Was first such visit since 14 November 1974 when President Gerald Ford visited base to preside over acceptance ceremony for first F-15.

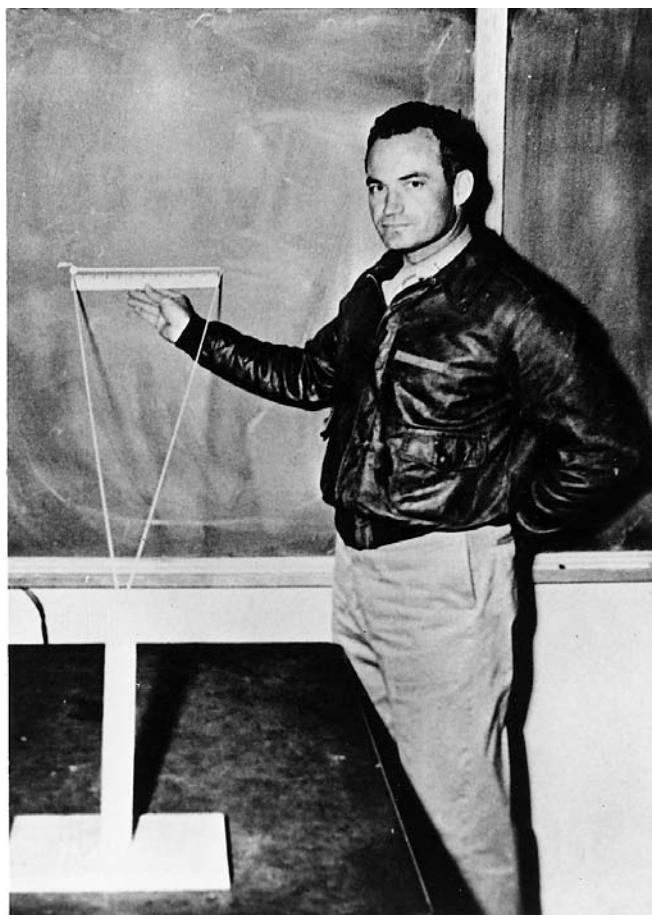
- 6 December 1996 First Block 20 F-16A/B jets, Tail Nos. 93-0705 and 93-0825 landed for 21st Fighter Squadron 's use in Taiwan AF training program. The A-model, Tail No. 93-0705, piloted by the squadron Director of Operations, Lt Col John R. Swarsbrook, landed first. Maj Mike A. Hanson piloted the B-model.
- January 1997 Arizona agreed to sell USAF 81,000 acres of state land on range for \$10 million. State initially wanted \$40 million.
- 27 January 1997 It was reported wing to train more basic course students to offset losses of pilots separating/retiring early. Other added taskings included training in night vision goggles, Forward Air Controller (Airborne), Block 52 F-16C/D ground training, and enhanced Maverick training.
- February 1997 1995 AICUZ study noise print revised when it was noted that improper throttle settings used to compute noise zones. Revised noise print reduced high noise zones around base by 2,739 acres.
- 28 February 1997 Taiwan AF F-16 program graduated its first class when four men in Class 97 CCTW completed conversion course.
- 1 July 1997 56th Security Police Squadron redesignated security forces sq.



Sonoran Pronghorn Antelope

- 27 August 1997 US Fish and Wildlife Service issued opinion that air operations on Goldwater Range not likely to jeopardize continued existence of Sonoran pronghorn antelope. Environmentalist group's charge that air-to-ground missions jeopardized existence of that endangered species prompted US Fish and Wildlife Service opinion.
- 26 September 1997 City of Surprise signed Arizona League of Cities and Towns resolution for development of strategic plan to preserve state's military airports.
- 29 October 1997 First Forward Air Controller (Airborne) class, 98 AFG, and its four students completed training with 310th Fighter Squadron.

- 30 November 1997 Wing's mission capable (MC) rate for F-16 dropped below major command standard for the first time since August 1984, and was prelude to parts-supply problems which affected wing into 1999.
- January 1998 Gila Bend AICUZ study completed due to increased operations at field and to provide guidance in land planning in area.
- 7 February 1998 Chronic parts shortfall resulted in Saturday flying to ensure programmed fighter training completed on time.
- 12 February 1998 It was reported that Arizona House Bill 2515 which sought to constrict fly zones around military airports was killed in committee.
- 18 March 1998 A Southwest Airlines Boeing 737 reported low fuel and diverted to Luke where it landed safely.
- 8 April 1998 It was reported El Mirage planned zoning changes that could have allowed residential development 1.5 miles from base's accident potential zones.
- 29 May 1998 Longtime USAF supporter Senator Barry M. Goldwater succumbed at age 89.



Capt Barry M. Goldwater, when a World War II Instructor Pilot at Luke Field



- 2 June 1998 425th Fighter Squadron began another upgrade for Peace Carvin II Program from Block 42 to Block 52 jets with the arrival of Tail Nos. 94-0276 (D-model) and 94-0266 (C-model).
- 15 July 1998 ASU West study put economic impact of base at \$1.9 billion annually.
- 30 July 1998 US Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl (Rep, Arizona) attached amendment to Defense Appropriations Bill for USAF to lease 640-acre parcel north of base from Phoenix for \$1 annually to prevent Surprise from seizing land for development. USAF downsizing so service did not enter into lease.
- 24 August 1998 El Mirage gave tentative OK for projects in base's high noise zones including 1,000 Hancock homes, 600 Broad Land Properties units, and 708 Parque Verde structures.
- 28 September 1998 310th Fighter Squadron mobile training team began night vision goggles training for Air National Guard pilots.
- 2 October 1998 Wing submitted draft LEIS under Land Withdrawal Act to Congress requesting Goldwater Range be withdrawn from public use indefinitely rather than for 15 years.
- October 1998 Engine parts shortfalls saw wing with 39 holes in February 1998. In April wing started getting parts and by end of October turned 39 holes into first spare engine in five years.
- 14 October 1998 Westside leaders explored 17,000-acre agricultural buffer zone around Luke to protect it from encroachment.
- 19 November 1998 56TRS graduated first Block 52 class (ground training) when six men in Class 99 AJX completed training.
- 18 February 1999 Engine summit held at Luke to look at problem areas in 220/E engine. Summit recommended more funds for fixes to 220/E engine on AETC F-16s and USAF F-15s, and GE F110 engine that powered most F-16s.
- 27 March 1999 56th Fighter Wing leadership joined USAF leadership in naming engine problems as cause of recent aircraft losses at Luke.

- 27 March 1999 Jet losses caused renewed calls for establishment of 17,000 acre agricultural zone around base to protect it from encroachment.
- 27 April 1999 Wing leadership addressed media after sixth jet loss in six months and noted four of losses due to engine problems.
- 30 April 1999 Wing posted 62.6 MC rate, lowest F-16 MC rate ever for a Luke unit. Driving factors were engines and grounding of fleet for safety inspections.
- 17 May 1999 HB 2579 creating agricultural district around Luke signed into law but not funded.
- 31 May 1999 It was reported US Senator John McCain withdrew his amendment designed to withdraw range from public use from Military Funding Bill because of pressure by environmentalists and Indians.
- 11 June 1999 Augmentor separation problem that caused two jet losses resolved. Fix included performing multiple technical orders on augmentors for cracks in welds. Permanent fix was installing seamless augmentors in engines.
- 26 June 1999 Environmentalist group sued USAF and other federal agencies charging their actions not ensuring recovery of endangered Sonoran pronghorn antelope on range.
- 26 June 1999 Wing submitted LEIS to Congress for renewal of range withdrawal.
- 30 June 1999 Blade tip curling that caused loss of jet resolved. Fix included more inspections and installing 4,000 cycle low pressure turbines with improved materials not prone to curling. New turbines had faulty blade outer air seals (BOAS). Fix was installing new BOAS.
- 30 June 1999 Series of F-16 losses prompted President Bill Clinton, US Senator John McCain, and acting USAF Secretary F. Whitten Peters to call for Congress to allocate more funds for engines and spare parts.
- 1 July 1999 Phoenix/Surprise dispute over 640 acres in base's fly zone resolved by land swap. Surprise traded Phoenix 926 acres north of base which Phoenix planned to keep as agricultural zoning. Phoenix gave Surprise 640-acre parcel, but with deed restrictions to ensure compatible development with base's operations.
- 20 September 1999 Wing lost seventh jet in 11 months. Loss not traced to recent trends as was due to electrical problems. Loss of seven jets extraordinary in modern times, but paled when compared to 1940s when Luke had over 400 crashes in a year. Worst period was September 1943 when had 58 major accidents.

- 5 October 1999 Congress approved withdrawal of Goldwater Range from public use for 25-year period. USAF/Navy took over range management from Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Cabeza Prieta Wilderness Area that made up third of range not withdrawn. No effect on training as memorandum of understanding with Department of Interior still allowed over flights of area. Approval required compilation of Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan and Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan.
- 31 December 1999 On-going shortage of pilots due to early separations/retirements, resulted in plan to implement Associate F-16 Instructor Pilot Program designed to reassign some wing Instructor Pilots to operational units to alleviate pilot shortages, and augment wing's dwindling Instructor Pilot force with active Guard, Reserve and traditional Reserve Instructor Pilots.
- 4 January 2000 Mission of 21st Fighter Squadron changed from providing F-16 qualification training for Taiwan AF pilots to providing proficiency training for pilots already qualified in jet.
- 25 January 2000 First Associate Instructor Pilot Program sortie flown with the 62d Fighter Squadron.
- February 2000 Wing conducted first deployment in support of Expeditionary Aerospace Force (EAF). Sent 75 personnel to Middle East. EAF was asset management concept designed to protect US interests in world hot spots by ensuring US presence in those areas.
- 3 March 2000 301st Fighter Squadron activated to implement associate Instructor Pilot program. Unit assigned to 944th Fighter Wing, but under operational control of 56th Operations Group.
- 8 March 2000 Luke produced 50,000th fighter training graduate since 1941 as 1st Lt Joshua G. Padgett completed basic course with 62d Fighter Squadron.
- 17 April 2000 Senate Bill 1415 became law. It amended previous legislation, and required attorney general to review mandatory reports from cities for compatible land use planning. Gave attorney general authority to penalize cities for non-compliance.
- 25 May 2000 Surprise officials' objections to developer's plan resulted in dropping 700 homes from project and no homes planned in high noise zones.
- 22 July 2000 Parts shortfall resulted in Saturday flying to meet programmed flying training requirements.
- 5 August 2000 Parts shortages caused Saturday flying to meet training schedule.

- 20 September 2000 Northern departures with live ordnance terminated due to proposed building of two new schools. Live ordnance missions restricted to departures to south.
- 20 September 2000 Encroachment concerns arose over proposed 10,000-home development near White Tanks Mountains and under an entry/departure control point for base's air traffic.
- 20 October 2000 AETC officials named Luke on short list for possible beddown of joint strike fighter.
- 28 November 2000 US Senator John McCain warned next round of base closures could name Luke to close because of encroachment.
- 9 December 2000 Continuing pilot losses resulted in reassignment of 944th Fighter Wing from ACC to AETC and unit joining 56th Fighter Wing; Kelly AFB, Texas; Springfield Air National Guard Base, Ohio; and 162FW in Tucson in providing F-16 qualification training.
- 23 January 2001 Local landowner, neighbor, and longtime Luke supporter, Mrs Edith Denny, succumbed at age 90. She was daughter of Paul and Florence Litchfield who arrived in area in 1916 and were major economic force in West Valley.
- 13 February 2001 Federal judge ruled for AF biological assessment and Environmental Impact Statement in suit over antelope filed by environmentalist group (see 26 June 1999 entry); however, suit not dismissed against other defendants. No impact on fighter training.
- 4 May 2001 House Bill 1120 signed into law and provided funding for agricultural district around Luke (see entry for 17 May 1999).
- 18 May 2001 El Mirage Mayor Roy Delgado pledged support for Luke and promised not to build homes south of Peoria Ave that encroached on base.



- 13 June 2001 Wing headquarters moved from bldg S-11 at main gate to bldg 452 near flightline in a move to enhance force protection.

- 1 July 2001 Senate Bill 1525 became law. Directed compatible development in areas affected by state's military airports. Law also extended base's southern accident potential zone from 15,000 to 30,000 feet.
- 10 July 2001 Phoenix/Tempe dispute on flight safety hazards at Sky Harbor Airport due to proposed new football stadium resulted in resurrection of question of regional airport at Casa Grande. Governor's Regional Airport Advisory Committee on 18 May 1993 had voted against such a proposal and named Williams AFB as a reliever airport. Regional airport at Casa Grande could have impacted Luke's access to range.
- 20 July 2001 State Attorney General's opinion on SB 1525 determined it did not apply to school districts (see 1 July 2001 entry). Resulted in state school facilities board decision to expand three schools in base's noise/accident zones. Board, however, planned to move location of two new schools out of zones.
- 26 August 2001 Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld told US senators he wanted a round of base closures to save money. US Senator John McCain noted more personnel planned for state's bases and said that, "...bodes well for Luke and Davis-Monthan."



Pentagon After the 9-11 Attack.

- 11 September 2001 Terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, District of Columbia resulted in highest level of force protection at Luke, launching of 27 combat air patrol missions over Phoenix Metroplex, and deployment of 65 personnel (as of 31 December 2001) in support of war on terrorism.
- 27 October 2001 The media reported that Defense Department planned to ask Congress for relief from environmental requirements for military ranges, because those requirements were adversely impacting training and readiness.
- 6 November 2001 Air Force/Navy assumed management of Goldwater Range from BLM.

- 13 November 2001 944th Fighter Wing began F-16 qualification training.
- 6 December 2001 Wing/Tohono O'odham Nation signed memo of understanding on continued over flights of reservation as required by executive order.
- 7 December 2001 State's fiscal shortfalls resulted in funding cuts for Luke agricultural preservation district under SB 1120. (see entry 4 May 2001).
- 14 December 2001 Media reported Congress OKs round of base closures in 2005.
- December 2001 Ocotillo Manor base housing vacated in preparation for demolition and construction of new housing complex.
- 15 January 2002 308th Fighter Squadron joined 310th Fighter Squadron in providing night vision goggles training to satisfy combat air forces' request that all F-16 pilots be qualified in the device.
- 24 January 2002 El Mirage started building in 75 decibel area three miles north of base's runways.
- February 2002 Congressional staffers alerted to negative effects of regional airspace systems plan. Effects included actions by local airports that would impact military training routes/operating areas, close LANTIRN confidence check route, affect access to range, affect simulated flameout pattern, restrict use of Gladden/Baghdad during inclement weather, and increase air traffic controller workloads. Commercial/general aviation growth resulted in loss of 290 Luke flying hours in August 2001.
- 23 March 2002 US Senator John McCain met area leadership and charged all to reach consensus on actions to resolve developments impacting base's southern corridor to range. He stressed local action and did not indicate federal government becoming involved.
- 17 April 2002 State criticized in media for spending \$31 million on yet-to-be-built football stadium, but only \$0.5 million to protect asset with \$1.9 billion annual economic impact, Luke AFB.
- 29 April 2002 Luke first base removed from Superfund List. List designed to locate/sanitize sites where past practices resulted in generation of hazardous waste. All 33 sites found on base sanitized.
- 6 May 2002 Governor signed SB 1393 which rectified shortcomings in SB 1525 (see entry for 01 July 2001) by expanding definitions of political subdivisions to include schools as prohibited from construction in military airport noise/accident zones.
- 8 May 2002 Wing leadership told Goodyear City Council if southern air corridors at Luke threatened and stifle operations and efficiency at base, then Luke could be targeted for closure.

- 9 May 2002 Massive 14,000-home development called Verrado launched on 8,800 acres near White Tanks Mountains in Buckeye and southwest of base.
- 13 May 2002 Air encroachment in growing Phoenix metro area and its negative effects on a high-value asset, Luke AFB, was brought to attention of general public in front page article in area's major daily.
- 14 May 2002 Glendale-commissioned McGuire study revealed military had \$5.6 billion annual economic impact on state. Luke's impact was \$1.4 billion and lower than previously thought due to survey guidelines.
- 5 June 2002 Robsen communities reduced Goodyear development in Luke's noise zone from 204 to 145 homes. Goodyear used 1995 noise print instead of 1988 noise contours in zoning property. Now city wanted no homes built in noise zone.
- 7 June 2002 944th Fighter Wing graduated its first class from F-16 qualification training. Class 02-AB had six students. All 944th Fighter Wing students received ground training with 56th Training Squadron and, therefore, were counted in 56th Fighter Wing student production totals.
- 11 June 2002 Undersecretary Defense Installations/Environment Raymond F. Dubois, Jr., asked Congress for relief from environmental laws for military.
- 17 June 2002 Plight of Duncan Farms located in southern APZ featured in area media. Farm toured 20,000 visitors annually since 1992, but 2001 expansion of APZ and shift of most base operations to south affected safety of farm and its visitors.
- 24 June 2002 Goodyear approved actions to request right-of-way use of state land easements south of base to protect Luke by developing noise abatement and accident mitigation corridor.
- June 2002 An environmental assessment required when wing shifted most operations to the south revealed shift had no significant impact on environment.
- 12 August 2002 Wing leadership briefed on plan to build cargo airport nine miles west of Gila Bend. Facility would impact Luke's access to range and commercial air routes to San Diego and LA. Luke opposed the facility and Gila Bend government did not support it.
- 13 August 2002 Pentagon began working with National Governors Association to develop laws governing state-wide military compatible land uses.

- 21 August 2002 The (Representative) Bob Stump (Rep Arizona) National Defense Authorization Act's Cooperative Buffer Zone Acquisition Program implemented and allowed military to enter discussions on encroachment near military bases, and to acquire property near bases to limit incompatible development or preserve habitat where environmental restrictions affected training.
- 26 August 2002 Fund raising began for 5,000-student Catholic university as part of Verrado planned community in Buckeye (see entry 9 May 2002).
- 30 August 2002 Surprise OK'd 318-acre development called Litchfield Manor, partly in base's high noise zone. City explained had to OK project as area zoned prior to 2001 when smaller 1995 noise print used rather than larger 1988 print mandated by state law.
- 14 September 2002 West Valley/Luke Regional Land Use Open House held to get inputs from various publics on land use near Luke. Comments from attendees to be included in Arizona Military Airports Regional Compatibility Project report in attempt to merge general plans of 10 cities and desires of land owners.
- 19 September 2002 Duncan Farms located in southern APZ agreed to stop student tours of farm (see entry 17 June 2002).
- 26 September 2002 Wing leadership noted RJ Springer Homes building 1,000 homes on one acre lots near Luke Aux Field #1 where 13,000 operations conducted annually.
- 27 September 2002 Wing reached initial operating capability under new standard wing structure. Major change was returning to specialization with jets and technicians reassigned from operations group to logistics group which was redesignated a maintenance group.
- 11 October 2002 US Senate approved \$13 million for land acquisition near Luke.
- 17 October 2002 Phoenix area's lack of water seen as affecting unchecked development; however, Buckeye annexed 35,000 acres which included Hassayampa River watershed, the richest aquifer in state, and had plans for a community of up to 80,000 homes.
- 26 October 2002 National Governors Association Center for Best Practices said Arizona a leader in using legislation to protect military airports.
- 6 December 2002 It was learned that Veterans Administration and Federal Housing Administration home loan guidelines did not deny loans for homes in high noise areas.
- 7 December 2002 Surprise dedicated monument on former site of Luke's Aux Field #3 to pilots who trained at base in World War II.

- 14 December 2002 Some 100,000 active duty, retiree and dependents in Arizona faced possible identity theft resulting from theft of records and equipment during burglary at Phoenix TriWest HMO.
- 31 December 2002 Engine/spare parts problems that resulted in low MC rates since June 2000 eased and resulted in wing exceeding MC rate standard from September through December 2002.
- 11 February 2003 A 186-person Air National Guard contingent arrived at Luke to augment base's security forces.
- 11 February 2003 It was reported Goodyear to purchase Duncan Farms for \$3.5 million (see entry 17 June 2002).
- 27 February 2003 Wing leadership named city of Surprise development plans as greatest threat to continued operation of Luke AFB.
- 12 March 2003 Stop Loss implemented to ensure units had sufficient personnel to conduct mission. Affected 680 wing personnel who had approved retirement/separation dates.
- 20 March 2003 Operation IRAQI FREEDOM began.
- 22 March 2003 Arizona Dept of Commerce released Western Maricopa/Luke AFB Regional Compatibility Plan. Plan sought to meld land use desires of military, government officials and landowners in areas affected by base's operations.
- 4 April 2003 Wing officials criticized regional compatibility plan for shifting from looking for compatible use of land near base to compensating landowners for loss of use (see 22 March 2003 entry).
- 8 April 2003 Fighter Country Coalition sent letter to Intermodal Group opposing group's plan to build airport at Gila Bend. Said facility would jeopardize military mission in Arizona (see entry for 12 August 2002).
- 22 April 2003 Gila Bend Town Council approved Resolution 03-10 which enhanced military use of Gila Bend AFAF and, therefore, stopped Intermodal Group Airport (see entry 12 August 2002).
- 25 April 2003 Peoria to spend \$25,000 to motivate area cities to raise over \$100,000 to hire firm to lobby Congress for funds to buy land around Luke.
- 1 May 2003 President Bush announced end to large scale operations in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.
- 8 May 2003 Talks began with Glendale for building of public training facility in base's southern corridor. Seen as compatible use.
- 10 May 2003 Surprise passed ordinance directing real estate offices display maps of Luke's noise zones.

- 16 May 2003 Dysart School District projected to grow from 9,000 to over 16,000 in 2007 and require eight new schools.
- 20 May 2003 Surprise mayor wins re-election on platform to protect Luke.
- 22 May 2003 Goodyear had 3,718 acres in southern departure corridor; planned 99 percent of land for compatible use with Luke's mission.
- 22 May 2003 Two days after re-election on platform on saving Luke, Surprise mayor voted to OK 1,300 homes in base's high noise zone.
- 23 May 2003 County had flood plain on approach to Aux #1 and planned flood basins in southern APZ; seen as compatible land use.
- 27 May 2003 US Senator John McCain/Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano criticized Surprise mayor for actions seen as detrimental to national defense and illegal (see entry for 22 May 2003).
- 27 May 2003 It was reported Buckeye residents OK'd annexing of Douglas Ranch where town planned 80,000-home community.
- 27 May 2003 Governor's Military Facilities Task Force established by executive order to demonstrate to DoD state ready to enhance and maintain military presence in Arizona.
- 10 June 2003 F-16 crash traced to manufacturing defects in engine turbine blade. Forced stand down of 70 percent of 56th Fighter Wing jets. Problem affected all F-16/F-15 users of F100 engine.
- 13 June 2003 Arizona attorney general defined grandfathering in SB 1525 (see entry 1 July 2001) as development plan/zoning approved before 2001.
- 16 June 2003 56th Fighter Wing formed Community Initiatives Team to work encroachment by improving communication with cities and stakeholders.
- 16 June 2003 In an about face, Surprise voted to rezone Kenly Farms II from residential to commercial.
- 18 June 2003 Surprise reacted to criticisms by noting that El Mirage approved 10 times more dwellings than county and other towns near base.
- 20 June 2003 Retired US Representative Bob Stump succumbed at age 76. He headed House Armed Services Committee until retiring last year. Media said he was factor in Luke's surviving past base closures.



- 11 July 2003 A rebuilt Ocotillo Manor base housing complex south of Glendale Ave opened for occupancy with 95 new units.
- 12 July 2003 Surprise changed policy and began to restrict residential development near base.



- 24 July 2003 Work began on joint land use study for Aux #1. Study to use F-16 noise profiles and suggest compatible land uses.
- 31 July 2003 Stop Loss ended (see entry 12 March 2003)
- 15 August 2003 It was reported base housing to convert to civilian contract in 2005 and housing to be reduced from 874 units to 425.
- 1 September 2003 CSAF directed 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels flight moved to 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron in move designed to place sortie support units under one maintenance unit commander.
- 30 September 2003 56th Fighter Wing attained full operational capability in new combat wing structure (see entry 27 September 2002).
- 30 September 2003 Wing ended FY03 with average MC rate of 83.4, despite safety stand downs due to engine problems.
- 1 October 2003 Air Force blue suiter positions for back shop support to 21/425th Fighter Squadron converted to 119 Air Force civilian positions.
- 8 October 2003 US Navy DC-9 experienced in-flight emergency and made safe landing at nearest haven, Luke AFB.

- 14 October 2003 Fish and Wildlife declared DART tow targets on Cabeza Prieta as habitat thereby negating need for 56th Fighter Wing to retrieve targets.
- 17 October 2003 56th Fighter Wing received its first Block 32 F-16, Tail No. 86-0296, from the 944th Fighter Wing as a backfill jet.
- 13 November 2003 It was reported US Customs Service conducted three weeks of tests of Predator unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) on Goldwater Range to determine feasibility of using UAV for surveillance along the US/Mexican border south of Gila Bend.
- 15 November 2003 Landowners value land near base at \$60,000 per acre.
- 20 November 2003 Surprise planned to annex Aux #1 to control lot splitting.
- November 2003 2003 AICUZ released because of change in noise zones resulting from shifting of operations from north to the south.
- 4 November 2003 Congress allocated \$14.3 million for land acquisition near base.
- 5 December 2003 It was reported that DoD received Congressional approval to begin Base Realignment And Closure Commission (BRAC) process.
- 17 December 2003 Senator John McCain noted Congress approved \$14.3 million for Luke land acquisition. Warned area leaders that federal government alone could not protect Luke. He asked that state, county, local governments step up and raise funds for land acquisition around base.
- 17 December 2003 Wing official noted success of graduated density concept that allowed low density development near noise zones and increased densities away from those areas. Plan favored by local towns and DoD planned to possibly use it at all installations.
- 17 December 2003 City of Surprise praised for turning from anti-Luke to pro-Luke decisions on land use.
- 31 December 2003 56th Fighter Wing deployed 645 men and women to locations throughout world in support of humanitarian/peacekeeping operations.
- 31 December 2003 Captive breeding program began for Sonoran pronghorn antelope with construction of large pen in Cabeza Prieta Wildlife Refuge. Program attempted to save endangered local herd from extinction.
- 31 December 2003 House Bill 2605 going through legislative process; was designed to protect all state's military installations.
- 31 December 2003 Wing encroachment officials worked to place 26 new schools near Luke in least hazardous locations.

- 31 December 2003 Arizona Public Service cooperated with base by ensuring new power poles to service growing communities near Luke did not affect flight paths or communications.
- 31 December 2003 City of Surprise to annex near Aux #1 to prevent lot splitting and protect field from encroachment.
- 31 December 2003 County against Phase IV of Patton Place Estates near Aux #1 for safety reasons.
- 31 December 2003 Natural gas storage facility planned near Luke was seen as threat to health and safety of base personnel.
- 31 December 2003 It was reported that 221 individuals died in 2003 attempting to cross Sonoran Desert from Mexico to US.
- 18 January 2004 It was reported property owners near Aux #1 formed group called Arizona Coalition to Protect Property Rights.
- 3 February 2004 Force Shaping program implemented to reduce manning in-line with Congressionally-directed personnel ceilings.
- 3 March 2004 Governor formed permanent Military Affairs Commission to deal with preservation/growth of military installations in state.
- 19 March 2004 Pinal County officials denied zoning for La Osa Ranch north of Tucson which would have negatively impacted access to range.
- 31 March 2004 First stakeholders' meeting held to explain land purchase program.
- 5 April 2004 Falcon Star began and was designed to increase service life of jets through improvements to fuselage and structural components.
- 19 April 2004 Governor signed HB 2141 which provided same protection for Aux #1 rest of state's military airports enjoyed.
- 23 April 2004 Governor signed HB 2134 which prohibited construction of natural gas storage facility near Luke (see entry 31 December 2003).
- 26 April 2004 Governor signed HB 2662 requiring state real estate maps depict military training routes.
- 17 May 2004 Governor signed HB 2140 which established a funding stream to buy easements/property that encroached on base.
- 18 May 2004 A 30-member contingent of civilian contract workers began augmenting Luke's security forces to enhance force protection.
- May 2004 JLUS for Aux #1 completed.
- 6 July 2004 USAF senior leader postulated half F-16 fleet could be retired due to base closures and to save money for other programs.

- 14 July 2004 First purchase of 143 of 273 acres for force protection near munitions storage area completed for \$950,000.
- 15 July 2004 Maintenance of 21st Fighter Squadron jets converted from blue suiter to civilian contract.
- 1 October 2004 Manpower office reassigned from wing to 56th Mission Support Group in move to align specialties with similar functions.
- 1 October 2004 A test that reassigned 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels to 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron to determine any benefits to sortie generation ended with no significant results (see entry 1 September 2003). Fuels to be returned to 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron.
- 7 October 2004 Group of West Valley leaders met with DoD officials to stress area's support for continued existence of Luke AFB.
- 12 October 2004 City of Surprise announced city land near Aux #1 to be rezoned for airport preservation.
- 12 October 2004 Goldwater Range Task Force met by Congressional directive find ways endangered species on range and military use of facility could co-exist.
- 1 November 2004 186-person Army Guard contingent defederalized and relieved from Luke security augmentee duties (see entry 11 February 2003).
- 1 November 2004 Augmentee Duty Program (READY) began drawing personnel from various specialties to augment base security forces.
- 20 November 2004 LANTIRN confidence check flight path to calibrate instruments prior to LANTIRN mission moved for second time (see entry 1 July 1995) due to planned developments.
- 30 November 2004 56th Medical Group announced planned major reduction in medical services as directed by higher headquarters.
- 8 December 2004 Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano met with DoD official to stress area's support for continued existence of Luke.
- 9 December 2004 Wing officials noted range closed 37 times in 2004 so Border Patrol could remove groups that wandered onto range.
- 28 December 2004 It was announced that an endangered species on range, the pronghorn antelope, was rebounding from near extinction as its numbers increased from less than two dozen to some 58 animals.
- 31 December 2004 56th Fighter Wing deployed 401 personnel worldwide in support of humanitarian and peacekeeping operations.

- 31 December 2004 Wing leadership outlined Luke's requirements as facility from which to take off and land (Luke AFB), access to range, continued use of Aux #1 and Gila Bend where 12,000 and 45,000 operations, respectively, conducted annually (loss of two sites would move those operations to Luke and quadruple base's noise zones), and continued use of Baghdad/Gladden Airspace.
- December 2004 Congress passed the Readiness/Environmental Protection Initiative (REPI) which provided the military with funds to purchase land to stem incompatible land use.
- 25 February 2005 It was reported 244 acres near munitions storage area purchased for \$3 million from SunCor (see 14 July 2004 entry).
- February 2005 Joint Land Use Study completed on Gila Bend and Goldwater Range.
- 7 March 2005 Range task force (see entry 12 October 2004) reported to Congress on coexistence of antelope on range and air operations thru continued captive breeding and forage enhancement programs.
- 8 March 2005 Surprise voters OK Prop 300 rezoning 106-acre Kenly Farms II from residential to commercial.
- 11 March 2005 Expeditionary Thunderbolt Training implemented to give deploying personnel look at combat scenarios they might face at deployed sites.
- 2 April 2005 308th Fighter Squadron jets were the first wing F-16s to fly dissimilar air combat missions against the F-22 Raptor during deployment to Tyndall AFB, Florida.
- 4 April 2005 It was reported one acre Phoenix land in MSA procured for \$15,400 which completed land purchases in MSA area.
- 7 April 2005 Phoenix mayor issued proclamation that 920 acres north of base to be zoned for compatible use with base's mission.
- 3 May 2005 Border Patrol began flying three-to-four nightly helicopter missions from Gila Bend AFAF over range to detect undocumented aliens.
- 9 May 2005 Goodyear/Pebble Creek dispute over 145 homes in high noise zone resolved by moving building site to new location of increased density. Settlement of dispute resulted in all 3,783 acres in southern departure corridor being zoned for compatible use.
- 13 May 2005 BRAC announced 56th Fighter Wing to lose 37 jets as well as 278 slots.

25 May 2005	Contingent from Polish AF visited base after Poland bought 48 F-16s.
25 June 2005	Wildfires contained after burning 58,000 acres on range.
6 July 2005	Wing's fleet grew by three jets when Republic of Singapore AF unit at Cannon AFB, NM, inactivated and sent three jets to 425th Fighter Squadron.
15 July 2005	Over 70 near misses since 2000 prompted wing to call for creation of special airspace rule.
29 August 2005	President George W. Bush visited base. It was third visit by a sitting US President. President Gerald Ford visited on 14 November 1974 and President Bill Clinton on 11 September 1996.
4 September 2005	The first 54 of a contingent of 93 people from wing deployed to Gulf Coast to aid in relief efforts for Hurricane Katrina which damaged 95 percent of facilities at Keesler AFB.
15 September 2005	President Bush endorsed BRAC commission's recommendations for base closures and realignments. Wing to lose 22 jets as well as 425 positions. However, which jets the wing was to lose was to be decided on by wing officials.
15 September 2005	Common Configuration Implementation Program (CCIP) began; designed to upgrade selected systems on Block 42 jets to Block 52 capabilities.
21 September 2005	56th Medical Group contingent deployed to Dominica and treated 3,000.
23 September 2005	Base's two main gates closed indefinitely for force protection and due to personnel shortfalls caused by hurricane relief and Southwest Asia deployments.
28 September 2005	Services terminated at 56th Medical Group ambulatory procedures unit and operating rooms.
29 September 2005	Services terminated at 56th Medical Group extended hours clinic and podiatry.
19 October 2005	Women's Health Clinic closed.
8 November 2005	BRAC commission's recommendations passed into law by Congress.
14 November 2005	First basic course air-to-ground exercise held at Gila Bend utilizing bare-base environment for students to gain experience in flying/fighting from undeveloped sites.

31 December 2005	Wing deployed some 644 personnel to various locations throughout the world to assist in peacekeeping/humanitarian efforts.
31 December 2005	Wing official stated Wittman resident's suit to challenge HB 2141 protecting Aux #1 would be defeated in court for the second time.
31 December 2005	Mobile training teams from 310th Fighter Squadron train 46 in Forward Air Controller (Airborne) course.
31 December 2005	Lease for 700 acres at Aux #1 up for renewal and state wanted price increase from \$35,000 to \$140,000 annually for 10 years. Negotiations resulted in price lowered to \$70,000 annually for savings of \$700,000.
11 January 2006	USAF announced cuts in aerial fleet to gain funds for F/A-22.
3 February 2006	Quadrennial Defense Review released and stressed leaner, meaner force to include cuts in personnel to fund recapitalization of new weapons systems.
17 March 2006	Hands-on cell phone use while driving outlawed at Luke.
ca. March 2006	Environmental Impact Statement completed on integrated natural resource management plan for range.
9 May 2006	Site activation task force for BRAC-directed 944th Fighter Wing realignment held at Luke.
22 May 2006	Expeditionary Thunderbolt Training (see entry 11 March 2005) designed to give deploying members training in possible scenarios they might face at deployed sites moved to Gila Bend to take advantage of bare base/desert environment.
29 May 2006	Some 180 sorties over the Baghdad-Gladden Area and Aux #1 cancelled over a four-day period when glider meet at Pleasant Valley Airport posed what base officials felt was safety hazard to F-16 pilots flying in areas.
1 June 2006	Enlisted Club terminated evening dining and administrative functions. Those services available for all ranks at Officers' Club.
July 2006	Wing formed AF Smart Operations 21 Team to find ways to work smarter and reduce non-value added functions.
15 August 2006	First 944th Fighter Wing jet, F-16C 86-0273, left Luke under BRAC directive that unit was to lose all 17 of its F-16s and some 480 personnel authorizations.
23 August 2006	CSAF directed 40,000 personnel cut to gain funds for weapons systems recapitalization.

- 2 September 2006 Sixteen-member team which included nine people from 56th Medical Group deployed to Guatemala where treated 7,500, and give out more than 14,000 prescriptions.
- 14 September 2006 Mark Grace Thunderbolt Field officially dedicated. The new baseball field in Fowler Park was a \$300,000 project funded by Summit Builders, the Arizona Diamondbacks, and former D-back player, Mark Grace.
- 30 September 2006 Wing deployed 647 men and women from 41 specialties to numerous locations within the nation and foreign sites to support humanitarian and peacekeeping operations.
- 31 October 2006 Class 06 C2L with two students in Transition course was last class trained by 944th Fighter Wing.
- 4 October 2006 USAF announced new F-35 joint strike fighter to be based at Eglin AFB, FL for flight/maintenance training.
- 7 November 2006 Prop 207 designed to restrict zoning or face litigation passed by voters.
- November 2006 Environmentalist group filed intent to sue US Fish and Wildlife Service and wing for delisting Bald eagle on range from endangered species list.
- 25 November 2006 It was announced base housing to be privatized on 1 January 2006 (see entry 15 August 2003).
- 27 November 2006 Construction began on Litchfield Park overpass to ease congestion and aid force protection.
- 31 December 2006 BRAC decisions resulted in 56th Fighter Wing losing 425 personnel authorizations, retirement of 22 jets. Decision made that all jets to be retired were Block 25 models (see entry 15 September 2005).
- 31 December 2006 56th Fighter Wing official sees plans for 300 percent increase in local airports.
- 31 December 2006 Wing briefings to general aviation pilots accompanied by decrease in near misses. Request for special airspace traffic rule at FAA in Washington, District of Columbia.
- 31 December 2006 Purchase price of 634 acres in south accident potential zone 2 of a staggering \$87,000 an acre or \$55 million resulted in deletion of property from any acquisition attempts.
- 31 December 2006 Landowners' price for sale of property 400 percent above Corps of Engineers offers. Led to condemnation actions which owners favored as could get higher price through arbitration.
- 31 December 2006 Some \$18.8 million of \$27 million Congress appropriated for land purchase were obligated.

25 January 2007	10,000-acre site near Gila Bend approved for Volkswagen test track; seen as compatible land use with air operations at Gila Bend.
6 February 2007	Base Housing transferred to civilian firm under privatization program (see entry 15 September 2005).
12 February 2007	Last three 944th Fighter Wing F-16s left Luke AFB in preparation for inactivation of 302d Fighter Squadron.
27 February 2007	USAF leadership signed the record of decision on integrated natural resources management plan which was compiled by direction of the Congress (see entry for 5 October 1999).
10 March 2007	In-line with BRAC decisions, the 944th Fighter Wing's 944th Maintenance Group and 302d Fighter Squadron were inactivated.
14 March 2007	Navy officials sign record of decision on Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (see entry for 5 October 1999).
6 May 2007	56th Fighter Wing leadership signed the final Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (see 5 October 1999 entry).
12 April 2007	56th Fighter Wing initially to lose 37 jets under BRAC, but Change 06-01 directed 944th Fighter Wing lose 15 jets and 56th Fighter Wing 22 (see entry 13 May 2005).
22 June 2007	Giant Voice public address system activated at Luke AFB.
1 August 2007	Public Affairs and multimedia merged to increase utility of scarce personnel assets.
17 August 2007	It was reported USAF leadership to direct reorganization to global wing structure where jets and technicians reassigned from maintenance complex to Operations Group.
30 September 2007	56th Fighter Wing FY07 budget reduced by \$67 million when costs for aviation gas Air Force-wide consolidated and paid for by office in the Air Staff.
30 September 2007	56th Fighter Wing deployed 465 men and women during FY07 to national and international sites to support peacekeeping and humanitarian operations.
30 September 2007	All but \$800,000 of \$13 million appended to FY03 MILCON program was obligated to purchase land/easements.
1 October 2007	Information technicians moved from offices and consolidated mostly at group level to increase utility of those personnel.
1 October 2007	56th Fighter Wing FY08 budget reduced by \$147 million when costs for parts Air Force-wide consolidated and paid for by office in Air Staff.

- 1 October 2007 Life support/survival equipment technicians moved from fighter squadrons and consolidated at 56 OSS to increase their utility.
- 22 October 2007 Thirty F/A-18 Hornets from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar deployed to Luke as part of a move to protect the aircraft from fires raging throughout southern California.
- 14 November 2007 First 56th Fighter Wing jet reassigned under BRAC was F-16D, Tail No. 83-1175 to 162FW, Tucson Airport.
- 18 December 2007 Lightning Street on base renamed Gillespie Drive for MSgt Randy J. Gillespie of the 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron who was killed on 9 July 2007 in combat while TDY to Afghanistan.
- 31 December 2007 Some \$6 million of \$14.3 million appended to FY04 MILCON program for purchase land/easements remained unobligated.
- 9 January 2008 Army agreed to second antelope captive breeding pen near Yuma Proving Grounds (see entry 31 December 2003).
- 28 January 2008 Overpass over Glendale Ave opened to traffic and dedicated to Major Troy Gilbert who lost his life in Iraq on 27 November 2006.
- 15 February 2008 Wing leadership announced 63d Fighter Squadron to inactivate in 2009 to comply with BRAC directives on F-16 realignment at Luke (see 15 September 2005 entry).
- 26 February 2008 63d Fighter Squadron Class 08 ALL and its four members first to complete F-22 Raptor Lead-in Course.
- 28 February 2008 It was announced that plan to merge 56th Services Squadron and 56th Mission Support Squadron nearing approval.
- 10 March 2008 BRAC directive moving LANTIRN pods/personnel to Hill AFB, Utah, completed.
- 10 March 2008 BRAC directive moving positions to Eglin AFB, Florida, for F-35 stand-up completed.
- 10 March 2008 BRAC directive moving Logistics Readiness Squadron positions to Langley AFB, Virginia, for regional supply squadron completed.
- 20 March 2008 Attorney general opinion on HB 2141 required development plan/zoning be approved by 31 December 2004 for developments near Aux #1. Opinion advantageous for Luke as would halt incompatible development around Aux #1.
- 31 March 2008 Force Shaping ended after separating 766 Luke personnel since it started (see entry 3 February 2004).

- 12 May 2008 CSAF directed reorganization to global wing structure with inactivation of 56th and 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 56th Maintenance Operations Squadron with Aircraft Maintenance Units realigned to fighter squadrons, movement of Logistics Readiness Squadron from Mission Support Group to 56th Maintenance Group and redesignation of 56th Maintenance Group as Materiel Group.
- 26 May 2008 56th Comptroller Squadron lost 12 authorizations due to transfer of military pay and travel pay functions to Air Force Financial Services Center at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.
- 30 May 2008 It was reported Volunteers to the Air Force Program implemented where members of Arizona Civil Air Patrol provided manpower assistance to 56th Fighter Wing in non-combat roles.
- 5 June 2008 Sec AF Michael Wynne and CSAF Gen Moseley asked to resign over nuclear incidents.
- 6 June 2008 It was announced 944th Fighter Wing's 301st Fighter Squadron to be reassigned to Holloman AFB, New Mexico. Unit provided support for 944th Fighter Wing Instructor Pilots augmenting 56th Fighter Wing Instructor Pilots under Associate Instructor Pilot Program (see entry 31 December 1999). 69th Fighter Squadron to take over 301st Fighter Squadron mission.
- 13 June 2008 Last CCIP Block 42 F-16 scheduled for Block 52 upgrades left Luke (see entry 15 September 2005).
- 27 June 2008 Acting Secretary of the AF Donley directed delay in reorganization to global wing structure (see entry for 12 May 2008).
- 30 June 2008 Program to purchase/lease land/easements to protect base's access to range completed.
- 14 July 2008 Thirty-four of wing's Block 42 jets found to have cracks in bulkhead which provided structural rigidity to jets. Flying and class sizes reduced while repairs on-going.
- 25 July 2008 Study released by governor's office puts Luke annual economic impact at \$2.17B.
- 28 July 2008 Four French AF Rafale jets made first deployment ever to this nation and Luke AFB for a 10-day practice session prior to participating in a Red Flag exercise.
- 27 August 2008 New CSAF Gen Norton A. Schwartz directed reorganization to Global Wing be halted. (See entry for 12 May 2008.)

30 September 2008 State sued Maricopa County for failure to enforce law on compatible land use near Aux #1 and county sued state over property rights near Aux #1.

30 September 2008 Luke deployed 684 personnel during FY08 in support of humanitarian and peace-keeping operations throughout the world.

7 October 2008 Three-day site survey began to determine feasibility of basing F-35 at Luke; decision expected in 2011.

6 November 2008 Last of 77 jets to receive CCIP upgrades returned from Hill AFB (see entry 15 September 2005).

24 November 2008 310th Fighter Squadron which had traditionally provided LANTIRN, Forward Air Controller (Airborne) and night vision goggles training started instruction in basic course.

9 December 2008 State and municipal officials met with SecAF and CSAF to stress area's continued support for existence of Luke and to press for basing of F-35 at the installation.

10 December 2008 West Valley and state leaders travelled to Pentagon to urge USAF leaders to base F-35 at Luke.

5 January 2009 US Marine Corps Bulk Fuels Company Charlie moved to Luke to ease transportation problems and because of high street crime at old location.

10 February 2009 Superior Court judges rules in favor of state and directed county to stop issuing building permits which were resulting in incompatible development near Aux #1.

17 February 2009 107th Air Control Squadron moved to Luke from downtown Phoenix in move to ease transportation problems.

26 February 2009 56th Services Squadron assumed mission and assets of 56th Mission Support Squadron and was redesignated 56th Force Support Squadron while 56th Mission Support Squadron was inactivated.

March 2009 El Mirage officials travel to Washington, District of Columbia to request stimulus money and complain basing F-35 at Luke would negatively impact town.

3 April 2009 56th Fighter Wing notified won AF Outstanding Unit Award for period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008.

3-13 May 2009 AETC conducted Unit Compliance Inspection and evaluated 56th Fighter Wing an overall "Excellent."

26 June 2009 USAF announced a force structure change that was to reduce 56th Fighter Wing F-16 fleet by another 28 jets.

30 September 2009	63d Fighter Squadron inactivated in-line with BRAC realignment of 56th Fighter Wing F-16 fleet.
9 October 2009	Base holds a memorial service for Staff Sergeant Shawn Rankin, a 56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron crew chief.
22 October 2009	The 62d Fighter Squadron lost aircraft, Tail No. 84-1328, due to an engine flameout near Wickenburg, Arizona.
January 2010	AETC published the Combined Wingman Syllabus, which restructured three courses and syllabi into one syllabus.
1 February 2010	The 301st Fighter Squadron (AFRC) inactivated, and the 69th Fighter Squadron (AFRC) activated and joined the 944th Fighter Wing (AFRC).
4 February 2010	Officials representing the state of Arizona and Maricopa County signed an agreement to restrict building within the 65 decibel range of all military airports, including Luke AFB.
22 February 2010	Mr. Gabriel Aguilera ran the Lightning Gate in a stolen car. His passenger subsequently died after 56th Security Forces Squadron airmen stopped the car.
22-26 February 2010	Wing leadership attended public meetings on how the Environmental Impact Statement process would work.
22 March 2010	General Neubauer and Chairman Ned Norris, Jr. of the Tohono O'odham Nation signed the new 5-year Memorandum of Understanding covering the Sells Military Operations Area.
24 May 2010	Ms. Wendy Frost, the School Registrar for the 56th Training Squadron died in a automobile accident.
29 July 2010	The Air Force announced Luke AFB as the preferred alternate location for F-35 pilot training. The announcement also included the movement of two F-16 squadrons to Holloman AFB, New Mexico. The first squadron would move in October 2011.
20 September 2010	Brig Gen Jerry D. Harris, Jr., assumed command of the 56th Fighter Wing from Brig Gen Kurt F. Neubauer.
30 September 2010	The 61st Fighter Squadron inactivated.
15 December 2010	In answer to Lt Col Timothy W. Trimmell's, 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Commander, challenge to launch all of their aircraft, the 310th Aircraft Maintenance Unit launched 22 of 26 F-16s.
13 January 2011	62d Fighter Squadron and 62d Aircraft Maintenance Unit deployed four aircraft to Eglin AFB, Florida, to keep 33d Fighter Wing pilots current and develop that wing's operational procedures.

15-29 January 2011	310th Fighter Squadron deployed to Tyndall AFB, for Air-to-Air live fire exercise Combat Archer.
3 February 2011	The 308th Aircraft Maintenance Unit launched all 26 aircraft in response to Lt Col Trimmell's challenge.
8-27 February 2011	425th Fighter Squadron participated in Combat Archer.
16 February 2011	Lt Col Brian I. Elliott, 56th Fighter Wing Inspector General sent first e-mail about October 2011 Unit Compliance Inspection.
February 2011	56th Component Maintenance Squadron's Hydrazine plant went operational for first time in over 2 years.
6-23 April 2011	62d Fighter Squadron took part in Combat Archer during its deployment to Tyndall AFB.
19 April 2011	Pause lifted for inaccurate engine noise data in the F-35A Training Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
27 April 2011	Lt Col Frank D. Bryant, Jr., 56th Operations Group, was killed in action in Afghanistan.
1 May 2011	United States forces killed Osama bin Laden.
5 May 2011	United States Fish and Wildlife Service announced its final ruling on plan to reestablish Sonoran pronghorn as a nonessential experimental population.
20 May 2011	Ms. Kathleen I. Ferguson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations) signed the Barry M. Goldwater Range Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision which finalized six of ten proposals.
13 June 2011	Gen Edward A. Rice, Jr., Commander, Air Education and Training Command, briefed and the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff of the Air Force approved delaying the move of the first F-16 squadron to Holloman AFB until April 2013. Delays were due to needed time for Environmental Analysis, lack of funding, and time to design and renovate/construct facilities.
17 June 2011	Col Robert E. Webb took over as the Vice Commander from Col Jeffrey R. Weed.
17 June 2011	Col Yolanda D. Bledsoe assumed command of 56th Medical Group.
24 August 2011	The populous of the city of El Mirage, Arizona, elected pro-Luke Mayor and city council.
18 September 2011	56th Security Forces Squadron personnel found two people dead in the base Post Office.
17-24 October 2011	AETC Inspector General conducted a Unit Compliance Inspection of the 56th Fighter Wing and rated the wing Excellent.

- 13-17 February 2012 Col Robert E. Webb, Vice Commander, led wing team in attending Public Hearings in F-35 Environmental Impact Statement process.
- 17 April 2011 Headquarters Air Education and Training Command awarded the 56th Fighter Wing its 21st Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011.
- 4 May 2012 The base fitness center was renamed the Bryant Fitness Center in honor of Lt Col Frank Bryant Jr. who was killed in Afghanistan on 27 April 2011.
- 13 June 2012 The Air Force released to the public the F-35A Training Final Environmental Impact Statement.
- 29 June 2012 Col John T. Hanna assumed command of 56th Operations Group.
- 9 July 2012 Col Nathan C. Mooney assumed command of 56th Mission Support Group.
- 10 July 2012 Col Victor H. Mora assumed command of 56th Maintenance Group.
- 12 July 2012 Nineteenth Air Force inactivated. Thereafter, the 56th Fighter Wing reported directly to Air Education and Training Command.
- 1 August 2012 The Air Force announced the F-35 Training Record of Decision. Luke AFB would receive 72 F-35A aircraft making up three squadrons.



The Lockheed Martin F-35A Lightning II.

- 12 September 2012 Brig Gen Michael D. Rothstein assumed command of the 56th Fighter Wing.

56th Fighter Wing Lineage

56th Fighter Wing activated as parent unit of 56th Fighter Group on 15 August 1947.¹

Redesignated 56th Fighter-Interceptor Wing on 20 January 1950

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Redesignated 56th Fighter Wing (Air Defense) and activated on 28 December 1960.²

Organized on 1 February 1961. Discontinued, and inactivated on 1 January 1964.³



Redesignated 56th Air Commando Wing and activated on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁴

Redesignated 56th Special Operations Wing on 1 August 1968.

Redesignated 56th Tactical Fighter Wing on 30 June 1975.⁵

Redesignated 56th Tactical Training Wing on 1 October 1981.

Redesignated 56th Fighter Wing on 1 October 1991.⁶

¹ GO-77, 20 August 1947

² AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960 and ADC GO #192, 28 December 1960

³ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁴ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶ TAC SO GB-100, 27 September 1991

56th Fighter Wing Honors ⁷*

Service Streamers.

World War II American Theater *

Campaign Streamers.

World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater *

Air Combat [1941-1945]
 Air Offensive Europe [1942-1944]
 Normandy [1944]
 Northern France [1944]
 Rhineland [1944-1945]
 Ardennes-Alsace [1944-1945]
 Central Europe [1945]

Vietnam

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁸
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁹
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]¹⁰
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]¹¹
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]¹²
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]¹³
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]¹⁴

⁷ * **NOTE:** The 56th Fighter Group's honors for 15 January 1941-18 October 1945, 1 May 1946-14 August 1947, and 18 August 1955-1 February 1961 are temporarily bestowed upon the 56th Fighter Wing. The group was active, but not a component of the 56th Wing during these periods. The history of the 56th Group between 15 August 1947 and 6 February 1952 is a permanent part of the wing's history, since the group was a component of the wing. The bestowal means, that the wing may display as its own, the group's service and campaign streamers and the two Distinguished Unit Citations.

⁸ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁹ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

¹⁰ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

¹¹ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

¹² PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

¹³ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

Decorations.**Distinguished Unit Citations ***

European Theater of Operations, 20 February-9 March 1944;
Holland, 18 September 1944.

Presidential Unit Citations

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969¹⁵
Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970¹⁶
Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 December 1970-30 November 1971 with Combat "V" Device¹⁷
1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device¹⁸
23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device¹⁹
24 January 1975-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device²⁰
1 January 1977-1 January 1979²¹
1 July 1980-31 May 1982²²
1 June 1984-31 May 1986²³
1 May 1987-30 April 1989²⁴
1 May 1989-30 April 1990²⁵
1 May 1990-30 April 1991²⁶
1 July 1994-30 June 1996²⁷
1 July 1996-30 June 1998²⁸
1 July 1998-30 June 2000²⁹

¹⁴ PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

¹⁵ DAF SO GB-552/1970

¹⁶ DAF SO GB-352/1971

¹⁷ DAF SO GB-667, 28 September 1972

¹⁸ DAF SO GB-553/1973

¹⁹ DAF SO GB-600/1975

²⁰ DAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976

²¹ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

²² DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

²³ DAF SO GB-275/1987

²⁴ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

²⁵ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

²⁶ TAC SO GA-069/1991

²⁷ AETC SO GA-18/1996

²⁸ AETC SO GA-12/1998

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 July 2001-30 June 2003³⁰
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005³¹
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006³²
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007³³
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008³⁴
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009³⁵
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010³⁶
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011³⁷

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, 6 April 1967-28 January 1973

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Comptroller Squadron	1 April 1994 ³⁸
56th Operations Group	1 April 1994 ³⁹
56th Logistics Group	
later, 56th Maintenance Group	1 April 1994 ⁴⁰
56th Support Group	
later 56th Mission Support Group	1 April 1994 ⁴¹
56th Medical Group	1 April 1994 ⁴²

²⁹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

³⁰ AETC SO GA-55/2004

³¹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

³² AETC SO GA-045/2007

³³ AETC SO G-054/2008

³⁴ AETC SO G-071/2009

³⁵ AETC SO G-025/2010

³⁶ AETC SO G-086/2011

³⁷ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

³⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

³⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Previously Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
Groups	
56th Fighter Group	
later, 56th Fighter-Interceptor Group	15 August 1947-6 February 1952.
56th Operations Group	1 November 1991-4 January 1994.
56th Airdrome Group	15 August 1947-1 August 1948.
56th Air Base Group	1 August 1948-6 February 1952.
56th Air Base Group	
later, 56th Combat Support Group	1 February 1961-1 January 1964.
56th Combat Support Group	
later, 56th Support Group	8 April 1967-4 January 1994. ⁴³
56th Maintenance and Supply Group	15 August 1947-1 August 1948.
56th Maintenance and Supply Group	1 August 1948-6 February 1952.
56th Logistics Group	1 November 1991-4 January 1994 ⁴⁴
56th Station Medical Group	15 August 1947-1 August 1948.
56th Station Medical Group	
later, 56th Medical Group	1 August 1948-6 February 1952.
56th USAF Hospital	1 February 1961-1 January 1964.
56th USAF Dispensary	
later, 56th USAF Hospital ⁴⁵	8 April 1967 ⁴⁶ -30 June 1975.
USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill	
later, 56th Medical Group	30 June 1975-4 January 1994. ⁴⁷
Squadrons.	
1st Air Commando Squadron, Fighter	
later, 1st Special Operations Squadron	20 December 1967 ⁴⁸ -15 December 1972.
13th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron	15 January 1976-1 July 1982.
18th Special Operations Squadron	25 August 1971-31 December 1972.
21st Helicopter Squadron	
later, 21 Special Operations Squadron	27 November 1967-30 June 1975.

⁴³ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁵ **NOTE:** Redesignated 56th Tactical Hospital and activated in 1987 as a subordinate of the USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill. Regional Hospital became 56th Medical Group.

⁴⁶ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁴⁷ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁸ PACAF SO G-212, 21 November 1967

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
22d Special Operations Squadron	25 October 1968-30 September 1970.
23d Tactical Air Support Squadron	15 March 1972-30 June 1975.
56th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron later, 56th Avionics Maintenance Squadron	8 April 1967-15 July 1974. ⁴⁹
56th Avionics Maintenance Squadron later, 56th Component Repair Squadron	30 June 1975 ⁵⁰ -1 November 1991.
56th Comptroller Squadron	15 August 1988-4 January 1994. ⁵¹
56th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron	1 February 1961 ⁵² -1 January 1964; 15 July 1974 ⁵³ -30 June 1975;
56th Field Maintenance Squadron	8 April 1967 ⁵⁴ -15 July 1974.
56th Field Maintenance Squadron later, 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron	30 July 1975 ⁵⁵ -1 November 1991.
56th Munitions Maintenance Squadron	1 December 1973-15 July 1974 ⁵⁶ 30 June 1975 ⁵⁷ -1 November 1977
56th Organizational Maintenance Squadron	3 July 1972-15 July 1974 ⁵⁸
56th Organizational Maintenance Squadron later, 56th Aircraft Generation Squadron	30 June 1975 ⁵⁹ -1 November 1991
56th Supply Squadron	1 April 1963-1 January 1964; 8 April 1967 ⁶⁰ -28 February 1975; 30 June 1975 ⁶¹ -1 November 1991
56th Tactical Training Squadron	1 October 1979-1 November 1991

⁴⁹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967; PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁰ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵¹ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁵² ADC GO #192, 28 December 1960

⁵³ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁴ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵⁵ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵⁶ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁷ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵⁸ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁹ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶⁰ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁶¹ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
56th Transportation Squadron	1 April 1963-1 January 1964; 8 April 1967-bef 30 September 1973; 30 June 1975 ⁶² -1 November 1991
61st Tactical Fighter Squadron later, 61st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron	30 June 1975 ⁶³ -1 November 1991.
62d Fighter Interceptor Squadron	1 February 1961 ⁶⁴ -16 December 1963.
62d Tactical Fighter Squadron later, 62d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron	30 June 1975 ⁶⁵ -1 November 1991.
63d Tactical Fighter Squadron later, 63d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron	30 June 1975 ⁶⁶ -1 November 1991.
72d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron	1 July 1982-1 November 1991.
361st Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron	1 September 1972-30 June 1974 ⁶⁷
456th Munitions Maintenance Squadron	1 December 1967-1 December 1973
554th Reconnaissance Squadron	15 December 1970-30 September 1972.
602d Fighter Squadron, Commando later, 602d Special Operations Squadron	8 April 1967 ⁶⁸ -31 December 1970.
606th Air Commando Squadron later, 606th Special Operations Squadron	8 April 1967 ⁶⁹ -15 June 1971.
609th Air Commando Squadron later, 609th Special Operations Squadron	15 September 1967 ⁷⁰ -1 December 1969.
4456th Avionics Maintenance Squadron later, 4456th Component Repair Squadron	bef 8 April 1977-Unknown ⁷¹

⁶² TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶³ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶⁴ ADC GO #192, 28 December 1960

⁶⁵ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶⁶ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁶⁷ PACAF SO G-159, 31 August 1972

⁶⁸ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁶⁹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁷⁰ PACAF SO G-141, ca. 15 September 1967

⁷¹ TAC SO GA-31, 8 April 1977

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
4456th Field Maintenance Squadron later, 4456th Equipment Maintenance Squadron	bef 8 April 1977-Unknown ⁷²
4456th Organizational Maintenance Squadron later, 4456th Aircraft Generation Squadron	bef 8 April 1977-Unknown ⁷³ 15 January 1983-1 April 1994
4501st Tactical Fighter Replacement Squadron Detachment 1, 56th Air Commando Wing later, Detachment 1, 56th Special Operations Wing	30 June 1975 ⁷⁴ -15 January 1976 ca. 15 October 1967-1 February 1974
Detachment 2, 56th Special Operations Wing	15 October 1969-12 December 1969
Detachment 3, 56th Special Operations Wing	15 October 1969-12 December 1969
Operating Location AA, 56th Special Operations Wing	12 December 1969-15 December 1970
88th Air Base Squadron	attached 1 February 1952-6 February 1952
97th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron	attached 1 December 1950-20 May 1951.
464th Signal Heavy Construction Company (Aviation)	attached ca. 1 February 1948-May 1949
468th Signal Heavy Construction Company (Aviation)	attached ca. October 1948-ca. 23 May 1949
Company B, 838th Engineer Aviation Battalion	attached ca. 20 May 1948-ca. October 1948
4301st Base Service Squadron later 2476th Base Service Squadron later 4655th Base Service Squadron	1 August 1948-1 December 1948; attached 20 September 1950-14 February 1951
4684th Air Base Squadron later, 88th Air Base Squadron	21 December 1951 ⁷⁵ -5 February 1952

⁷² TAC SO GA-31, 8 April 1977

⁷³ TAC SO GA-31, 8 April 1977

⁷⁴ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁷⁵ EADF GO 120, n.d.; 4684 AB Sq GO 1, 21 December 1951; 88 AB Sq GO-1, 1 February 1952

Assignments. Fifteenth Air Force, 15 August 1947⁷⁶; Strategic Air Command, 1 October 1947⁷⁷; Tenth Air Force, 1 December 1948 (attached to 26th Air Division [Defense], 10 December 1949-19 February 1950; 30th Air Division [Defense], 20 February 1950-); Eastern Air Defense Force, 1 September 1950-6 February 1952 (remained attached to 30th Air Division [Defense] to 6 February 1952). Air Defense Command, 28 December 1960; Sault Sainte Marie Air Defense Sector, 1 February 1961; Duluth Air Defense Sector, 1 October 1963-1 January 1964. Pacific Air Forces, 16 March 1967; Thirteenth Air Force, 8 April 1967 (attached to Seventh Air Force, 8 April 1967-26 February 1974; United States Support Activities Group/Seventh Air Force, 27 February 1974-30 June 1975); Ninth Air Force, 30 June 1975; Nineteenth Air Force, 1 April 1994-.⁷⁸

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967-30 June 1975; MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975; Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁷⁹

Emblem. Emblem approved 19 April 1967



Four North American F-86A Sabres of the 62d Fighter Squadron, 56th Fighter Wing, flew over Chicago in February 1951. Top to bottom Tail Numbers were 53-1243, 53-1288, 53-1264, and 53-1262.

⁷⁶ 15 AF GO-77, 20 August 1947

⁷⁷ SAC GO-93, 12 September 1947

⁷⁸ AETC MO MO-2, 25 March 1994

⁷⁹ AETC MO MO-2, 25 March 1994

56th Fighter Wing Aircraft

Aircraft. [Ordered By First Use]

Post War and Korean War

Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star	1947-1950
North American F-86 Sabre	1950-1952
Republic F-47 Thunderbolt	1951-1952
North American F-51 Mustang	1951-1952
Lockheed F-94 Starfire	1951-1952

Air Defense

McDonnell F-101 Voodoo	1961-1963
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Viet Nam War

De Havilland U-6 Beaver	1967
Douglas A-26 Invader	1967-1969
Helio U-10 Super Courier	1967-1969
Douglas A-1 Skyraider	1967-1972
North American RT-28 Trojan	1967-1972
North American T-28 Trojan	1967-1973
Fairchild C-123 Provider	1967-1971
Fairchild UC-123 Provider	1968-1971
Douglas C-47 Skytrain	1969-1972
Beech QU-22	1970-1972
Fairchild AC-119K Stinger	1971-1972
Douglas EC-47 Skytrain	1972-1974
North American OV-10 Bronco	1972-1975
Cessna O-1 Bird Dog	1973

Post Viet Nam War

McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1975-1982
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1980-Present
McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle	1994-1995

Helicopters

Sikorsky CH-3 Jolly Green Giant	1967-1972
Sikorsky CH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant	1970-1975
Sikorsky H-34 Choctaw	1972
Bell UH-1P Iroquois	1975-1987

Wing Commanders

56th Fighter Wing [15 August 1947-20 January 1950]

Col William T. Hudnell	15 August 1947	(Major General)
Lt Col David T. McKnight	June 1949	
Col James R. Gunn, Jr	23 August 49-20 January 1950	

56th Fighter Interceptor Wing [20 January 1950-6 February 1952]

Col James R. Gunn, Jr	20 January 1950	
Col George S. Brown	15 August 1951-February 1952	(General-CJCS)

56th Fighter Wing (Air Defense) [1 February 1961 – 1 January 1964]

Col James F. Reed	1 February 1961	
Col John M. Konosky	16 May 1963 ⁸⁰ –1 January 1964	

56th Air Commando Wing [16 March 1967 – 1 August 1968]

None (not manned)	16 March-1967	
Col Harry C. Aderholt	8 April 1967 ⁸¹	(Brigadier General)
Col Roland K. McCoskrie	19 November 1967-1 August 1968 ⁸²	

56th Special Operations Wing [1 August 1968 – 30 June 1975]

Col Roland K. McCoskrie	1 August 1968	
Col Edwin J. White, Jr	November 1968	(Brigadier General)
Col Patrick M. Fallon	May 1969	(KIA, 4 July 1969)
Col Edwin J. White, Jr	June 1969	(Brigadier General)
Col Samuel E. Crosby, Jr	October 1969	
Col Edward J. Walsh, Jr	August 1970	
Col Jack A. Robinson	July 1971	
Col Norbert L. Simon	July 1972	
Col Robert E. Wayne	December 1972	
Col William B. Owens	July 1973	
Col Ralph H. Bowersox	September 1973	
Col Charles F. Wood	September 1973	
Col Perry J. Dahl	July 1974	[Ace]
Col Harry A. Goodall	February 1975-30 June 1975.	(Lieutenant General)

⁸⁰ 56 FW SO G-20, 16 May 1963

⁸¹ 56 CSG SO G-08, 29 May 1967

⁸² 56 CSG SO G-16, 19 November 1967

56th Tactical Fighter Wing [30 June 1975-1 October 1981]

Col Gerald J. Carey	July 1975	(Major General)
Col Ernest A. Bedke	August 1975	(Major General)
Col Charles J. Cunningham	November 1977	(Lieutenant General)
Col Henry D. Canterbury	July 1979-1 October 1981.	(Major General)

56th Tactical Training Wing [1 October 1981-1 October 1991]

Col Henry Viccellio, Jr	January 1982	(General-AFMC)
Col Ronald R. Fogleman	May 1983	(General-CSAF)
Col Jimmy L. Cash	August 1984	(Brigadier General)
Col Joseph W. Ralston	February 1986	(General-USEUCOM)
Col James L. Jamerson	February 1987	(General-DCINC USEUCOM)
Brig Gen Ben Nelson, Jr	January 1989-1 October 1991	



Col William T. Hudnell,
The First Commander of the 56th Fighter Wing

56th Fighter Wing [1 October 1991-.]

Brig Gen Ben Nelson, Jr	1 October 1991	
Col (later, Brig Gen) Marvin R. Esmond	September 1992	(Lieutenant General)
Col Charles T. Ohlinger III	19 August 1993-4 January 1994 ⁸³	
Active without Personnel or Equipment	4 January 1994	
Brig Gen Stephen B. Plummer	1 April 1994 ⁸⁴	(Lieutenant General)
Brig Gen (later, Maj Gen) Marvin R. Esmond	14 April 1995 ⁸⁵	(Lieutenant General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Carrol H. Chandler	2 April 1996 ⁸⁶	(General-VCSAF)
Brig Gen John L. Barry	17 July 1998 ⁸⁷	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Stephen T. Sargeant	15 February 2000 ⁸⁸	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Philip M. Breedlove	17 June 2002 ⁸⁹	(General-USAFE)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Robin Rand	8 June 2004 ⁹⁰	(Lieutenant General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Noel T. Jones	13 June 2006 ⁹¹	(Lieutenant General)
Brig Gen Kurt F. Neubauer	9 July 2008 ⁹²	(Major General)
Brig Gen Jerry D. Harris, Jr.	20 September 2010 ⁹³	
Brig Gen Michael D. Rothstein	12 September 2012 – Present.	



Luke 1

⁸³ 9 AF SO G-41, 26 July 1993

⁸⁴ [58 FW SO SO-GA-001, 24 June 1993]

⁸⁵ 19 AF SO G-002, 6 April 1995

⁸⁶ 19 AF SO G-007, 26 March 1996

⁸⁷ 56 MSS SO SO-GR-002, 17 July 1998

⁸⁸ 19 AF SO G-00-002, 14 February 2000

⁸⁹ 19 AF SO 56 MSS G-3, 13 June 2002

⁹⁰ 19 AF SO 56 MSS G-1-2004, 7 May 2004

⁹¹ 56 FW SO MSG-06-02, 13 June 2006

⁹² 56 MSG SO G-033, 3 July 2008

⁹³ 56 MSG SO G-032, 15 September 2010

Operations. The wing supported exercises, operations, and training programs of Strategic Air Command, 1947-1948. It pioneered the first west-to-east jet fighter transatlantic crossing along the northern air route in July 1948 and provided air defense for a large portion of the northeastern United States, December 1948-February 1952. The 56th provided air defense in the Michigan area, 1961-1963. It performed combat in Southeast Asia, April 1967-August 1973, and combat support until June 1975, employing a wide variety of aircraft to meet specialized missions. Those missions included interdiction, psychological warfare, close air support, search and rescue, forward air control, training Thai and Laotian air forces, and helicopter escort for clandestine insertion and extraction of personnel in Laos and North Vietnam. Provided close air support during the sieges of Khe Sanh, February-April 1968, and Lima Site 85, January-March 1968. Wing elements participated in the Son Tay Prison raid on 21 November 1970 and continued combat in Vietnam until mid-January 1973, in Laos until 22 February 1973, and in Cambodia until 15 August 1973. The 56th assisted in the evacuations of Phnom Penh on 11 April 1975 and Saigon, 29-30 April 1975. Provided forward air control and helicopter insertion/extraction support during the SS Mayaguez rescue operation on 15 May 1975. Upon return to the United States on 30 June 1975, it absorbed resources of the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing and operated MacDill AFB and nearby Avon Park Range, Florida. The wing conducted F-4D/E replacement training for pilots, weapon systems officers, and maintenance personnel, July 1975-July 1982. It was equipped with UH-1P helicopters, 1976-1987, to support Avon Range logistics needs, search and rescue efforts, and humanitarian missions. With conversion to F-16A/B aircraft in 1980-1982, the 56th became the designated unit for transitioning USAF and select allied nation pilots into the new fighter, while continuing to augment NORAD's air defense forces in the southeastern US. The wing provided logistic support to US Central Command beginning in 1983 and to US Special Operations Command after 1986. It upgraded to F-16C/D aircraft in 1988-1990, providing support personnel and equipment to units in Southwest Asia, August 1990-March 1991. Beginning in 1994, the wing primarily provided combat crew training to US and Allied services.



Sikorsky CH-53 Super Jolly Green Giant Tail No. 68-10933, 21st Special Operations Squadron, 56th Special Operations Wing offloads troops in Southwest Asia. On 31 May 1975, this helicopter crashed during the Mayaguez Incident killing all 23 Airmen aboard.

56th Comptroller Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Finance Disbursing Unit,
Fighter, Jet, on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Inactivated on 1 November 1949.

Disbanded on 9 August 1950.

Reconstituted, redesignated 56th
Comptroller Squadron, and
activated, on 15 August 1988.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁹⁴

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁹⁵



Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁹⁶

1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁹⁷

1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁹⁸

1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁹⁹

1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰⁰

1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁰¹

1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹⁰²

1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹⁰³

1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁰⁴

⁹⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁹⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁹⁶ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

⁹⁷ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

⁹⁸ TAC SO GA-069/1991

⁹⁹ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹⁰⁰ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹⁰¹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹⁰² AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹⁰³ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹⁰⁴ AETC SO GA-045/2007

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁰⁵1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁰⁶1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰⁷1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁰⁸1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁰⁹

Assignments. Unknown 14 June 1947-31 July 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-1 November 1949; 56th Tactical Training (later, 56 Fighter) Wing, 15 August 1988--4 January 1994¹¹⁰; 1 April 1994-.¹¹¹

Stations. Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 August 1948--1 November 1949. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 15 August 1988--4 January 1994.¹¹² Luke AFB, AZ, 1 April 1994-.¹¹³

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 22 June 1989. Changed and approved on 28 August 2001.

Blazon. On a disc Azure, beneath a moneybag Argent, banded and charged with a dollar sign Sable, emitting two lightning flashes chevronwise Or, a demi-coyote statant Proper, langued Gules, armed and eyed of the second, all within a narrow border Black.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "56TH COMPTROLLER SQ" in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "" in Yellow letters.

Official Motto. Coyotes

¹⁰⁵ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹⁰⁶ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹⁰⁷ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹⁰⁸ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹⁰⁹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹¹⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹¹¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹² ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹¹³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The coyote signifies the adaptability of the unit to overcome restraints and adverse conditions to accomplish the mission, just as the coyote adapts to its surroundings to survive. The moneybag reflects the fiscal responsibilities of the unit. The lightning flashes stand for the unit's quick and flawless execution of the mission.

Commanders.

56th Finance Disbursing Unit, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-1 November 1949]

Unknown

Unknown

56th Comptroller Squadron [15 August 1988-4 January 1994; 1 April 1994-.]

Unknown

15 August 1988

Maj Joseph J. Waters

13 September 1988¹¹⁴

Maj Clinton T. Johnson

4 October 1989

Maj Richard B. Weathers

14 February 1992-4 January 1994

Maj Eugene Dacus

1 April 1994¹¹⁵

Maj Etoya B. Hearon

15 August 1994¹¹⁶

Maj Janet A. Young

25 November 1996¹¹⁷

Lt Col Robert M. Smith

30 July 1998¹¹⁸

Lt Col Michael R. Shaw

11 July 2000¹¹⁹

Maj Roy C. Russell

16 July 2002¹²⁰

Lt Col Kent I. Meredith

1 July 2004¹²¹

Lt Col Vernet Smith

20 June 2007¹²²

Maj (later Lt Col) Quy H. Nguyen

20 July 2009¹²³

Maj Jessi Rozman

7 July 2011¹²⁴

¹¹⁴ 56 CSG SO G-95, 13 September 1988

¹¹⁵ 58 MSS SO GB-002, 21 January 1993

¹¹⁶ 56 MSS SO GB-002, 31 August 1994

¹¹⁷ 56 CPTS SO G-2, 22 November 1996

¹¹⁸ SO 001, 30 July 1998

¹¹⁹ 56 CPTS SO G-001, 5 August 2000

¹²⁰ 56 MSS SO 56 CPTS G-1, 16 July 2002

¹²¹ 56 MSS SO 56CPTS G-1 2004, 29 July 2004

¹²² 56 MSG SO MSG-07-06, 5 June 2007

¹²³ 56 FSS SO G-041, 16 July 2009

¹²⁴ 56 FSS SO G-021, 7 July 2011

56th Operations Group



Col John T. Hanna

Lineage.

Established as 56th Pursuit Group (Interceptor) on 20 November 1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 56th Fighter Group on 15 May 1942.

Inactivated on 18 October 1945.

Activated on 1 May 1946.

Redesignated 56th Fighter-Interceptor Group on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Redesignated 56th Fighter Group (Air Defense) on 20 June 1955.

Activated on 18 August 1955.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 February 1961.¹²⁵

Redesignated 56th Tactical Fighter Group on 31 July 1985.

Redesignated 56th Operations Group on 28 October 1991.

Activated on 1 November 1991.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹²⁶

Honors.

Service Streamers.

World War II American Theater

¹²⁵ AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960

¹²⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Campaign Streamers.**World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater**

Air Offensive Europe [1942-1944]
 Normandy [1944]
 Northern France [1944]
 Rhineland [1944-1945]
 Ardennes-Alsace [1944-1945]
 Central Europe [1945]
 Air Combat [1941-1945]

Decorations.**Distinguished Unit Citations**

European Theater of Operations, 20 February-9 March 1944;
 Holland, 18 September 1944.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹²⁷
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹²⁸
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹²⁹
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹³⁰
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹³¹
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹³²
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹³³
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹³⁴
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹³⁵
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹³⁶
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹³⁷

¹²⁷ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹²⁸ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹²⁹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹³⁰ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹³¹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹³² AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹³³ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹³⁴ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹³⁵ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹³⁶ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹³⁷ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

56th Fighter Group Aces

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aerial Victories</u>		
	<u>In 56 FG</u>	<u>Lifetime Total</u>	
1. Lt Col Francis S. Gabreski	28	34.5	POW 20 July 1944
2. Capt Robert S. Johnson	27	27	
3. Col David C. Schilling	22.5	22.5	
4. Capt Fred J. Christensen, Jr.	21.5	21.5	
5. Maj Walker M. Mahurin	19.5	24.25	Evaded 27 March 1944; POW 13 May 1952
6. Maj Gerald W. Johnson	15.5	16.5	POW 27 March 1944 (Lieutenant General)
7. Col Hubert A. Zemke	15.25	17.75	POW 30 October 1944
8. Capt Joe H. Powers	14.5	14.5	
9. Capt Felix D. Williamson	13	13	
10. Maj Leroy A. Schreiber	12	12	KIA 15 April 1944
11. Maj James C. Stewart	11.5	11.83	
12. Maj Paul A. Conger	11.5	11.5	
13. Capt Michael J. Quirk	11	11	POW 9 September 1944
14. Sq Ldr Michael Gladych	10	10	
15. 1st Lt Robert J. Rankin	10	10	
16. 1st Lt Stanley B. Morrill	9	9	Killed aircraft accident 29 March 1944
17. Maj George E. Bostwick	8	8	
18. Maj Michael J. Jackson	8	8	
19. 1st Lt Glen D. Schiltz, Jr.	8	8	
20. 2d Lt Billy G. Edens	7	7	POW 9 September 1944
21. 1st Lt Robert J. Keen	7	7	
22. 2d Lt Frank W. Klibbe	7	7	
23. Capt Robert A. Lamb	7	7	
24. Maj Leslie C. Smith	7	7	
25. 1st Lt John H. Truluck, Jr.	7	7	
26. Capt Mark L. Moseley	6.5	6.5	
27. Capt James R. Carter	6	6	
28. Capt Walter V. Cook	6	6	
29. 1st Lt George F. Hall	6	6	
30. Capt Cameron M. Hart	6	6	
31. Capt Joseph H. Bennett	5.5	8.5	
32. 1st Lt Frank E. McCauley	5.5	5.5	
33. 1st Lt Donovan F. Smith	5.5	5.5	(Lieutenant General)
34. Capt John W. Vogt, Jr.	5	8	(General-USAFE)
35. Maj Harold E. Comstock	5	5	
36. 1st Lt Joseph L. Egan, Jr.	5	5	KIA 19 July 1944
37. 2d Lt Steven Gerick	5	5	
38. 2d Lt Joe W. Icard	5	5	KIA 8 March 1944
39. Flt Off Evan D. McMinn	5	5	KIA 6 June 1944
40. Capt Eugene W. O'Neill, Jr.	5	5	

Group – 667 Total Aerial Victory Credits.¹³⁸
- Group Staff – 39.75 Aerial Victory Credits of the Group's total.

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
21st Fighter Squadron	8 August 1996
56th Operations Support Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹³⁹
56th Training Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴⁰
62th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴¹
308th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴²
309th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴³
310th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴⁴
425th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁴⁵
Previously Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Materiel Squadron	Unknown-1 February 1961.
56th Operations Support Squadron	1 November 1991-4 January 1994.
56th Tactical Training Squadron later, 56th Training Squadron	1 November 1991-20 July 1993.
56th USAF Infirmary later, 56th USAF Dispensary later, 56th USAF Hospital	18 August 1955-1 February 1961.
61st Pursuit Squadron later, 61st Fighter Squadron	15 January 1941-18 October 1945.
61st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron later, 61st Fighter Squadron	1 May 1946-6 February 1952; 1 November 1991-12 August 1993; 1 April 1994-30 September 2010. ¹⁴⁶

¹³⁸ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

¹³⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁴⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁴¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994 and AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

¹⁴² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁴³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁴⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994 and AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

¹⁴⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994 and AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

¹⁴⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-10-42, 13 August 2010

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
62d Pursuit Squadron later, 62d Fighter Squadron	15 January 1941-18 October 1945;
62d Fighter-Interceptor Squadron later, 62d Fighter Squadron	1 May 1946-6 February 1952. (detached ca. 28 December 1946-ca. 10 April 1947; and ca. 28 July 1950-6 February 1952); 18 August 1955-1 February 1961. (detached 1 August-30 September 1959); 1 November 1991-14 May 1993.
63d Pursuit Squadron later, 63d Fighter Squadron	15 January 1941-18 October 1945.
63d Fighter Squadron later, 63d Fighter-Interceptor Squadron later, 63d Fighter Squadron	1 May 1946-6 February 1952; 18 August 1955-8 January 1958; 1 November 1991-25 February 1993; ¹⁴⁷ 1 April 1994-30 September 2009. ¹⁴⁸
71st Air Control Squadron	1 May 1992-1 October 1993. ¹⁴⁹
72d Fighter Squadron	1 November 1991-19 June 1992.
97th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron	Unknown-20 May 1951 ¹⁵⁰
136th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron	attached 21 July 1951-6 February 1952. ¹⁵¹
172d Fighter-Interceptor Squadron	attached 1 May 1951 ¹⁵² --6 February 1952.
311st Fighter Squadron	1 January 1995-1 December 1995. ¹⁵³
461st Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994-5 August 1994. ¹⁵⁴
550th Fighter Squadron	1 April 1994-31 March 1995. ¹⁵⁵
11th Crash-Rescue Boat Flight	attached 14 July 1951-Unknown ¹⁵⁶

¹⁴⁷ TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991; ACC MO-1, 23 February 1993

¹⁴⁸ AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994; ACC MO-1, 23 February 1993

¹⁴⁹ ACC MO-10, 26 July 1993

¹⁵⁰ EADF GO #64, 8 May 1951

¹⁵¹ EADF GO 81, 16 July 1951 and 56 FIW GO 23, 20 July 1951

¹⁵² EADC GO #58, 25 April 1951

¹⁵³ AETC SO G-12, 27 December 1994; AETC SO G-4, 20 November 1995

¹⁵⁴ AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994; AETC SO G-52, 29 July 1994

¹⁵⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994 and AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994; AETC SO G-23, 15 February 1995

¹⁵⁶ 56 FIW GO 22, 14 July 1951

Assignments. Southeast Air District (later, Third Air Force), 15 January 1941 (attached to 17th Bombardment Wing [Light], 15 January-16 May 1941; III Interceptor Command, ca. 17 June-1 October 1941); III Interceptor Command, 2 October 1941; I Interceptor (later, I Fighter) Command, 15 January 1942; New York Air Defense Wing, 11 August 1942; VIII Fighter Command, ca. 12 January 1943; 4 Air Defense (later, 65th Fighter) Wing, 4 July 1943; 66th Fighter Wing, 28 August-October 1945. Fifteenth Air Force, 1 May 1946 (attached to 65th Combat Fighter Wing, Very Long Range, Provisional, January-14 August 1947); 56th Fighter (later, 56th Fighter-Interceptor) Wing, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. 4706th Air Defense Wing, 18 August 1955; 37th Air Division, 8 February 1956; 30th Air Division, 1 April 1959; Sault Sainte Marie Air Defense Sector, 1 April 1960-1 February 1961 (attached to 30th Air Division, 1 April-14 June 1960). 56th Fighter Wing, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994. 56th Fighter Wing, 1 April 1994-.¹⁵⁷

Stations. Savannah Air Base, Georgia, 15 January 1941; Charlotte Army Air Base, North Carolina, 26 May 1941; Charleston, South Carolina, ca. 10 December 1941; Teaneck Armory, New Jersey, 17 January 1942; Bridgeport, Connecticut, 6 July- December 1942; Kings Cliffe, England, 12 January 1943; Horsham St Faith, England, 5 April 1943; Halesworth, England, 9 July 1943; Boxted, England, 19 April 1944; Little Walden, England, ca. 15 September-11 October 1945; Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, 16-18 October 1945. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 1 March 1946-6 February 1952. O'Hare International Airport, Illinois, 18 August 1955; K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 October 1959-1 February 1961. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹⁵⁸

Aircraft. [Ordered By First Use]

Seversky P-35	1941.
Curtis P-36 Hawk	1941.
Bell P-39 Airacobra	1941-1942.
Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1941-1942.
Republic P-47 Thunderbolt	1942, 1943-1945.
Republic P (later, F)-47 Thunderbolt	1946-1947, 1951-1952.
North American P (later, F)-51 Lightning	1946-1947, 1951-1952.
Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star	1947-1950.
North American F-86 Sabre	1950-1952, 1955-1959.
Lockheed F-94 Starfire	1951-1952.
McDonnell F-101 Voodoo	1959-1961.
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1991-1993, 1994-.
McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle	1994-1995.

Emblem. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]

¹⁵⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁵⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.**56th Pursuit Group (Interceptor) [15 January 1941-15 May 1942]**

Unknown	15 January-May 1941
Lt Col David D. Graves	May 1941-15 May 1942.

56th Fighter Group [15 May 1942-18 October 1945; 1 May 1946-20 January 1950]

Lt Col David D. Graves	May 1941	
Col John C. Crosswaithe	ca. 1 July 1942	
Col Hubert A. Zemke	16 September 1942	[Ace]
Col Robert B. Landry	30 October 1943	(Major General)
Lt Col David C. Schilling	11 January 1944	[Ace]
Col Hubert A. Zemke	19 January 1944	[Ace]
Col David C. Schilling	12 August 1944	[Ace]
Lt Col Lucian A. Dade, Jr.	27 January 1945	
Lt Col Donald D. Renwick	ca. 31 August 1945-ca. October 1945.	

Col David C. Schilling	1 May 1946	[Ace]
Lt Col Thomas D. DeJarnette	14 July 1948	
Lt Col David C. Schilling	August 1948	[Ace]
Lt Col William D. Ritchie	by January 1949	
Lt Col Irwin H. Dregne	by May 1949	[Ace]
Maj Ralph A. Johnson	15 September 1949	
Col Francis S. Gabreski	5 October 1949-20 January 1950.	[Ace]

56th Fighter-Interceptor Group [20 January 1950-6 February 1952]

Col Francis S. Gabreski	20 January 1950	[Ace]
Lt Col George L. Jones	May 1951	[Ace]
Col Ernest J. White, Jr.	May 1951 ¹⁵⁹	(Brigadier General)
Unknown	1 February 1952-6 February 1952.	

56th Fighter Group (Air Defense) [18 August 1955-1 February 1961]

Unknown	18 August 1955-unknown	
Col John R. Murphy	bef April-15 July 1957	(Lieutenant General)
Unknown	16 July 1957-3 November 1957	
Col Leo C. Moon	4 November 1957	
Lt Col Bacchus B. Byrd, Jr.	15 August 1959	
Lt Col Russell C. Jackson	ca. September 1959	
Col Phillip N. Loring	1 October 1959	
Col James W. Holt	19 November 1960	
Col James F. Reed	ca. 13 January-1 February 1961.	

¹⁵⁹ 1 February 1952 Bio & 575 ABG L&H

56th Operations Group [1 November 1991-4 January 1994; 1 April 1994-.]

Col Patrick T. Sakole	1 November 1991	
Col John L. Barry	3 August 1992	(Major General)
Col Vincent J. Santillo	2 August 1993	
Lt Col Ralph B. Brown	December 1993-4 January 1994.	
Col Bron A. Burke	1 April 1994 ¹⁶⁰	
Col Stanley Gorenc	13 June 1994 ¹⁶¹	(Major General)
Col Gilmary M. Hostage III	30 June 1995 ¹⁶²	(General, ACC)
Col Irvin M. Hardin	9 May 1997 ¹⁶³	
Col William C. Louisell	7 May 1999 ¹⁶⁴	
Col Robert P. Steel	26 May 2000 ¹⁶⁵	(Major General)
Col Steven R.F. Searcy	4 January 2002 ¹⁶⁶	
Col Walter E. Wright III	2 July 2003 ¹⁶⁷	
Col Timothy W. Strawther	13 June 2005 ¹⁶⁸	
Col Robert P. Givens	1 June 2007 ¹⁶⁹	(Brigadier General)
Col George P. Schaub	30 June 2008 ¹⁷⁰	
Col Douglas R. Miller	25 June 2010 ¹⁷¹	
Col John T. Hanna	29 June 2012-. ¹⁷²	

¹⁶⁰ [58 MSS SO SO-G-67, 11 June 1992]

¹⁶¹ 56 OSS SO SO-GC-001, 20 June 1994

¹⁶² 56 FW SO SO GC-002, 22 June 1995

¹⁶³ 56 OSS SO SO-GC-002, 8 May 1997

¹⁶⁴ 56 OG SO GC-002, 12 July 1999

¹⁶⁵ 56 OG SO GS-001, 22 May 2000

¹⁶⁶ 56 OSS SO GC-002, 17 December 2001

¹⁶⁷ 56 OG SO 56OG GS-1, 2 June 2003

¹⁶⁸ 56 FW SO 56OG-G-2005-11, 9 June 2005

¹⁶⁹ 56 OG SO G-2007-006, 1 June 2007

¹⁷⁰ 56 OG SO G-028, 16 July 2008

¹⁷¹ 56 MSG SO G-017, 24 June 2010

¹⁷² 56 MSG SO G-017, 26 June 2012

Operations. The 56th Pursuit Group trained with available aircraft, participated in maneuvers, served as an air defense organization, and functioned as an operational training unit until June 1942. It received P-47s in June and began training for combat, moved to England, December 1942-January 1943, and was assigned to Eighth Air Force. As the first US P-47 fighter group to enter combat in the European Theater of Operations (ETO), the 56th entered combat with a fighter sweep in the area of St Omer, France, on 13 April 1943. During the next two years it destroyed more enemy aircraft in aerial combat than any other fighter group of Eighth Air Force, flying combat missions over France, the Low Countries, and Germany to escort bombers that attacked industrial establishments, V-weapon sites, submarine pens, and other targets on the Continent. It also strafed and dive-bombed airfields, troops, and supply points; attacked the enemy's communications; and flew counter-air and interdiction missions during the invasion of Normandy in June 1944. The 56th supported the Allied forces for the breakthrough at St. Lo in July, the Battle of the Bulge, December 1944-January 1945, and helped to defend the Remagen bridgehead against air attacks in March 1945. It was awarded its first Distinguished Unit Citation (DUC) for aggressiveness in seeking out and destroying enemy aircraft and for attacking enemy air bases, 20 February-9 March 1944, and a second DUC for strikes against anti-aircraft positions while supporting the airborne attack on Holland in September 1944. From May 1946, the group trained to maintain proficiency as a mobile strike force; including bomber escort missions until transferred from Strategic Air Command to Continental Air Command on 1 December 1948. The group added an air defense mission in the northeastern US in April 1949, and continued through February 1952. It replaced the 501st Air Defense Group at O'Hare International Airport, Chicago, Illinois on 18 August 1955, assuming its air defense mission and operation of base facilities there. Moving without personnel or equipment to K. I. Sawyer AFB, Michigan on 1 October 1959, the group absorbed the resources of the 473d Fighter Group. As part of the 56th Fighter Wing, the group conducted F-16 transition training, November 1991-August 1993. It phased down at MacDill AFB, mid-1992 to inactivation. The 56th Operations Group replaced the 58th Operations Group on 1 April 1994. It conducted F-15E Strike Eagle combat crew training, April 1994-March 1995 and combat crew training for U.S. and Allied services with the F-16.



Lt Col Francis S. Gabreski, 61st Fighter Squadron, talks with his Crew Chief, S/Sgt Ralph Safford and Assistant Crew Chief, Schacki.

56th Operations Support Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as the 56th Airdrome Squadron on 25 January 1943.
 Activated on 1 February 1943.
 Redesignated 56th Airdrome Squadron (Special) on 16 April 1943.
 Disbanded on 1 April 1944.

Reconstituted, and redesignated 56th Operations Support Squadron, on 28 October 1991.
 Activated on 1 November 1991.
 Inactivated on 4 January 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹⁷³



Honors.

Service Streamers.

World War II American Theater

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹⁷⁴
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁷⁵
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁷⁶
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹⁷⁷
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹⁷⁸
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁷⁹
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁸⁰
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁸¹
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁸²

¹⁷³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁷⁴ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹⁷⁵ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹⁷⁶ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹⁷⁷ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹⁷⁸ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹⁷⁹ AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹⁸⁰ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹⁸¹ AETC SO G-071/2009

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁸³1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁸⁴**Squadron – No Total Aerial Victory Credits.**¹⁸⁵ **Squadron Aces: None.****Assignments.** Second Air Force, 1 February 1943-1 April 1944. 56th Operations Group, 1 November 1991-20 July 1993. 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994-.¹⁸⁶**Stations.** Grand Island Army Air Base, Nebraska, 1 February 1943; Pocatello Army Air Base, Idaho, 25 March 1943; Camp Williams, Wisconsin, 3 April 1943; Grand Island Army Air Base, Nebraska, 2 May 1943-1 April 1944. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹⁸⁷**Aircraft.** None.**Emblem.** Approved on 2 October 2001.**Blazon.** On a disc Azure, a starburst of nine points in nombril sinister rotated to dexter Or, surmounted by an eagle volant issuing from sinister chief Yellow, head feathers Argent, eyed Sable, legged Gold Brown, armed and langued Gules. Issuing from dexter base, a wizard in natural colors habited of the sixth and extending his dexter hand toward the eagle, all within a narrow border Scarlet.

Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "56TH OPERATIONS SPT SQ" in Red letters.

Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed with "WIZARDS" in Red letters.

Official Motto. Wizards.**Significance.** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The golden radiance joining the wizard and the eagle is indicative of the myriad missions the unit performs and is a shining example for others to follow. The eagle's outstretched wing signifies the unit's far-reaching impact. The wizard embodies the wisdom and skill of Air Force leadership.

¹⁸² AETC SO G-025/2010¹⁸³ AETC SO G-086/2011¹⁸⁴ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012¹⁸⁵ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency¹⁸⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994¹⁸⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Airdrome Squadron [1 February 1943-16 April 1943]***

Unknown

Unknown

56th Airdrome Squadron (Special) [16 April 1943-1 April 1944]

Unknown

Unknown

***56th Operations Support Squadron [1 November 1991-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-.***

Unknown

Unknown

Lt Col Richard M. Sayers, Jr.

ca. 1 November 1991-August 1993

Lt Col William T. Edwards

August 1993-4 January 1994.

Lt Col Thomas K. Mascot

1 April 1994¹⁸⁸

Lt Col Robert M. Parker

4 August 1994¹⁸⁹

Lt Col Bennett M. Bitler

29 August 1996¹⁹⁰

Lt Col Khristian D. Skinner

1 July 1998¹⁹¹

Lt Col Charles W. Johnson

5 April 2000¹⁹²

Lt Col David L. Orr

10 July 2001¹⁹³

Lt Col Jeffrey M. Arkell

13 June 2002¹⁹⁴

Lt Col Brian M. Schaaf

15 January 2004¹⁹⁵

Lt Col David J. Julazadeh

13 May 2005¹⁹⁶

Lt Col Matthew B. Willis

25 April 2008¹⁹⁷

Lt Col William Jones

2 March 2009¹⁹⁸

Lt Col John W. Bosone

6 May 2011-¹⁹⁹

¹⁸⁸ [58 OSS SO SO-TC-133, 30 April 1993]

¹⁸⁹ 56 FW SO SO-G 002, 11 August 1994

¹⁹⁰ 56 FW SO SO-G 003, ca. 30 August 1996

¹⁹¹ 56 FW SO SO-GC 002, 29 June 1998

¹⁹² 56 OSS SO GC-002, 24 March 2000

¹⁹³ 56 OSS SO GC-006, 2 July 2001

¹⁹⁴ 56 OSS SO GC-003, 5 June 2002

¹⁹⁵ 309 FS SO 56 OSS - G - 2004 - 1, 15 January 2004

¹⁹⁶ 56 OSS SO 56 OG-G-2005-09, 12 May 2005

¹⁹⁷ 56 OSS SO G-2007-001, 5 March 2007

¹⁹⁸ 56 MSG SO G-021, 27 February 2009

¹⁹⁹ 56 MSG SO G-009, 5 May 2011

56th Training Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) on 20 November
1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 56th Fighter Squadron on
15 May 1942.

Disbanded on 1 May 1944.

Reconstituted, and redesignated
56th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron,
on 14 November 1952.

Activated on 27 November 1952.

Discontinued on 1 March 1960.

Redesignated 56th Tactical Training
Squadron on 25 September 1979.²⁰⁰

Activated on 1 October 1979.²⁰¹

Redesignated 56th Training Squadron on 1 November 1991.²⁰²

Inactivated on 20 July 1993.²⁰³

Activated on 1 April 1994.²⁰⁴



Honors.

Service Streamers.

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers.

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Air Combat 7 December 1941 - 2 September 1945

Decorations.

²⁰⁰ TAC SO GA-105, 26 September 1979

²⁰¹ TAC SO GA-105, 26 September 1979

²⁰² TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991

²⁰³ ACC SO GB-93, 29 June 1993

²⁰⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Distinguished Unit Citations

Alaska, [June]-4 November 1942

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 July 1980-31 May 1982²⁰⁵
 1 June 1984-31 May 1986²⁰⁶
 1 May 1987-30 April 1989²⁰⁷
 1 May 1989-30 April 1990²⁰⁸
 1 May 1990-30 April 1991²⁰⁹
 1 July 1994-30 June 1996²¹⁰
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998²¹¹
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000²¹²
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003²¹³
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005²¹⁴
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006²¹⁵
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007²¹⁶
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008²¹⁷
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009²¹⁸
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010²¹⁹
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011²²⁰

Squadron – 1 Total Aerial Victory Credits.²²¹ Squadron Aces: None.

²⁰⁵ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

²⁰⁶ DAF SO GB-275/1987

²⁰⁷ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

²⁰⁸ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

²⁰⁹ TAC SO GA-069/1991

²¹⁰ AETC SO GA-18/1996

²¹¹ AETC SO GA-12/1998

²¹² AETC SO GA-9/2000

²¹³ AETC SO GA-55/2004

²¹⁴ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

²¹⁵ AETC SO GA-045/2007

²¹⁶ AETC SO G-054/2008

²¹⁷ AETC SO G-071/2009

²¹⁸ AETC SO G-025/2010

²¹⁹ AETC SO G-086/2011

²²⁰ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

²²¹ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

Assignments. 54th Pursuit (later, Fighter) Group, 15 January 1941-1 May 1944. 4708th Defense Wing, 27 November 1952; 575th Air Defense Group, 16 February 1953; 4706th Air Defense Wing, 18 August 1955; 58th Air Division, 1 March 1956; 30th Air Division, 1 September 1958; Detroit Air Defense Sector, 1 April 1959-1 March 1960. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, Tactical Training; Fighter) Wing, 1 October 1979; 56th Operations Group, 1 November 1991-20 July 1993. 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994-.²²²

Stations. Hamilton Field, California, 15 January 1941; Snohomish County Airport (later, Paine Field), Washington, 22 June 1941; Harding Field, Louisiana, 31 January 1942 (detachment operated from Santa Ana, California, 28 May-12 June 1942; Nome, Alaska, 20 June-20 October 1942; Anchorage, Alaska, 23 October-21 December 1942); Bartow Army Air Field, Florida, 11 May 1943-1 May 1944. Selfridge Air Force Base, Michigan, 27 November 1952; Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 18 August 1955-1 March 1960. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 October 1979-20 July 1993. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.²²³

Aircraft.

Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1941
Bell P-39 Airacobra	1941-1943
North American P-51 Lightning	1943-1944
North American F-51 Lightning	1952-1953
North American F-86 Sabre	1953-1958
Lockheed F-104 Starfighter	1958-1960

Emblem. Approved on 9 March 2001.

Blazon. On a disc Gules, in horizontal flight two flight symbols fesswise in bend Sable, each emitting a contrail to sinister chief Or, issuant from base a mountainous terrain earth colored Proper surmounting a bezant, all within a diminished bordure Yellow.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "56TH TRAINING SQ" in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "FIGHTER ACADEMICS" in Yellow letters.

Official Motto. Fighter Academics.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The escarpment refers to the location of the unit. The rising sun signifies the unit's role in training student pilots to qualified status in major weapons systems. The deltas show the high level of training provided by the unit.

²²² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

²²³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) 15 January 1941-15 May 1942]***

2d Lt Patrick R. Arnold	15 January 1941
2d Lt Samuel H. Marret	24 January 1941
1st Lt (later, Capt) Robert B. Richard	30 April 1941
Maj Charles M. McCorkle	24 March 1942-15 May 1942.

56th Fighter Squadron [15 May 1942-1 May 1944]

Maj Charles M. McCorkle	15 May 1942	[Ace]
1st Lt James K. Dowling	12 June 1942	
Capt William P. Litton	1 February 1943	
Capt (later, Maj) William H. Merriam	16 February 1943	
Maj James G. Curl	4 October 1943-Unknown	
Unknown	26 January 1944-1 May 1944.	

56th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron [27 November 1952-1 March 1960]

Maj Frank O. Lux (acting)	27 November 1952	
Lt Col Richard D. Creighton	by 1 January 1953	[Ace]
Maj Frank O. Lux	by 30 June 1954-Unknown	
Unknown	1 July 1954-30 March 1958	
Lt Col Alston L. Brown	by 31 March 1958	
Maj Sylvester H. Hendricks (acting)	11 December 1958	
Lt Col Charles E. Rigney	by 30 June 1959-Unknown	
Unknown	1 July 1959-1 May 1960.	

56th Tactical Training Squadron [1 October 1979-1 November 1991]

Lt Col David W. Spring	1 October 1979 ²²⁴
Lt Col Paul H. Burbage III	15 March 1980
Maj John D. Holmquist	19 May 1980
Lt Col Charles E. Cotton	30 June 1980
Lt Col Bruce V. Huneke	2 August 1982
Lt Col James C. Kobriger	24 January 1983 ²²⁵
Lt Col David H. Brooks	1 April 1983 ²²⁶
Lt Col Ralph T. Hood	4 October 1984 ²²⁷
Lt Col Randall H. Wiseman	19 December 1986 ²²⁸
Lt Col Jon E. Wilson	20 December 1988
Lt Col Rodney L. Bates	7 September 1990-1 November 1991.

²²⁴ 56 CSG SO G-49, 1 October 1979

²²⁵ 56 CSG SO G-2, 24 January 1983

²²⁶ 56 CSG SO G-10, 1 April 1983

²²⁷ 56 CSG SO G-30, 4 October 1984

²²⁸ 56 CSG SO G-10, 18 December 1986

56th Training Squadron [1 November 1991-20 July 1993; 1 April 1994-.]

Lt Col Rodney L. Bates	1 November 1991
Lt Col William Stringer	17 January 1992
Lt Col Stanley Sutterfield	August 1992-Unknown.
Lt Col Ronald H. Heyden	1 April 1994 ²²⁹
Lt Col David M. Burnett	6 May 1994 ²³⁰
Lt Col John C. Vignetti	19 June 1995
Lt Col John R. Swarsbrook	15 July 1997 ²³¹
Lt Col William Gonzalez, Jr.	9 July 1999 ²³²
Lt Col Randy A. O'Connor	19 December 2000 ²³³
Lt Col Jack D. Patterson, Jr.	18 January 2002 ²³⁴
Lt Col Robert P. Egan	28 March 2003 ²³⁵
Lt Col Richard A. Forster	7 January 2005 ²³⁶
Lt Col Brian D. Neumann	16 June 2006 ²³⁷
Lt Col Doyle C. Turner	16 May 2008 ²³⁸
Lt Col Charles J. DeLapp	14 May 2010 ²³⁹
Lt Col Matthew Liljenstolpe	13 July 2012-. ²⁴⁰

²²⁹ [58 MSS SO SO-G-60, 7 May 1992]

²³⁰ 56 TRS SO SO-GF-001, 18 April 1994

²³¹ 56 TRS SO SO-TS-001, ca. 12 July 1997, and

56 TRS SO SO-GF-001, ca. 18 November 1997

²³² 56 TRS SO SO-GF-005, 30 June 1999

²³³ 56 TRS SO SO-GF-001, 19 December 2000

²³⁴ 56 TRS SO SO-GF-005, 16 January 2002

²³⁵ 56 TRS SO 56 TRS G-1, 11 March 2003

²³⁶ 56 TRS SO 56 OG-G-2005-03, 6 January 2005

²³⁷ 56 TRS SO 56OG-G2006-11, 9 June 1006

²³⁸ 56 TRS SO G-020, 15 May 2008

²³⁹ 56 MSG SO G-005, 14 May 2010

²⁴⁰ 56 FW SO G-026, 3 July 2012

21st Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 21st Fighter Squadron,
Single Engine, on 5 October 1944.
Activated on 15 October 1944.
Inactivated on 15 October 1946.

Redesignated as 21st Fighter-Day
Squadron on 26 August 1954.
Activated on 11 November 1954.
Redesignated as 21st Tactical Fighter
Squadron on 1 July 1958.
Inactivated on 15 March 1959.

Redesignated 21st Tactical Fighter
Training Squadron on 27 October 1972.
Activated on 1 December 1972.
Redesignated 21st Tactical Fighter Squadron on 9 October 1980.
Redesignated 21st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 1 July 1983.
Inactivated on 28 June 1991.

Redesignated 21st Fighter Squadron, and activated, on 1 November 1991.
Inactivated on 31 December 1993.

Activated on 8 August 1996.²⁴¹

Honors.

Campaign Streamers.

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater:

Air Offensive, Japan [1942-1945]
Eastern Mandates [1943-1944]
Western Pacific [1944-1945]
Ryukyus [1945]
China Offensive [1945]



²⁴¹ AETC SO G-96-25, 7 August 1996

Decorations.**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards**

2 February 1976-31 March 1977
 1 June 1985-31 May 1987
 1 March 1990-28 June 1991
 1 January 1992-31 December 1993
 8 August 1996-30 June 1998²⁴²
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000²⁴³
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003²⁴⁴
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005²⁴⁵
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006²⁴⁶
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007²⁴⁷
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008²⁴⁸
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009²⁴⁹
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010²⁵⁰
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011²⁵¹

Squadron – 3 Total Aerial Victory Credits.²⁵² 1 Squadron Ace:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aerial Victories</u>	
	<u>In Sq</u>	<u>Lifetime Total</u>
2d Lt I.B. Jack Donaldson	3	5

Assignments. 413d Fighter Group, 15 October 1944-15 October 1946. 413d Fighter-Day Group, 11 November 1954; 413d Fighter-Day (later, 413d Tactical Fighter) Wing, 8 October 1957-15 March 1959 (attached to Sixteenth Air Force, 14-15 March 1959). 35th Tactical Fighter (later, 35th Tactical Training; 35th Tactical Fighter) Wing, 1 December 1972-28 June 1991. 507th Air Control Wing, 1 November 1991; 363d Operations Group, 1 May 1992-31 December 1993. 56th Operations Group, 8 August 1996-.

²⁴² AETC SO GA-12/1998

²⁴³ AETC SO GA-9/2000

²⁴⁴ AETC SO GA-55/2004

²⁴⁵ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

²⁴⁶ AETC SO GA-045/2007

²⁴⁷ AETC SO G-054/2008

²⁴⁸ AETC SO G-071/2009

²⁴⁹ AETC SO G-025/2010

²⁵⁰ AETC SO G-086/2011

²⁵¹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

²⁵² **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

Stations. Seymour-Johnson Field, North Carolina, 15 October 1944; Bluethenthal Field, North Carolina, 9 November 1944-7 April 1945; Ie Shima Airfields, Ryukyu Islands, Japan, 19 May 1945; Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, 21 November 1945; Yontan, Okinawa, Japan, 29 January-15 October 1946. George Air Force Base, California, 11 November 1954-10 March 1959; Moron Air Base, Spain, 11 March 1959-15 March 1959. George Air Force Base, California, 1 December 1972-28 June 1991. Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, 1 November 1991-31 December 1993. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 8 August 1996-.

Aircraft.

Republic P-47 Thunderbolt	1944-1946
North American F-86 Sabre	1954-1956
North American F-100 Super Sabre	1956-1959
McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1972-1981
Fairchild Republic OA-10 Thunderbolt II	1991-1993
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1981-1991, 1996-.

Emblem. Approved on 18 March 2008

Blazon. On a disc Sable, two playing cards totaling the number twenty one, a king of spades tilted to dexter and a ace of hearts tilted to sinister all Proper, emitting from behind the king a contrail arcing below to base and terminating in a delta, point to sinister Gules.

Attached above the disc a Black scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "GAMBLERS" in Red letters.

Attached below the disc a Black scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "21 ST FIGHTER SQUADRON" in Red letters.

Official Motto. Gamblers

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The emblem purposed for the unit is deeply rooted in the traditions and the history of the Taiwanese people. The Unit has been operating in defense of the people since 1934. The cards totaling 21 signify perfection and the pursuit of victory in any endeavor. Specifically, the king of spades representing the Taiwanese people, the ace of hearts, the heart of a nation, and the arrow absolute integrity.

Commanders.***21st Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [15 October 1944-15 October 1946]***

Unknown	15 October 1944-11 October 1945
Lt Col William B. Whisonant	12 October 1945
Capt Francis J. Vetort	13 October 1945
1 Lt Robert W. Faas	1 April 1946-Unknown
Capt Samuel H. Henton	Unknown-26 September 1946
Capt Louis A. Guin	26 September 1946-Unknown.

21st Fighter-Day Squadron [11 November 1954-1 July 1958]

Maj Stephen L. Bettinger	11 November 1954-Unknown.	[Ace]
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21st Tactical Fighter Squadron [1 July 1958-15 March 1959]

Unknown	1 July 1958-15 March 1959.
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21st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [1 December 1972-9 October 1980]

Col Roger L. Sprague	1 December 1972
Lt Col William E. Whitten	ca. 1 March 1973
Lt Col D. L. Wagner	17 April 1975
Lt Col Paul Marsh	2 May 1977
Lt Col Wallace L. Mekkers	5 July 1979-Unknown.

21st Tactical Fighter Squadron [9 October 1980-1 July 1983]

Unknown	ca. 1980-1 July 1983.
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21st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [1 July 1983-28 June 1991]

Unknown	1 July 1983
Lt Col Dick E. Willis	12 November 1987
Lt Col Mark D. Gilson	26 July 1989
Lt Col David M. McLaughlin	9 November 1990-28 June 1991.

***21st Fighter Squadron [1 November 1991-31 December 1993;
8 August 1996-.]***

Lt Col Bobby G. Smith	1 November 1991
Lt Col John A. Neubauer	1 October-31 December 1993.
Lt Col James R. Mitchell	8 August 1996
Lt Col Dean A. Profitt III	2 April 1998 ²⁵³
Lt Col Walter E. Grace III	18 June 1999 ²⁵⁴
Lt Col Mark J. Warner	19 December 2000 ²⁵⁵
Lt Col Walter G. Farrar III	18 July 2002 ²⁵⁶

²⁵³ 21 FS SO SO-GZ-003, 30 March 1998

²⁵⁴ 21 FS SO SO-GZ-004, ca. 15 June 1999

²⁵⁵ 21 FS SO SO-GZ-003, 18 December 2000

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col Christopher Roeder	4 December 2003 ²⁵⁷
Lt Col Thomas G. Abbot	8 June 2005 ²⁵⁸
Lt Col Dennis J. Malfer	28 April 2006 ²⁵⁹
Lt Col James G. Sturgeon	20 September 2007 ²⁶⁰
Lt Col William D. Bowman	15 June 2009 ²⁶¹
Lt Col Sean C. Routier	24 June 2011-. ²⁶²



In 1998, Lt Col James R. "Rusty" Mitchell, Commander, 21st Fighter Squadron, led a 2-ship in his Flagship, Tail No. 93-0711, followed by his Director of Operations, Maj Paul A. "Shadow" Mrazik in Tail No. 93-0721

²⁵⁶ 21 FS SO SO-GZ-001, 18 July 2002
²⁵⁷ 21 FS SO SO-GZ-001, 5 December 2003
²⁵⁸ 21 FS SO 56OG-G-2005-10, 13 May 2005
²⁵⁹ 21 FS SO 56OG-G-2006-06, 20 April 2006
²⁶⁰ 21 FS SO G-2007-009, 23 August 2007
²⁶¹ 56 MSG SO G-033, 10 June 2009
²⁶² 56 MSG SO G-015, 22 June 2011

62d Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 62d Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) on 20 November
1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 62d Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) (Twin Engine) on
31 January 1942.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron (Twin
Engine) on 15 May 1942.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron on
1 June 1942.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron,
Single Engine, on 28 February
1944.

Inactivated on 18 October 1945.

Activated on 1 May 1946.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron, Jet Propelled, on 24 April 1947.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron, Jet, on 14 June 1948.

Redesignated 62d Fighter-Interceptor Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 30 April 1971.

Redesignated 62d Fighter-Interceptor Training Squadron on 15 August 1974.

Activated on 1 September 1974.

Redesignated 62d Tactical Fighter Squadron on 30 June 1975.

Redesignated 62d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 1 January 1981.

Redesignated 62d Fighter Squadron on 1 November 1991.²⁶³

Inactivated on 14 May 1993.²⁶⁴

Activated on 18 March 1994.²⁶⁵



²⁶³ TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991

²⁶⁴ ACC SO GB-73, 11 May 1993

²⁶⁵ AETC SO G-29, 14 March 1994

Honors.***Service Streamers.*****World War II American Theater*****Campaign Streamers.*****World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater**

Air Combat [1941-1945]

Air Offensive Europe [1942-1944]

Normandy [1944]

Northern France [1944]

Rhineland [1944-1945]

Ardennes-Alsace [1944-1945]

Central Europe [1945]

Decorations.**Distinguished Unit Citations**

European Theater of Operations, 20 February-9 March 1944;

Holland, 18 September 1944.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 June 1967-31 December 1968

1 January 1977-1 January 1979²⁶⁶1 July 1980-31 May 1982²⁶⁷1 June 1984-31 May 1986²⁶⁸1 May 1987-30 April 1989²⁶⁹1 May 1989-30 April 1990²⁷⁰1 May 1990-30 April 1991²⁷¹

18 March 1994-31 March 1994

1 July 1994-30 June 1996²⁷²1 July 1996-30 June 1998²⁷³1 July 1998-30 June 2000²⁷⁴1 July 2001-30 June 2003²⁷⁵

²⁶⁶ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979²⁶⁷ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983²⁶⁸ DAF SO GB-275/1987²⁶⁹ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989²⁷⁰ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990²⁷¹ TAC SO GA-069/1991²⁷² AETC SO GA-18/1996²⁷³ AETC SO GA-12/1998²⁷⁴ AETC SO GA-9/2000²⁷⁵ AETC SO GA-55/2004

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**

1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005²⁷⁶
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006²⁷⁷
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007²⁷⁸
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008²⁷⁹
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009²⁸⁰
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010²⁸¹
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011²⁸²

Squadron – 220 Total Aerial Victory Credits.²⁸³ 12 Squadron Aces:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aerial Victories</u>		
	<u>In Sq</u>	<u>Lifetime Total</u>	
Maj George E. Bostwick	5	8	
Capt Fred J. Christensen, Jr.	21.5	21.5	
Capt Walter V. Cook	6	6	
2d Lt Billy G. Edens	7	7	POW 9 September 1944
2d Lt Joe W. Icard	5	5	KIA 8 March 1944
Maj Michael J. Jackson	8	8	
1st Lt Stanley B. Morrill	9	9	Killed Acft accident 29 March 1944
Capt Mark L. Moseley	6.5	6.5	
Capt Eugene W. O'Neill, Jr.	5	5	
Capt Michael J. Quirk	11	11	POW 9 September 1944
Maj Leroy A. Schreiber	10	12	KIA 15 April 1944
Capt Felix D. Williamson	13	13	



Capt Fred J. Christensen, Jr.

²⁷⁶ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

²⁷⁷ AETC SO GA-045/2007

²⁷⁸ AETC SO G-054/2008

²⁷⁹ AETC SO G-071/2009

²⁸⁰ AETC SO G-025/2010

²⁸¹ AETC SO G-086/2011

²⁸² AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

²⁸³ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

Assignments. 56th Pursuit (later, 56th Fighter) Group, 15 January 1941-18 October 1945. 56th Fighter (later, 56th Fighter-Interceptor) Group, 1 May 1946 (attached to Alaskan Provisional Wing, ca. 28 December 1946-ca. 10 April 1947; 30 Air Division, ca. 28 July 1950-30 April 1951; 142d Fighter-Interceptor Group, 1 May 1951-5 February 1952); 4706th Defense Wing, 6 February 1952; 501 Air Defense Group, 16 February 1953; 56th Fighter Group, 18 August 1955 (attached to 473d Fighter Group, 1 August-30 September 1959); 56th Fighter Wing, 1 February 1961²⁸⁴; Duluth Air Defense Sector, 16 December 1963; 29 Air Division, 1 April 1966; 34th Air Division, 15 September 1969; 29th Air Division, 14 November 1969; 23d Air Division, 19 November 1969-30 April 1971. Air Defense Weapons Center, 1 September 1974; 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training; 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975; 56th Operations Group, 1 November 1991-14 May 1993. 58th Operations Group, 18 March 1994²⁸⁵; 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994-²⁸⁶.

Stations. Savannah Air Base, Georgia, 15 January 1941; Charlotte Army Air Base, North Carolina, 26 May 1941 (deployed at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, October-November 1941); Wilmington Municipal Airport, North Carolina, 10 December 1941; Bendix Airport, New Jersey, 17 January 1942; Newark Municipal Airport, New Jersey, 31 May 1942; Bradley Field, Connecticut, 23 July-27 December 1942; Kings Cliffe, England, 12 January 1943; Horsham St Faith, England, 5 April 1943; Halesworth, England, 9 July 1943; Boxted, England, 19 April 1944; Debden, England, 15 September-11 October 1945; Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, 16-18 October 1945. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 1 May 1946 (deployed at Ladd Field, Alaska, 28 December 1946-10 April 1947; Oscoda Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 April-6 June 1949); O'Hare Field-Chicago International Airport (later, O'Hare International Airport), Illinois, 4 August 1950 (deployed at K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 August 1959-30 September 1959); K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 October 1959-30 April 1971. Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, 1 September 1974; MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975²⁸⁷ -14 May 1993. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 18 March 1994-²⁸⁸.

²⁸⁴ AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960

²⁸⁵ AETC SO G-29, 14 March 1994

²⁸⁶ AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

²⁸⁷ ADC MO 3, 13 June 1975

²⁸⁸ AETC SO G-29, 14 March 1994

Aircraft.

Seversky P-35	1941
Curtis P-36 Hawk	1941
Bell P-39 Airacobra	1941-1942
Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1941-1942
Republic P-47 Thunderbolt	1942-1945, and 1946
North American P-51 Lightning	1946-1947
Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star	1947-1950
North American F-86 Sabre	1950-1959
McDonnell F-101 Voodoo	1959-1971
Convair F-106 Delta Dart	1974-1975
McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1974-1980
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1980-1993; 1994-.

Emblem. Originally approved on 18 June 1943; newest rendition approved on 18 July 1995.

Blazon. Argent, a caricature bulldog *affronte* in a boxing stance Or, jowls Pink, wearing a jersey Azure charged with two mullets of the first, shorts Gules, shoes of the fourth, each charged on the toe with a mullet White, a scan Barry Gules and White, an aviator's helmet Brown with goggles Celeste, and boxing gloves Red, each charged with a lightning flash White, all above a cast shadow Light Blue; all within a diminished bordure Blue. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "62d FIGHTER SQ" in Blue letters.

Official Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The bulldog represents the tenacity and aggressiveness of a fighter squadron, qualities further emphasized by the stance of the subject. The gloved fists symbolize a clean fighter, while the lightning suggests the squadron's striking power. His expression shows that he is obviously a "tough customer", hard to handle in a fight, not easily discouraged, and unafraid.

Commanders.**62d Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) [15 January 1941-31 January 1942]**

Unknown	15 January 1941-20 January 1941	
Capt Dixon M. Allison	21 January 1941	
1 Lt Norton H. Van Sicklen III	13 February 1941	
2 Lt James L. Orr	10 May 1941	
2 Lt Albert O. Waldon	26 May 1941	
2 Lt John M. Davis	28 May 1941	
1 Lt Raymond W. Worsham, Jr.	2 June 1941	
Capt David D. Terry, Jr.	6 June 1941-31 January 1942	

62d Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) (Twin Engine) [31 January 1942-15 May 1942]

Capt David D. Terry, Jr.	31 January 1942-15 May 1942	
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62d Fighter Squadron (Twin Engine) [15 May 1942-1 June 1942]

Capt David D. Terry, Jr.	15 May 1942-1 June 1942	
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62d Fighter Squadron [1 June 1942-28 February 1944]

Capt David D. Terry, Jr.	1 June 1942	
Maj David C. Schilling	ca. July 1942	[Ace]
Maj Horace C. Craig	21 August 1943	
Maj Leroy A. Schreiber	9 February 1944-28 February 1944	[Ace]

62d Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [28 February 1944-18 October 1945]

Maj Leroy A. Schreiber	28 February 1944	[Ace]
Lt Col Lucian A. Dade Jr.	16 April 1944	
Capt Michael J. Quirk	13 August 1944	[Ace]
Maj Leslie C. Smith	11 September 1944	[Ace]
Maj Felix D. Williamson	26 January 1945-ca. 18 October 1945	[Ace]

62d Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [1 May 1946-24 April 1947]

Unknown	1 May 1946-4 May 1946	
Maj Paul A. Conger	5 May 1946	[Ace]
Lt Col Gerald W. Johnson	23 July 1946-24 April 1947	[Ace](Lieutenant General)

62d Fighter Squadron, Jet Propelled [24 April 1947-14 June 1948]

Lt Col Gerald W. Johnson	24 April 1947	[Ace](Lieutenant General)
Lt Col William D. Dunham	ca. 3 May 1947- Unknown	[Ace](Brigadier General)
Unknown (possibly Maj John C. McClure)	August 1947-14 June 1948	

62d Fighter Squadron, Jet [14 June 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown (possibly Maj John C. McClure)	14 June 1948	
Maj Edward S. Popek	by December 1948	[Ace]
Capt Franklyn E. Moffitt	ca. June 1949	
Maj Ralph A. Johnson	July 1949	
Maj Henry H. Kirby, Jr.	15 September 1949	
Maj George L. Abel	ca. 10 October 1949	
Maj Henry H. Kirby, Jr.	ca. December 1949	
Maj Edwin L. Heller	January 1950-20 January 1950	[Ace]

62d Fighter-Interceptor Squadron [20 January 1950-30 April 1971]

Maj Edwin L. Heller	January 1950	[Ace]
Lt Col Charles E. Parsons, Jr.	3 April 1950	
Maj Harold M. Wilson	ca. September 1951	
Maj Carl A. Rymer	1 October 1951	
Lt Col Frank Q. O'Conner	by 17 March 1952	
Maj Richard C. Garrett	24 December 1952-Unknown	
Maj Edward J. Mason	8 September 1953	
Maj Charles W. Jackson	28 October 1953	
Lt Col Lloyd H. Stinson	24 October 1955	
Maj Kenneth E. Daniels	ca. 8 November 1957	
Maj Roy W. King	21 September 1958	
Lt Col Edward P. McNeff	1 August 1959	(Major General)
Maj Joe H. Joiner	ca. 1 April 1961	
Capt Cecil P. Roberts	by 30 April 1961	
Lt Col Samuel D. Berman	June 1961	
Col Amos W. Waage	1 May 1964	
Lt Col Austin O. Davis	30 November 1965	
Lt Col Arby J. Thompson	29 August 1967	
Col Carl D. Peterson	5 May 1969	(Major General)
Lt Col Cecil G. Foster	by June 1970-30 April 1971	

62d Fighter-Interceptor Training Squadron [1 September 1974-30 June 1975]

Col William J. Breckner, Jr.	1 September 1974	(Major General)
Maj Charles E. Masuga	29 June 1975-30 June 1975	

62d Tactical Fighter Squadron [30 June 1975-1 January 1981]

Lt Col Henry M. Yochum III	30 June 1975	
Lt Col Lawrence P. Farrell, Jr.	7 March 1977	(Lieutenant General)
Lt Col Michael P. Blaisdell	28 June 1978	
Lt Col Robert W. Undorf	4 May 1979-1 January 1981	

62d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [1 January 1981-1 November 1991]

Lt Col Robert W. Undorf	1 January 1981
Lt Col James V. Williford	14 August 1981
Lt Col George A. Suro	25 March 1983
Lt Col Royce G. W. Woodell	1 March 1985
Lt Col William R. Stroud	February 1987
Lt Col Billy S. Clack	10 February 1989
Lt Col Robert F. Umbarger	10 February 1991--1 November 1991

**62d Fighter Squadron [1 November 1991-14 May 1993;
18 March 1994-.]**

Lt Col Robert F. Umbarger	10 February 1991
Lt Col Stephen E. Bozarth	10 July 1992-14 May 1993
Lt Col Michael E. Roznovsky	18 March 1994 ²⁸⁹
Lt Col William A. Hewitt	9 November 1995 ²⁹⁰
Lt Col Arthur W. May	4 June 1996 ²⁹¹
Lt Col Robin M. Kesterson	19 June 1998 ²⁹²
Lt Col Michael E. B. France	24 June 2000 ²⁹³
Lt Col Marcel P. Schmidt	17 August 2001 ²⁹⁴
Lt Col Mark M. Lankford	7 July 2003 ²⁹⁵
Lt Col Gerald F. Lanagan	21 January 2005 ²⁹⁶
Lt Col Pablo A. Sanchez	23 May 2007 ²⁹⁷
Lt Col Bob G. Battema	17 November 2008 ²⁹⁸
Lt Col Brian A. Jackson	30 July 2010 ²⁹⁹
Lt Col Shamsher Mann	10 August 2012 ³⁰⁰ -.

²⁸⁹ 58 MSS SO SO-GAI-02, 14 March 1994

²⁹⁰ 56 MSS SO SO-GAI-07, 8 January 1996

²⁹¹ 56 MSS SO SO-GAI-08, 22 May 1996

²⁹² 56 MSS SO SO-GAI-02, 1 June 1998

²⁹³ 56 MSS SO SO-GAI-01, 6 January 2000

²⁹⁴ 56 MSS SO SO-GAI-02, ca. 9 August 2011

²⁹⁵ 62 FS SO 62 FS-GAI-2003-02, 1 July 2003

²⁹⁶ 62 FS SO 56 OG-G-2005-07, 10 March 2005

²⁹⁷ 62 FS SO G-2007-004, ca. 23 May 2007

²⁹⁸ 56 MSG SO G-12, 18 November 2008

²⁹⁹ 56 MSG SO G-029, 6 August 2010

³⁰⁰ 56 FW SO G-030, 16 July 2012

308th Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 308th Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) on 21 January 1942.
Activated on 30 January 1942.
Redesignated 308th Fighter Squadron on
25 May 1942.
Redesignated 308th Fighter Squadron,
Single Engine, on 20 August 1943.
Inactivated on 7 November 1945.

Activated on 20 August 1946.
Redesignated 308th Fighter Squadron, Jet,
on 15 June 1948.
Redesignated 308th Fighter-Bomber Squadron
on 20 January 1950.
Redesignated 308th Fighter-Escort Squadron on
16 July 1950.

Redesignated 308th Strategic Fighter Squadron on 20 January 1953.
Redesignated 308th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 1 April 1957.
Redesignated 308th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 1 July 1958.
Redesignated 308th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 9 October 1980.
Redesignated 308th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 1 October 1986.
Redesignated 308th Fighter Squadron on 1 November 1991.³⁰¹



Honors

Campaign Streamers.

World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater:

Air Offensive, Europe [1942–1944]
Algeria-French Morocco with Arrowhead [1942]
Tunisia [1942-1943]
Sicily [1942-1943]
Naples-Foggia [1943-1944]
Anzio [1944]
Rome-Arno [1944]
Normandy [1944]
Northern France [1944]
Southern France [1944]
North Apennines [1944-1945]
Rhineland [1944-1945]
Central Europe [1945]
Po Valley [1945]
Air Combat [1941–1945]

³⁰¹ TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991

Vietnam:

Vietnam Defensive [1965-1966]
 Vietnam Air [1966]
 Vietnam Air Offensive [1966-1967]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]
 Vietnam Air/Ground [1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970 [1969-1970]
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]

Decorations.**Distinguished Unit Citations**

Rumania, 21 April 1944
 Poland, 25 July 1944

Presidential Unit Citations

Southeast Asia, 8 June 1966–16 April 1967
 Southeast Asia, 1 May–31 December 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

17 December 1966–30 April 1968 with Combat “V” Device
 18 December 1972–27 January 1973 with Combat “V” Device
 4–16 July 1952
 1 March–30 November 1962
 23 February 1991–22 February 1993
 1 July 1994-30 June 1996³⁰²
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998³⁰³
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000³⁰⁴
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003³⁰⁵
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005³⁰⁶
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006³⁰⁷
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007³⁰⁸

³⁰² AETC SO GA-18/1996

³⁰³ AETC SO GA-12/1998

³⁰⁴ AETC SO GA-9/2000

³⁰⁵ AETC SO GA-55/2004

³⁰⁶ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

³⁰⁷ AETC SO GA-045/2007

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**1 July 2007-30 June 2008³⁰⁹1 July 2008-30 June 2009³¹⁰1 July 2009-30 June 2010³¹¹1 July 2010-30 June 2011³¹²**Special Honors.**

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm,

16 December 1966–15 October 1970

Squadron – 184.5 Total Aerial Victory Credits.³¹³ 12 Squadron Aces:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aerial Victories</u>		
	<u>In Sq</u>	<u>Lifetime Total</u>	
Capt Royal N. Baker	3	16.5	(Lieutenant General)
Col William A. Daniel ³¹⁴	2	5	
Capt William J. Dillard ³¹⁵	2	6	
Major Harry W. Dorris	5.25	5.25	
Capt Robert J. Goebel	11	11	
Capt Walter J. Goehausen, Jr.	10	10	
Maj Frank A. Hill	2	7	
1st Lt Richard F. Hurd	6	6	
Capt Leland P. Molland	11	11	(KIA, May 1951, Korea)
Capt Jack R. Smith	5	5	
1st Lt Frederick O. Trafton, Jr.	5	5	(POW, 23 April 1944)
Capt John J. Voll	21	21	

Assignments. 31st Pursuit (later, 31st Fighter) Group, 30 January 1942–7 November 1945. 31st Fighter (later, 31st Fighter-Bomber; 31 Fighter-Escort) Group, 20 August 1946 (attached to 31st Fighter-Escort Wing, 27 July 1951–15 June 1952); 31st Fighter-Escort (later, 31st Strategic Fighter; 31st Fighter-Bomber; 31st Tactical Fighter) Wing, 16 June 1952 (attached to Alaskan Air Command, 5 December 1956–7 January 1957; Unknown, 15-21 August 1958, 22 August 1958–19 January 1959, 11 July–ca. December 1959, 7 Mar–ca. 19 July 1961; 18th Tactical Fighter Wing, 13 March–30 April 1963;

³⁰⁸ AETC SO G-054/2008

³⁰⁹ AETC SO G-071/2009

³¹⁰ AETC SO G-025/2010

³¹¹ AETC SO G-086/2011

³¹² AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

³¹³ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

³¹⁴ **NOTE:** Became an ace while in the squadron.

³¹⁵ **NOTE:** Became an ace while in the squadron.

Unknown, 1 May–3 July 1963; 7231st Combat Support Group, 9 Feb–5 May 1964 and 9 March–8 July 1965); 3d Tactical Fighter Wing, 2 December 1965 (attached to 31st Tactical Fighter Wing, 15 November–25 December 1966); 31st Tactical Fighter Wing, 25 December 1966; 4403d Fighter Wing, 5 October 1970; 31st Tactical Fighter Wing, 30 October 1970 (attached to 432d Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, 28 April 1972–29 July 1972; 8th Tactical Fighter Wing, 11 December 1972–11 June 1973); 31st Operations Group, 1 November 1991 (attached to 347th Operations Group, ca. 11 September–19 November 1992); 347th Operations Group, 20 November 1992; 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994–.³¹⁶

Stations. Baer Field, Indiana, 30 January 1942; New Orleans AB, Louisiana, 6 February–19 May 1942; Atcham, England, ca. 10 June 1942; Kenley, England, 1 August 1942; Westhampnett, England, 25 August–23 October 1942; Tafaraoui, Algeria, 8 November 1942 (operated from Casablanca, French Morocco, 10–31 January 1943); Thelepte, Tunisia, 6 February 1943; Tebessa, Algeria, 17 February 1943; Canrobert, Algeria, 21 February 1943; Kalaa Djerda, Tunisia, 25 February 1943; Thelepte, Tunisia, 11 March 1943; Djilma, Tunisia, 7 April 1943; Le Sers, Tunisia, 12 April 1943; Korba, Tunisia, 20 May 1943; Gozo, ca. 30 June 1943; Ponte Olivo, Sicily, 14 July 1943; Agrigento, Sicily, 19 July 1943; Termini, Sicily, ca. 2 August 1943; Milazzo, Sicily, 2 September 1943; Montecorvino, Italy, 20 September 1943; Pomigliano, Italy, 14 October 1943; Castel Volturno, Italy, 14 January 1944; San Severo, Italy, 2 April 1944; Mondolfo, Italy, 3 March 1945; Triolo, Italy, 14 July–5 August 1945; Drew Field, Florida, August–7 November 1945. Giebelstadt, Germany, 20 August 1946; Kitzingen, Germany, ca. 30 September 1946–25 June 1947; Langley Field, Virginia, 25 June 1947; Turner Field (later, Air Force Base), Georgia, 4 September 1947 (deployed at Manston Royal Air Force Station, England, 26 December 1950–25 July 1951; Misawa Air Base, Japan, 20 July–16 October 1952; Chitose Air Base, Japan, 7 November 1953–9 February 1954; Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, 5 December 1956–7 January 1957; Hahn Air Base, Germany, 15 August–21 August 1958; Aviano Air Base, Italy, 22 August 1958–19 January 1959); George Air Force Base, California, 15 March 1959 (deployed at Moron Air Base, Spain, 11 July–ca. December 1959; Aviano Air Base, Italy, 7 March–ca. 19 July 1961); Homestead, Air Force Base, Florida, 1 October 1962–ca. 5 December 1965 (deployed at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, 13 March–30 April 1963; Itazuke Air Base, Japan, 1 May–3 July 1963; Cigli Air Base, Turkey, 9 February–5 May 1964 and 9 March–8 July 1965); Bien Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam, ca. 7 December 1965; Tuy Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam, 15 November 1966–30 September 1970; England Air Force Base, Louisiana, 5 October 1970; Homestead Air Force Base, Florida, 30 October 1970 (deployed at Udorn Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 28 April 1972–29 July 1972; Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 11 December 1972–11 June 1973; operated from Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, ca. 11–30 September 1992); Moody Air Force Base, Georgia, 1 October 1992; Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994–.³¹⁷

³¹⁶ AETC MO MO-2, 25 March 1994

³¹⁷ AETC MO-2, 25 March 1994

Aircraft.

Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1942
Bell P-39 Airacobra	1942
Supermarine Spitfire	1942–1943
North American P-51 Lightning	1943–1945
Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star	1946–1947
North American P-51 Lightning	1947–1949
Republic F-84 Thunderjet	1948–1957
North American F-100 Super Sabre	1957–1970
McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1970–1986
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1986–.

Emblem. Originally approved on 10 January 1962; newest rendition approved on 18 July 1995.

Blazon. Chequy Argent and Vert, on an arrowhead point to base throughout Silver Gray fimbriated Sable, a dexter cubit arm vambraced fesswise issuant from sinister Argent grasping a sword point to base of the like, hilt of the second and piercing a cloud issuing from base White; all within a diminished bordure Or.

Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "308th FIGHTER SQ" in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "EMERALD KNIGHTS" in Yellow letters.

Official Motto. Emerald Knights

Significance. Yellow is an Air Force color and refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The chequy field suggests the field of battle. The arrowhead denotes the aircraft of the squadron in association with the field of battle. The arm in armor, grasping a sword, symbolizes the unit's ability to defend the peace. The sword piercing the cloud stands for the sky, the unit's theater of operation.

Commanders.***308th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) [30 January 1942 - 25 May 1942]***

Maj Fred M. Dean	30 January 1942-25 May 1942	(Lieutenant General)
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308th Fighter Squadron [25 May 1942-20 August 1943]

Maj Fred M. Dean	25 May 1942	(Lieutenant General)
Maj Delwin B. Avery	1 September 1942	
Capt Frank A. Hill	10 February 1943	
Maj Delwin B. Avery	4 March 1943	
Capt Thomas B. Fleming	May 1943	
Maj John H. Paulk	8 July 1943-20 August 1943	

***308th Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [20 August 1943-7 November 1945;
20 August 1946-15 June 1948]***

Maj John H. Paulk	20 August 1943	
Maj Walter J. Overend	14 October 1943	
Lt Col James G. Thorsen	18 February 1944	
Maj Harry W. Dorris	24 June 1944	[Ace]
Maj Leland P. Molland	28 July 1944	[Ace]
Maj Frank A. Wagner	4 December 1944	
Lt Col James G. Thorsen	2 February 1945-Unknown	
Unknown	20 August 1946	
Lt Col Shannon Christian	October 1947-15 June 1948	

308th Fighter Squadron, Jet [15 June 1948-20 January 1950]

Lt Col Shannon Christian	15 June 1948
Maj Ray M. Hilliard	July 1948-20 January 1950

308th Fighter-Bomber Squadron [20 January 1950-16 July 1950]

Maj Ray M. Hilliard	20 January 1950-16 July 1950
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308th Fighter-Escort Squadron [16 July 1950-20 January 1953]

Maj Ray M. Hilliard	16 July 1950
Lt Col Jerrold M. Vivian	15 August 1952-20 January 1953

308th Strategic Fighter Squadron [20 January 1953-1 April 1957]

Lt Col Jerrold M. Vivian	20 January 1953	
Lt Col Frank W. Klibbe	September 1953	[Ace]
Maj John W. Santry	17 January 1955	
Maj John E. Pitts, Jr.	July 1956-1 April 1957	

308th Fighter-Bomber Squadron [1 April 1957-1 July 1958]

Maj John E. Pitts, Jr.	1 April 1957	(Brigadier General)
Maj Donald N. Standfield	24 September 1957-1 July 1958	

308th Tactical Fighter Squadron [1 July 1958-9 October 1980]

Maj Donald N. Standfield	1 July 1958	
Maj Robinson Risner	15 March 1959	[Ace](Brigadier General)
Maj John B. Butler	15 July 1960	
Lt Col Virgil K. Meroney	31 August 1960	[Ace]
Maj William Peters	17 December 1961	
Maj Louie E. Lovitt	28 April 1962	
Lt Col Alfred N. King	14 August 1962	
Lt Col Durward B. Russell, Jr.	22 September 1964	
Lt Col Alan E. Wockenfuss	ca. June 1966	
Lt Col Hubert N. Skidmore	ca. 1967	
Lt Col Jack M. Smith	ca. 19 March 1968	
Lt Col Thomas G. Ferrara	1968	
Lt Col James Rodeen	30 June 1969	
Lt Col Willliam J. Hosmer	30 August 1969	
Lt Col Henry Buttelman	28 March 1970	[Ace]
Lt Col David L. Robb	6 July 1970-ca. 15 October 1970	
Unknown	ca. 15 October 1970-30 October 1970	
Lt Col George L. Schulstad	30 October 1970	(Brigadier General)
Lt Col Benjamin F. Ingram, Jr.	19 February 1971	
Lt Col Robert F. Johnston II	3 October 1971	
Lt Col Thomas E. Colvin	1 September 1972	
Lt Col Steve Braswell	10 November 1972	
Lt Col Abner Prophett	1 March 1973	
Lt Col Henry D. Canterbury	23 July 1973	(Major General)
Lt Col James D. Terry	31 January 1975	
Lt Col Earnest L. Coleman	27 July 1976	
Lt Col Wilbur E. Roberts	6 June 1977	
Lt Col Marcus F. Cooper, Jr.	22 June 1978	
Lt Col Timothy F. McConnell	6 February 1980-9 October 1980	

308th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [9 October 1980-1 October 1986]

Lt Col Timothy F. McConnell	9 October 1980
Lt Col Lester D. Alford	10 August 1981
Lt Col Kenneth A. Frey	13 April 1983
Lt Col James P. Soden	18 November 1983
Lt Col Max R. Hix	27 December 1985-1 October 1986

308th Tactical Fighter Squadron [1 October 1986-1 November 1991]

Lt Col Max R. Hix	1 October 1986
Lt Col Douglas M. Hosmer	30 October 1986
Lt Col Robert R. Scott	25 October 1987
Lt Col Michael B. Larkin	28 April 1989
Lt Col Phillip B. Straley	16 June 1989-1 November 1991.

308th Fighter Squadron [1 November 1991-.]

Lt Col Phillip B. Straley	1 November 1991	
Lt Col Fred Van Valkenburg	10 July 1992	(Brigadier General)
Lt Col Ricardo M. Cazessus	25 June 1993	
Lt Col Kevin W. Smith	1 April 1994 ³¹⁸	
Lt Col William C. Coutts	17 March 1995 ³¹⁹	
Lt Col Lawrence L. Wells	11 July 1996 ³²⁰	(Major General)
Lt Col Timothy P. Orwell	11 July 1997 ³²¹	
Lt Col James M. Smothermon	1 December 1997 ³²²	
Lt Col Michael C. Barton	13 December 1999 ³²³	
Lt Col Samuel C. Johnston	19 January 2001 ³²⁴	
Lt Col John M. Sieverling	29 January 2002 ³²⁵	
Lt Col David E. Ellis	9 July 2003 ³²⁶	
Lt Col Kenneth E. Lacy	24 June 2005 ³²⁷	
Lt Col Jeffrey C. Schroeder	16 May 2007 ³²⁸	
Lt Col Jeffrey R. Jossen	14 May 2009 ³²⁹	
Lt Col Christopher Colcord	2 June 2011- ³³⁰	

³¹⁸ [311 FS SO SO=GF-001, 25 March 1994]

³¹⁹ 308 FS SO SO-GF-005, 15 March 1995

³²⁰ 308 FS SO SO-GF-002, 13 June 1996

³²¹ 308 FS SO G-003, 9 July 1997

³²² 308 FS SO GL-002, ca. 2 December 1997

³²³ 308 FS SO GF-002, 9 December 1999

³²⁴ 308 FS SO GL-001, 9 January 2001

³²⁵ 56 FW SO GL-1, 28 January 2002

³²⁶ 56 FW SO 308FS-GL-03-4, 9 July 2003

³²⁷ 56 FW SO 56OG-G-2005-12, 24 June 2005

³²⁸ 308 FS SO G-2007-005, ca. 21 May 2007

³²⁹ 308 FS SO G-035, 12 June 2009

³³⁰ 308 FS SO G-012, 2 June 2011

309th Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 309th Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) on 21 January 1942.
Activated on 30 January 1942.
Redesignated 309th Fighter Squadron on
15 May 1942.
Redesignated 309th Fighter Squadron,
Single Engine, on 20 August 1943.
Inactivated on 7 November 1945.

Activated on 20 August 1946.
Redesignated 309th Fighter Squadron, Jet,
on 15 June 1948.
Redesignated 309th Fighter-Bomber Squadron
on 20 January 1950.
Redesignated 309th Fighter-Escort Squadron on 16 July 1950.
Redesignated 309th Strategic Fighter Squadron on 20 January 1953.
Redesignated 309th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 1 April 1957.
Redesignated 309th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 1 July 1958.
Redesignated 309th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 1 July 1982.
Redesignated 309th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 1 October 1986.
Redesignated 309th Fighter Squadron on 1 November 1991.³³¹
Inactivated on 31 December 1993.

Activated on 1 April 1994.³³²



309th Fighter Squadron Supermarine Spitfire Mk V

³³¹ TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991

³³² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Honors.***Campaign Streamers.*****World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater:**

Air Offensive, Europe [1942–1944]
 Algeria-French Morocco with Arrowhead [1942]
 Tunisia [1942-1943]
 Sicily with Arrowhead [1942-1943]
 Naples-Foggia [1943-1944]
 Anzio [1944]
 Rome-Arno [1944]
 Normandy [1944]
 Northern France [1944]
 Southern France [1944]
 North Apennines [1944-1945]
 Rhineland [1944-1945]
 Central Europe [1945]
 Po Valley [1945]
 Air Combat [1941–1945]

Vietnam:

Vietnam Air Offensive [1966-1967]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]
 Vietnam Air/Ground [1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 TET 69/Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970 [1969-1970]
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]

Distinguished Unit Citations,

Rumania, 21 April 1944
 Poland, 25 July 1945

Presidential Unit Citation

Vietnam, 1 May-31 December 1968.

Decorations.**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award**

1 June–16 December 1966 with Combat "V" Device
 17 December 1966–30 April 1968 with Combat "V" Device
 4 July 1952–16 July 1952
 1 March 1962–30 November 1962
 1 July 1994–30 June 1996³³³
 1 July 1996–30 June 1998³³⁴
 1 July 1998–30 June 2000³³⁵
 1 July 2001–30 June 2003³³⁶
 1 June [July] 2003–30 June 2005³³⁷
 1 July 2005–30 June 2006³³⁸
 1 July 2006–30 June 2007³³⁹
 1 July 2007–30 June 2008³⁴⁰
 1 July 2008–30 June 2009³⁴¹
 1 July 2009–30 June 2010³⁴²
 1 July 2010–30 June 2011³⁴³

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm,
 [16 December] 1966–October 1970.



309th Tactical Fighter Squadron's North American F-100D-60-NA Super Sabres
 Serials 56-2927 & 56-2952 on ramp at Tuy Hoa AB South Vietnam, April 1970.

³³³ AETC SO GA-18/1996
³³⁴ AETC SO GA-12/1998
³³⁵ AETC SO GA-9/2000
³³⁶ AETC SO GA-55/2004
³³⁷ AETC SO GA-0052/2006
³³⁸ AETC SO GA-045/2007
³³⁹ AETC SO G-054/2008
³⁴⁰ AETC SO G-071/2009
³⁴¹ AETC SO G-025/2010
³⁴² AETC SO G-086/2011
³⁴³ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Squadron – 173.75 Total Aerial Victory Credits. 15 Squadron Aces:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Aerial Victories</u>		
	<u>In Sq</u>	<u>Lifetime Total</u>	
1st Lt John M. Ainlay	8	8	
Capt Samuel J. Brown	5.5	15.5	
Capt George T. Buck, Jr. ³⁴⁴	3	6	
Capt Frederick J. Dorsch, Jr.	8.5	8.5	(KIA, 29 October 1944)
1st Lt Richard D. Faxon	5	5	
1st Lt Raymond F. Harmeyer	6	6	
Maj Frank A. Hill	5	7	
Capt George G. Loving, Jr.	5	5	(Lieutenant General)
Capt Murray D. McLaughlin	7	7	
Capt Carl W. Payne	5	5	
Capt Dale E. Shafer	4	7	
1st Lt Robert D Thompson	5.25	5.25	
Lt Col Harrison R. Thyng	5	10	(Brigadier General)
Maj Victor E. Warford	8	8	
Capt David C. Wilhelm	5	5	

SOURCE: AF Historical Research Agency

Assignments. 31st Pursuit (later, 31st Fighter) Group, 30 January 1942-7 November 1945. 31st Fighter (later, 31st Fighter-Bomber; 31st Fighter-Escort) Group, 20 August 1946 (attached to 31st Fighter-Escort Wing, 27 July 1951-15 June 1952); 31st Fighter-Escort (later, 31st Strategic Fighter; 31st Fighter-Bomber; 31st Tactical Fighter) Wing, 16 June 1952 (attached to Alaskan Air Command, 5 January -9 February 1957; Unknown, 9 July-15 November 1960 and 9 October-26 November 1961; 18th Tactical Fighter Wing, 17 July -22 December 1962 and 26 September-30 December 1963; 7231st Combat Support Group, 5 August-27 November 1964 and 18 January -31 March 1966; 41st Combat Support Group, 1-24 April 1966); 4403d Tactical Fighter Wing, 9 October 1970; 31st Tactical Fighter (later, 31st Tactical Training; 31st Tactical Fighter; 31st Fighter) Wing, 30 October 1970; 31st Operations Group, 1 November 1991 (attached to 363d Operations Group, 28 August-19 November 1992); 363d Operations Group, 20 November 1992-31 December 1993. 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994.³⁴⁵

Stations. Baer Field, Indiana, 30 January 1942; New Orleans Air Base, Louisiana, 6 February-19 May 1942; High Ercall, England, ca. 12 June 1942; Westhampnett, England, 1 August-23 October 1942; Tafaraoui, Algeria, 8 November 1942; La Senia, Algeria, 14 November 1942; Thelepte, Tunisia, 6 February 1943; Tebessa, Algeria, 17 February 1943; Youks-les-Bain, Algeria, 22 February 1943; Kalaa Djerda, Tunisia, 26 February 1943; Thelepte, Tunisia, 11 March 1943; Djilma, Tunisia, 7 April 1943; Le Sers, Tunisia, 12 April 1943; Korba, Tunisia, 17 May 1943; Gozo, 3 July 1943; Ponte Olivo, Sicily, 13 July 1943; Agrigento, Sicily, 21 July 1943; Termini, Sicily, 5 August

³⁴⁴ **NOTE:** Became an ace while in the squadron.

³⁴⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

1943; Milazzo, Sicily, 5 September 1943; Montecorvino, Italy, 21 September 1943; Pomigliano, Italy, 14 October 1943; Castel Volturno, Italy, ca. 19 January 1944; San Severo, Italy, 4 April 1944; Mondolfo, Italy, 4 March 1945; Triolo, Italy, 15 July-5 August 1945; Drew Field, Florida, August-7 November 1945. Giebelstadt, Germany, 20 August 1946; Kitzingen, Germany, ca. 30 September 1946-25 June 1947; Langley Field, Virginia, 25 June 1947; Turner Field (later Air Force Base), Georgia, 4 September 1947 (deployed at Manston Royal Air Force Station, England, 26 December 1950-25 July 1951; Misawa Air Base, Japan, 20 July-16 October 1952 and 7 November 1953-9 February 1954; Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, 5 January-9 February 1957); George Air Force Base, California, 15 March 1959 (deployed at Aviano Air Base, Italy, 9 July-15 November 1960; Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, 9 October-26 November 1961); Homestead Air Force Base, Florida, 1 June 1962-13 December 1966; (deployed at Kadena Air Base, Japan, 7 July-22 December 1962; Itazuke Air Base, Japan, 26 September-31 December 1963; Cigli Air Base, Turkey, 5 August-27 November 1964 and 18 January-24 April 1966); Tuy Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam, 16 December 1966-October 1970; England Air Force Base, Louisiana, ca. 9 October 1970; Homestead Air Force Base, Florida, 30 October 1970 (operated from Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, 23 August-30 September 1992); Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, 1 October 1992-31 December 1993. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.³⁴⁶

Aircraft.

Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1942
Bell P-39 Airacobra	1942
Supermarine Spitfire	1942-1943
North American P-51 Lightning	1943-1945, and 1947-1948
Lockheed P (later, F)-80 Shooting Star	1946-1947
Republic F-84 Thunderjet	1948-1957
North American F-100 Super Sabre	1957-1970
McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1970-1986
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1986-1993, and 1994-.

Emblem. Originally approved on 27 November 1944; newest rendition approved on 18 July 1995.

Blazon. Azure blended per pale Celeste to sinister, Donald Duck in animated anger Proper garbed in a flight jacket and P-3 crash helmet Light Blue and Argent grasping in dexter hand a board bendwise sinister with a nail in the end Proper and in sinister hand a lightning flash bendwise above his head Or, above a demi-globe issuant from base, Celeste grid lined of the first land masses Brown and below in chief a mullet of eight Argent; in dexter the constellation, Ursa Major in mullets of four White; all within a diminished bordure of the first.

Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "309th FIGHTER SQ" in Blue letters.

³⁴⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Official Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The disc is blended dark to light blue indicating the unit's day and night defense capabilities. The single star and constellation depict the squadron's pioneering efforts in the establishment of celestial navigation as a viable and integral method of navigation for fighter units. Donald Duck in flight gear grasping a lightning bolt and board with nail, symbolizes the lineage of the unit as a fighter squadron and its defense and striking capabilities through in-flight refueling. It also implies the squadron's participation in two historic long range ocean crossings.

Commanders.

309th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) [30 January 1942-15 May 1942]

Maj Harrison R. Thyng	30 January 1942-15 May 1942	[Ace](Major General)
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309th Fighter Squadron [15 May 1942-20 August 1943]

Maj Harrison R. Thyng	15 May 1942	[Ace](Major General)
Maj Frank A. Hill	12 May 1943	[Ace]
Maj Carl W. Payne	13 July 1943–20 August 1943.	[Ace]

***309th Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [20 August 1943-7 November 1945;
20 August 1946 – 15 June 1948]***

Maj Carl W. Payne	20 August 1943	[Ace]
Capt Robert E. McCarthy, Jr.	14 October 1943	
Maj Garth B. Jared	9 November 1943	
Maj John M. Meader	18 April 1944	
Lt Col Victor E. Warford	22 May 1944	[Ace]
Maj George T. Buck, Jr.	12 October 1944	[Ace]
Maj Simon H. Johnson, Jr.	16 February 1945	
Maj Julius D. Shivers	9 May 1945-Unknown	
Unknown,	20 August 1946	
Lt Col Robert W. Stevens	October 1947-15 June 1948.	

309th Fighter Squadron, Jet [15 June 1948-20 January 1950]

Lt Col Robert W. Stevens	15 June 1948
Maj Arthur D. Thomas	November 1948-20 January 1950.

309th Fighter-Bomber Squadron [20 January 1950-16 July 1950]

Maj Arthur D. Thomas	20 January 1950
Maj William R. Young	ca. 1950.

309th Fighter-Escort Squadron [16 July 1950-20 January 1953]

Maj William R. Young	ca. 1950
Maj Don V. Booty	April 1951
Lt Col Charles W. Lenfest	January 1952-20 January 1953

[Ace](Brigadier General)

309th Strategic Fighter Squadron [20 January 1953-1 April 1957]

Lt Col Charles W. Lenfest	20 January 1953
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[Ace](Brigadier General)

Lt Col Hayden C. Curry	June 1953
Maj Adrian E. Drew	January 1955
Capt David W. Williams	October 1955
Maj Donald W. Maggert	April 1956 - 1 April 1957.

309th Fighter-Bomber Squadron [1 April 1957-1 July 1958]

Maj Donald W. Maggert	1 April 1957
Maj James E. Bean	11 October 1957
Maj Arthur H. Johnson, Jr.	25 April 1958 - 1 July 1958.

309th Tactical Fighter Squadron [1 July 1958-1 July 1982]

Maj Arthur H. Johnson, Jr.	1 July 1958
Lt Col Louis R. Vogt	15 March 1959
Maj John B. Butler	1959
Maj Herbert L. Prevost	1960
Lt Col Garth L. Reynolds	13 December 1961
Maj Aubrey C. Edinburgh	1 April 1963
Lt Col Garth L. Reynolds	9 September 1963
Lt Col Tom L. DeGraffenried	8 June 1964-5 November 1965
Lt Col Carlos O. Beasley	1965
Lt Col Freddie L. Poston	ca. 7 January 1966 (Lieutenant General)
Lt Col Daniel J. Sheehan, Jr.	1 November 1967
Lt Col David S. Renshaw	1968
Lt Col Lawrence W. Whitford, Jr.	6 February 1969
Lt Col Ronald A. Berdoy	26 September 1969
Lt Col Clarence D. Glenn	24 August-ca. 15 October 1970
Lt Col Charles W. Hetherington	30 October 1970
Lt Col Donald V. MacKellar	10 May 1972
Lt Col Steve Braswell	10 March 1973
Lt Col Donald A. Elliott	24 May 1974
Lt Col Edward S. Joiner	9 September 1975
Lt Col Ralph E. Beekman	31 December 1977
Lt Col Michael G. Major	26 November 1979
Lt Col Travis E. Harrell	3 April 1981 - 1 July 1982.

(Brigadier General)

309th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [1 July 1982-1 October 1986]

Lt Col Travis E. Harrell	1 July 1982	(Brigadier General)
Lt Col Thomas R. Lanum	13 July 1982	
Lt Col William D. Ray	24 July 1984	
Lt Col David L. Haas	12 June 1986 - 1 October 1986	

309th Tactical Fighter Squadron [1 October 1986-1 November 1991]

Lt Col David L. Haas,	1 October 1986
Lt Col Robert D. O'Dell,	7 June 1988
Lt Col Thomas B. Poole,	29 December 1989 - 1 November 1991

309th Fighter Squadron [1 November 1991–31 December 1993; 1 April 1994-.]

Lt Col Thomas B. Poole	1 November 1991
Lt Col Thomas A. Gilkey	July 1992-31 December 1993

Lt Col Charles B. Oltman	1 April 1994 ³⁴⁷
Lt Col Randy S. Wenzel	13 July 1995 ³⁴⁸
Lt Col William D. McConnell	31 January 1997 ³⁴⁹
Lt Col Philip A. Oppenheimer	1 February 1999 ³⁵⁰
Lt Col Christopher P. Bisgrove	25 February 2000 ³⁵¹
Lt Col Neal R. Carbaugh	1 October 2001 ³⁵²
Lt Col Roy D. McMickel	19 March 2003 ³⁵³
Lt Col Keith S. Miller	23 March 2004 ³⁵⁴
Lt Col Peter F. Davey	12 May 2006 ³⁵⁵
Lt Col Peter Bilodeau	23 May 2008 ³⁵⁶
Lt Col Daniel T. Lasica	21 May 2010 ³⁵⁷
Lt Col Stephane Wolfgeher	24 May 2012-. ³⁵⁸

³⁴⁷ 58 MSS SO SO-GAJ-01, 25 March 1994

³⁴⁸ 56 FW SO SO-GAJ-01, 12 July 1995

³⁴⁹ 309 FS SO SO-GJ-02, 16 January 1997

³⁵⁰ 309 FS SO SO-GJ-02, ca. 26 January 1999

³⁵¹ 309 FS SO SO-GJ-01, ca. 28 February 2000

³⁵² 309 FS SO SO GJ-001, 1 October 2001

³⁵³ 309 FS SO 309FS GS-1, 10 March 2003

³⁵⁴ 309 FS SO 56 OSS-6-2004-3, 17 March 2004

³⁵⁵ 309 FS SO 56OG-G2006-05, 4 May 2006

³⁵⁶ 309 FS SO G-018, 22 May 2008

³⁵⁷ 56 MSG SO G-006, 19 May 2010

³⁵⁸ 56 MSG SO G-004, 9 April 2012

310th Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 310th Pursuit Squadron
(Interceptor) on 21 January 1942.
Activated on 9 February 1942.
Redesignated 310th Fighter Squadron on
15 May 1942.
Redesignated 310th Fighter Squadron,
Single Engine, on 20 August 1943.
Inactivated on 20 February 1946.

Redesignated 310th Fighter-Bomber
Squadron on 25 June 1952.
Activated on 10 July 1952.
Redesignated 310th Tactical Missile
Squadron on 15 July 1958.
Discontinued, and inactivated, on 25 March 1962.

Redesignated 310th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 11 December 1969.
Activated on 15 December 1969.
Redesignated as 310th Fighter Squadron on 1 November 1991.³⁵⁹



Honors.

Service Streamers.

World War II American Theater.

Campaign Streamers.

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Air Offensive, Japan [1942–1945]
New Guinea [1943-1944]
Bismarck Archipelago [1943-1944]
Western Pacific [1944-1945]
Leyte [1944-1945]
Luzon [1944-1945]
Southern Philippines [1945]
Ryukyus [1945]
China Offensive [1945]

Korean

Korea, Summer-Fall [1952]
Third Korean Winter [1952-1953]
Korea, Summer 1953 [1953]

³⁵⁹ TAC SO G-12, 1 November 1991

Decorations.**Distinguished Unit Citations**

Philippine Islands, 26 December 1944;
Korea, 1 May-27 July 1953.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

[15]-31 December 1969
1 January 1971-31 December 1972
1 January 1975-31 December 1976³⁶⁰
1 January 1978-31 December 1979³⁶¹
1 August 1982-31 May 1984;
1 June 1986-31 May 1988³⁶²
1 June 1989-31 May 1991³⁶³
1 June 1990-31 May 1992
1 June 1991-31 May 1992³⁶⁴
1 June 1992-31 May 1993
1 June 1992-31 March 1994
1 June 1994-31 May 1995
1 June 1995-30 June 1996³⁶⁵
1 July 1996-30 June 1998³⁶⁶
1 July 1998-30 June 2000³⁶⁷
1 July 2001-30 June 2003³⁶⁸
1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005³⁶⁹
1 July 2005-30 June 2006³⁷⁰
1 July 2006-30 June 2007³⁷¹
1 July 2007-30 June 2008³⁷²

³⁶⁰ DAF SO GB-118, 1 March 1978

³⁶¹ DAF SO GB-022, 19 January 1981

³⁶² TAC SO GA-074, 7 December 1988

³⁶³ TAC SO GA-020, 15 January 1992

³⁶⁴ ACC SO GA-002, 16 June 1992

³⁶⁵ AETC, SO GA-18/1996

³⁶⁶ AETC SO GA-12/1998

³⁶⁷ AETC SO GA-9/2000

³⁶⁸ AETC SO GA-55/2004

³⁶⁹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

³⁷⁰ AETC SO GA-045/2007

³⁷¹ AETC SO G-054/2008

³⁷² AETC SO G-071/2009

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**1 July 2008-30 June 2009³⁷³1 July 2009-30 June 2010³⁷⁴1 July 2010-30 June 2011³⁷⁵**Special Honors.**

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII).

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: 10 July 1952-31 March 1953.

Squadron – 2 Total Aerial Victory Credits.³⁷⁶ Squadron Aces: None.

Assignments. 58th Pursuit (later, 58th Fighter) Group, 9 February 1942; Fifth Air Force, 27 January-20 February 1946. 58th Fighter-Bomber Group, 10 July 1952 (attached to 58th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1 March-7 November 1957); 58th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 8 November 1957; 314th Air Division, 1 July 1958; 58th Tactical Missile Group, 15 July 1958-25 March 1962. 58th Tactical Fighter Training (later, 58th Tactical Training) Wing, 15 December 1969; 58th Operations Group, 1 October 1991³⁷⁷; 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994-³⁷⁸

Stations. Harding Field, Louisiana, 9 February 1942; Dale Mabry Field, Florida, 4 March 1942; Richmond Army Air Base, Virginia, 16 October 1942; Philadelphia Muni Airport, Pennsylvania, 24 October 1942; Bradley Field, Connecticut, 5 March 1943; Hillsgrove, Rhode Island, 28 April 1943; Grenier Field, New Hampshire, 16 September-22 October 1943; Brisbane, Australia, ca. 23 November 1943; Dobodura, New Guinea, 28 December 1943; Saidor, New Guinea, ca. 2 April 1944; Noemfoor, 6 September 1944; San Roque, Leyte, 18 November 1944; San Jose, Mindoro, 22 December 1944; Mangaldan, Luzon, 6 April 1945; Porac, Luzon, 18 April 1945; Okinawa, 9 July 1945; Japan, 26 October 1945; Fort William McKinley, Luzon, 28 December 1945-20 February 1946. Taegu Air Base, South Korea, 10 July 1952; Osan-Ni (later, Osan) Air Base, South Korea, 19 March 1955-25 March 1962. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 15 December 1969-.

³⁷³ AETC SO G-025/2010

³⁷⁴ AETC SO G-086/2011

³⁷⁵ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

³⁷⁶ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

³⁷⁷ TAC SO GB-3, 1 October 1991

³⁷⁸ AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

Aircraft and Missiles.

Bell P-39 Airacobra	1942
Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1942-1943
Republic P-47 Thunderbolt	1943-1945
Republic F-84 Thunderjet	1952-1954;
North American F-86 Sabre	1954-1958;
Martin MGM-1 Matador Missile	1958-1962.
Ling-Temco-Vought A-7 Corsair II	1969-1971;
McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II	1971-1982;
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1982-.

Emblem. Originally approved on 9 October 1943; newest rendition approved on 20 July 1995.

Blazon. Celeste, two lightning flashes saltirewise in bend sinister Tenne edged Or surmounted by a human skull Argent garnished Sable wearing a top hat of the last garnished of the fourth supported by a bow tie of the second garnished Yellow all above a pair of dice White with spots Black; all within a diminished inner bordure Light Blue and outer bordure Yellow.

Attached below the disc a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "310th FIGHTER SQ" in Yellow letters.

Official Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The skull represents death and the possibility that the unit may be called to defend the peace at any time. The dice symbolize that the squadron will win, with a natural seven, in its gamble with death. The lightning bolts denote the weapons systems employed by the squadron.

Commanders.***310th Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) [30 January 1942-15 May 1942]***

Maj James D. Mayden	9 February 1942
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310th Fighter Squadron [15 May 1942-20 August 1943]

Maj James D. Mayden	15 May 1942	
Maj Lewis W. Chick, Jr.	September 1942	[Ace]
1 Lt Harry M. Odren	24 October 1942	
1 Lt Howard A. Tuman	1 November 1942	
Capt Joseph T. Klemovich	10 December 1942	
Capt Robert R. Bonebrake	May 1943	
Maj Jack McClure, Jr.	1 July 1943	

310th Fighter Squadron, Single Engine [20 August 1943-20 February 1946]

Maj Jack McClure, Jr.	1 July 1943
Maj Howard A. Tuman	27 April 1944
Capt Don V. Booty	August 1945-February 1946

310th Fighter-Bomber Squadron [10 July 1952-15 July 1958]

Lt Col Don V. Booty	10 July 1952	
Lt Col John E. Gaffney	December 1952	
Lt Col Minar M. Dervage	April 1953	
Lt Col James R. Wilson	28 March 1955	
Lt Col Carmel M. Shook	ca. June 1956	
Lt Col Jake L. Wilk, Jr.	ca. December 1956	
Maj Clayton E. Davis	1957	[Ace]
Lt Col Gerald W. Rooney	August 1957	
2 Lt Richard J. Kirnberger	15 June 1958	
none (not manned)	1 July 1958-15 July 1958	

310th Tactical Missile Squadron [15 July 1958-25 March 1962]

none (not manned)	15 July 1958-May 1959
Maj James T. Morrison	ca. June 1959
Lt Col Enos L. Commons	ca. January 1960
Maj Marcus F. Tinsley	December 1961-25 March 1962

310th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [15 December 1969-1 November 1991]

Unknown	15 December 1969-31 January 1970
Lt Col Robert M. Bond	1 February 1970 (Lieutenant General)
Lt Col Max L. Templin III	October 1970
Lt Col Phillip D. Snyder	September 1971
Lt Col Jimmy L. Goode	2 April 1973
Lt Col William P. Bristol	22 July 1974 ³⁷⁹
Lt Col Robert K. Simm	14 August 1974 ³⁸⁰
Lt Col Richard O. Bennett	October 1975
Lt Col Richard M. Hirth	1 January 1977
Lt Col Clarence E. Fox	17 February 1978 ³⁸¹
Lt Col Robert B. Hinckley	14 February 1980
Lt Col Thomas M. Kennedy, Jr.	14 August 1981 ³⁸²
Lt Col Alan A. Lavoy	21 September 1981 ³⁸³

³⁷⁹ 310 TFTS SO G-1, 22 July 1974

³⁸⁰ 58 CSG 141937Z AUG 74 MSG

³⁸¹ 58 CSG SO G-5, 17 February 1978

³⁸² 832 CSG SO G-37, 14 August 1981

³⁸³ 832 CSG SO G-54, 2 October 1981

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col Richard P. High	1 July 1982 ³⁸⁴
Lt Col Michael W. Loden	3 August 1984 ³⁸⁵
Lt Col John B. Gibbs	20 June 1986 ³⁸⁶
Lt Col John E. Chambers	17 June 1988 ³⁸⁷
Lt Col James W. Kimmel	1 December 1989-1 November 1991 ³⁸⁸

310th Fighter Squadron [1 November 1991-.]

Lt Col James W. Kimmel	November 1991	
Lt Col Jon A. Wegner	2 December 1991 ³⁸⁹	
Lt Col Scott C. Harrison	22 October 1993 ³⁹⁰	
Lt Col James M. Daniels	8 December 1995 ³⁹¹	
Lt Col Charles R. Greenwood	8 May 1997 ³⁹²	
Lt Col Mark B. Topper	5 June 1998 ³⁹³	
Lt Col Paul E. Smith	16 June 2000 ³⁹⁴	
Lt Col Jeffrey R. McDaniels	6 June 2002 ³⁹⁵	(Brigadier General)
Lt Col Patrick McKenzie	9 April 2004 ³⁹⁶	
Lt Col Scott L. Gierat	21 April 2006 ³⁹⁷	
Lt Col James D. McCune	24 April 2008 ³⁹⁸	
Lt Col Todd A. Murphey	28 May 2010 ³⁹⁹	
Lt Col Jon S. Wheeler, Jr.	15 June 2012 ⁴⁰⁰	

³⁸⁴ 832 CSG SO G-41, 23 June 1982

³⁸⁵ 832 CSG SO G-022, 27 July 1984

³⁸⁶ 832 CSG SO G-36, 11 June 1986

³⁸⁷ 832 CSG SO SO-G-47, 16 June 1988

³⁸⁸ 832 MSS SO G-7, 30 November 1989

³⁸⁹ 58 MSS SO SO-G-38, 2 December 1991

³⁹⁰ 310 FS SO SO-G-02, 19 October 1993

³⁹¹ 310 FS SO SOGX-001, 12 December 1995

³⁹² 310 FS SO SOGX-002, 7 May 1997

³⁹³ 310 FS SO SOGX-007, 1 June 1998

³⁹⁴ 310 FS SO SOGX-002, 16 June 2000

³⁹⁵ 310 FS SO SOGX-003, 4 June 2002

³⁹⁶ 310 FS SO 56 OSS - G - 2004 - 4, 9 April 2004

³⁹⁷ 310 FS, 56OG-G2006-04, 18 April 2006

³⁹⁸ 310 FS, G-012, 17 April 2008

³⁹⁹ 56 MSG, G-004, 4 May 2010

⁴⁰⁰ 56 MSG SO G-012, 15 June 2012

425th Fighter Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 425th Night Fighter Squadron on 23 November 1943.

Activated on 1 December 1943.

Inactivated on 25 August 1947.

Redesignated 425th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 22 August 1969.

Activated on 15 October 1969.

Inactivated on 1 September 1989.⁴⁰¹

Redesignated as 425th Fighter Squadron on 1 December 1992.

Activated on 30 December 1992.⁴⁰²



Honors.

Campaign Streamers.

World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater

Normandy [1944]

Northern France [1944]

Rhineland [1944-1945]

Ardennes-Alsace [1944-1945]

Central Europe [1945]

Air Combat [1941-1945]

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

15 October-31 December 1969

1 January 1971-31 December 1972

1 January 1975-31 December 1976⁴⁰³

1 January 1978-31 December 1979⁴⁰⁴

1 August 1982-31 May 1984

30 December 1992-31 March 1994

1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁴⁰⁵

⁴⁰¹ TAC SO GB-45, 23 August 1989

⁴⁰² ACC SO GB-27, 14 December 1992

⁴⁰³ DAF SO GB-118, 1 March 1978

⁴⁰⁴ DAF SO GB-022, 19 January 1981

⁴⁰⁵ AETC SO GA-18/1996

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards (Continued)**

1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁴⁰⁶
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁴⁰⁷
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁴⁰⁸
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁴⁰⁹
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁴¹⁰
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁴¹¹
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁴¹²
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁴¹³
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁴¹⁴
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁴¹⁵

Special Honors.

Citation in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army: 6 June-30 September 1944.

Squadron – 20 Total Aerial Victory Credits.⁴¹⁶ Squadron Aces: None.

Assignments. 481st Night Fighter Operational Training Group, 1 December 1943; Ninth Air Force, 23 May 1944; IX Air Defense Command, 10 June 1944; 471st Fighter Wing, 20 June 1944; IX Air Defense Command, 6 August 1944; XIX Tactical Air Command, 7 October 1944; Ninth Air Force, 7 July 1945; Fourth Air Force, 9 September 1945; Air Defense Command, 21 March 1946; Fourth Air Force, 31 July 1946-25 August 1947. 58th Tactical Fighter Training (later, 58th Tactical Training) Wing, 15 October 1969; 405th Tactical Training Wing, 29 August 1979⁴¹⁷-1 September 1989. 58th Operations Group, 30 December 1992; 56th Operations Group, 1 April 1994-.⁴¹⁸

⁴⁰⁶ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁴⁰⁷ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁴⁰⁸ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁴⁰⁹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁴¹⁰ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁴¹¹ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁴¹² AETC SO G-071/2009

⁴¹³ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁴¹⁴ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁴¹⁵ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁴¹⁶ **SOURCE:** AF Historical Research Agency

⁴¹⁷ TAC SO GA-95, 20 August 1979

⁴¹⁸ AETC SO G-40, 20 April 1994

Stations. Orlando Air Base, Florida, 1 December 1943; Hammer Field, California, 30 January 1944; Visalia Muni Airport, California, 25 February-1 May 1944; Chormy Down, England, 26 May 1944; Scorton, England, 12 June 1944; Stoneman Park, England, 12 August 1944; Vannes, France, 18 August 1944; Le Moustoiris, France, 1 September 1944; Coulommiers, France, 11 September 1944; Prosnes, France, 13 October 1944; Etain, France, 9 November 1944; Frankfurt, Germany, 12 April 1945; Furth, Germany, 2 May 1945; Crepy-en-Laommiss, France, 5 July 1945; St Victoret, France, 18-24 August 1945; Lemoore Army Air Field, California, 9 September 1945; Camp Pinedale, California, 23 October 1945; March Field, California, 8 March 1946; McChord Field, Washington, 1 September 1946-25 August 1947. Williams Air Force Base, Arizona, 15 October 1969-1 September 1989. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 30 December 1992-.

Aircraft.

Northrop YP-61 Black Widow	1944
Douglas A-20 Havoc	1944
Douglas P-70 Nighthawk	1944
Northrop P-61 Black Widow	1944-1946, 1946-1947
Northrop F-5 Freedom Fighter	1969-1989
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1983-.

Emblem. Approved on 7 January 1993; replaced emblems approved on 11 June 1970 and 4 May 1945.

Blazon. Gules, a target viewfinder throughout Sable, surmounted by a " black widow" spider in base of the last garnished of the first between two lightning flashes chevronwise Argent, all within a diminished border Black.

Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "425th FTR SQ".

Official Motto. None.

Significance. On a red globe is a fighter pilot's gunsight. A Black Widow spider is superimposed over the gunsight. On either side of the spider is a white lightning bolt. The red globe is consistent with Singaporean national colors, acknowledging their role in the reactivation of this squadron. The unit mission is to support Peace Carvin II (Foreign Military Sales), selling F-16s and training to the Republic of Singapore. The gunsight reflects the tools of the fighter pilot's trade. It also symbolizes the web of the Black Widow spider. · The Black Widow spider maintains historical continuity with the squadron's original mission as a P-61 Black Widow Night Fighter Squadron in World War II. The lightning bolts on either side of the spider symbolize the striking power of modern tactical fighters.

Commanders.***425th Night Fighter Squadron [1 December 1943- 25 August 1947]***

Unknown	1 December 1943-9 December 1943
Lt Col Leon G. Lewis	10 December 1943
Maj Russell Glasser	10 February 1945 (temporary)
Capt McDonald	7 May 1945 (temporary)
Lt Col Leon G. Lewis	ca. June 1945-Unknown
Unknown	Unknown-31 August 1946
Lt Col George Laven, Jr.	1 September 1946
Lt Col Charles W. Howe	November 1946
Capt A. K. McDonald	January 1947 (temporary)
Lt Col Charles W. Howe	March 1947-Unknown

425 Tactical Fighter Training Squadron [15 October 1969-1 September 1989]

Lt Col Herman O. Thomson	15 October 1969 (Lieutenant General)
Lt Col Roy L. Holbrook	ca. July 1970
Lt Col John H. Gale, Jr.	by July 1971
Lt Col George C. Forstnee	by July 1974
Lt Col Conrad L. Bavousett	by July 1975
Lt Col Tom E. Stewart	17 December 1975 ⁴¹⁹
Lt Col Charles D. Bozzuto	13 January 1978 ⁴²⁰
Lt Col Kenneth J. Monroe	1 February 1980 ⁴²¹
Lt Col Philip W. Nuber	30 December 1980 (Major General)
Lt Col Francis N. Markette	19 June 1982
Col John M. Vickery	4 October 1982 ⁴²²
Col Edward T. Boswell	16 January 1984 ⁴²³
Lt Col Richard K. Willis	6 December 1985 ⁴²⁴
Lt Col James E. Anderson	22 June 1987 ⁴²⁵
Lt Col Steven R. Chealander	11 July 1988-1 September 1989. ⁴²⁶

⁴¹⁹ 58 CSG 190013Z DEC 75 MSG

⁴²⁰ 425 TFTS SO G-1, 13 January 1978

⁴²¹ 425 TFTS SO G-7, 1 February 1980

⁴²² 425 TFTS SO G-8, 4 October 1982

⁴²³ 425 TFTS SO G-02, 16 January 1984

⁴²⁴ 832 CSG SO G-10, 5 December 1985

⁴²⁵ 832 CSG SO G-51, 19 June 1987

⁴²⁶ 832 CSG SO SO-G-67, 1 September 1988

425 Fighter Squadron [30 December 1992-.]

Lt Col Wayne E. Hughes	30 December 1992 ⁴²⁷
Lt Col Michael L. Hauser	20 June 1994 ⁴²⁸
Lt Col Jack I. Gregory Jr.	3 July 1996 ⁴²⁹
Lt Col Jeffrey E. Stambaugh	10 July 1998 ⁴³⁰
Lt Col Daniel G. Saville	2 March 2000 ⁴³¹
Lt Col Paul H. McGillicuddy	1 November 2001 ⁴³² (Brigadier General)
Lt Col John D. Roosa	25 June 2002 ⁴³³
Lt Col Barre R. Sequin	17 May 2004 ⁴³⁴
Lt Col Lynn I. Scheel	22 May 2006 ⁴³⁵
Lt Col Stephen J. Granger	25 April 2008 ⁴³⁶
Lt Col Michael J. Dean	7 May 2010 ⁴³⁷
Lt Col Kevin S. Cruikshank	4 May 2012-. ⁴³⁸



First two Block 52 F-16s, Tail Nos. 94-0276 (D-model) and 94-0266 (C-model), arrived on 2 June 1998 for the Peace Carvin II Program with the Republic of Singapore Air Force.

⁴²⁷ 58 OG SO SO-GC-1, 29 December 1992

⁴²⁸ 425 FS SO SO-GAH-001, 17 June 1994

⁴²⁹ 425 FS SO SO-GAH-002, 13 June 1996

⁴³⁰ 425 FS SO GAH-001, 10 July 1998

⁴³¹ 425 FS SO GAH-001, 2 March 2000

⁴³² 425 FS SO GAH-002, 1 November 2001

⁴³³ [No SO], 25 June 2002

⁴³⁴ 425 FS SO 56-OSS-G-2004-06, 17 May 2004

⁴³⁵ 425 FS, 56 OG-G20006-09, 1 May 2006

⁴³⁶ 425 FS, G-009, 4 April 2008

⁴³⁷ 56 MSG, G-003, 30 April 2010

⁴³⁸ 56 MSG SO G-008, 23 April 2012

56th Maintenance Group



Col Victor H. Mora

Lineage.

Established as 56th Maintenance and Supply Group on 28 July 1947.

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (19 September 1995) with the 56th Maintenance and Supply Group, which was established on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Disestablished on 27 September 1984.

Reestablished, and redesignated 56th Logistics Group, on 28 October 1991.

Activated 1 November 1991.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994⁴³⁹

Activated 1 April 1994.⁴⁴⁰

Redesignated 56th Maintenance Group on 27 September 2002.⁴⁴¹

⁴³⁹ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁴⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁴¹ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

Honors.**Decorations.****Air Force Outstanding Unit Award**

1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁴⁴²
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁴⁴³
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁴⁴⁴
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁴⁴⁵
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁴⁴⁶
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁴⁴⁷
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁴⁴⁸
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁴⁴⁹
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁴⁵⁰
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁴⁵¹
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁴⁵²

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron	27 September 2002-.
56th Component Repair Squadron	
later, 56th Component Maintenance Squadron	1 April 1994-. ⁴⁵³
56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron	1 April 1994-. ⁴⁵⁴
56th Logistics Support Squadron	
later, 56th Maintenance Operations Squadron	1 April 1994-. ⁴⁵⁵
756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron	27 September 2002-.

⁴⁴² AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁴⁴³ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁴⁴⁴ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁴⁴⁵ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁴⁴⁶ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁴⁴⁷ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁴⁴⁸ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁴⁴⁹ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁴⁵⁰ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁴⁵¹ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁴⁵² AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁴⁵³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁵⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁵⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Contracting Squadron	1 November 1991-4 January 1994. ⁴⁵⁶
56th Logistics Support Squadron	1 November 1991-30 September 1993.
56th Maintenance Squadron	1 November 1991-4 January 1994. ⁴⁵⁷
56th Supply Squadron	28 July 1947-1 August 1948 1 August 1948-6 February 1952; 1 November 1991-4 January 1994 ⁴⁵⁸ ; 1 April 1994-1 August 2002. ⁴⁵⁹
56th Motor Vehicle Squadron, Fighter, Jet, later, 56th Motor Vehicle Squadron	1 August 1948-6 February 1952.
56th Transportation Squadron	1 November 1991-4 January 1994 ⁴⁶⁰ ; 1 April 1994-1 August 2002. ⁴⁶¹

Assignments. 56th Fighter Wing, 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Fighter (later 56th Fighter-Interceptor) Wing, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Fighter Wing, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994. 56th Fighter Wing, 1 April 1994-.⁴⁶²

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, AFB) 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. MacDiill AFB, FL, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994. Luke AFB, AZ, 1 April 1994-.⁴⁶³

Emblem. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Emblem approved 19 April 1967. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Blazon. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.].

⁴⁵⁶ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁵⁷ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁵⁸ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁵⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁴⁶⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴⁶¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁴⁶² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁶³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Motto. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
Cave Tonitrum (Beware of the Thunderbolt). [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Significance. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
The emblem is symbolic of the Wing. The heraldic chevron, represents support and signifies the Wing's support of our nation's quest for peace. The blue of the chevron represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The lightning bolt symbolizes speed and aggressiveness with which the unit performs. The color of the shield represents the Air Corps and commemorates the service of the 56th Fighter Group, whose honors and history the Wing inherits. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of golden yellow and ultramarine blue. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Commanders.

56th Maintenance and Supply Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]

Unknown	Unknown
Lt Col David K. Lyster, Jr.	31 August 1947
Lt Col Paul E. Hooper	bef 20 April 1948-Unknown.

56th Maintenance and Supply Group [1 August 1948-6 February 1952]

Unknown	Unknown
Maj Francis M. Baker	bef 30 June 1949
Maj Morris Farber	bef 30 November 1949
Lt Col Robert F. Baldwin	1 December 1949
Lt Col Roger W. Taylor	bef 31 March 1950
Lt Col Morris Farber	bef 31 May 1950
Lt Col Ernest J. White, Jr.	23 August 1950 (Brigadier General)
Col Matt G. Carpenter	May 1951-Unknown.

56th Logistics Group [1 November 1991-4 January 1994;

1 April 1994-27 September 2002]

Col Clarence T. Lowry	1 November 1991
Col William E. Rupright	August 1992-4 January 1994
Col Elizabeth A. Harrell	1 April 1994 ⁴⁶⁴ (Major General)
Lt Col (later, Col) John D. Ladieu	17 October 1994 ⁴⁶⁵
Lt Col Jeffery C. Davis	1 October 1995 ⁴⁶⁶
Col Hugh C. Robinson	15 December 1995 ⁴⁶⁷

⁴⁶⁴ [58 LG SO GK-001, 24 June 1993]

⁴⁶⁵ 56 LSS SO SO-G-01, 26 January 1995

⁴⁶⁶ 56 LSS SO GK-1, 4 October 1995

⁴⁶⁷ 56 LSS SO SO-GK-2, 14 December 1995

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col (later, Col) Ron Lee	29 May 1998 ⁴⁶⁸
Col Francis M. Bruno	25 April 2000 ⁴⁶⁹ (Brigadier General)
Col Arthur B. Cameron III	19 October 2001 ⁴⁷⁰ -27 September 2002 (Brigadier General)

56th Maintenance Group [27 September 2002-.]

Col Arthur B. Cameron III	27 September 2002 (Brigadier General)
Col John P. Harris	2 July 2003 ⁴⁷¹
Lt Col Geoffery S. Parkhurst	22 May 2006 ⁴⁷²
Col Algene Fryer	6 July 2006 ⁴⁷³
Col Geoffery S. Parkhurst	29 August 2008 ⁴⁷⁴
Col Deborah J. Liddick	23 July 2010 ⁴⁷⁵
Col Victor H. Mora	10 July 2012-. ⁴⁷⁶



310th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Load Crew from the
756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron loads an AIM-9 Missile.

⁴⁶⁸ 56 FS SO GK-02, 28 May 1998
⁴⁶⁹ 56 LG SO SO-GK-3, 10 April 2000
⁴⁷⁰ 56 LG SO SO-GK-01, 4 October 2001
⁴⁷¹ 56 MOS SO 56 MOS-G-2003-02, 1 July 2003
⁴⁷² 56 MOS SO 56 MOS-G-01, 10 May 2006
⁴⁷³ 56 MOS SO 56 MOS-G-04, 13 June 2006
⁴⁷⁴ 56 MXG SO 56 MOS-G-06, 2 February 2007
⁴⁷⁵ 56 MSG SO G-026, 22 July 2010
⁴⁷⁶ 56 MSG SO G-025, 10 July 2012

56th Maintenance Operations Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as the 56th Station
Complement Squadron on 15 May 1943.
Activated on 20 May 1943.
Inactivated on 21 November 1945.
Disbanded on 8 October 1948.

Reconstituted, and redesignated
56th Logistics Support Squadron,
on 28 October 1991.

Activated 1 November 1991.
Inactivated on 30 September 1993.

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁴⁷⁷
Redesignated 56th Maintenance
Operations Squadron on 27 September 2002.⁴⁷⁸



Honors.

Service Streamers.

World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁴⁷⁹
1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁴⁸⁰
1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁴⁸¹
1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁴⁸²
1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁴⁸³
1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁴⁸⁴
1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁴⁸⁵
1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁴⁸⁶

⁴⁷⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁴⁷⁸ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁴⁷⁹ AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁴⁸⁰ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁴⁸¹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁴⁸² AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁴⁸³ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁴⁸⁴ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁴⁸⁵ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁴⁸⁶ AETC SO G-071/2009

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁴⁸⁷1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁴⁸⁸1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁴⁸⁹

Assignments. Unknown, 20 May 1943-21 November 1945. 56th Logistics Group, 1 November 1991-30 September 1993. 56th Logistics (later, 56th Maintenance) Group, 1 April 1994-.⁴⁹⁰

Stations. Atterbury Army Air Field, Indiana, 20 May 1943; Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, 10 August-5 September 1943; Wattisham, England, c.15 September 1943; Hitcham, England, c.6 April 1944-21 November 1945. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 November 1991-30 September 1993. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁴⁹¹

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 5 June 1995.

Blazon. Azure, in sinister base a globe Celeste land masses Veii, in dexter chief three flight symbols ascending bendwise each issuing a contrail arcing to sinister base of the globe Argent, all below an arc of nine mullets in sinister chief of the like; all within a diminished bordure Or.

Attached below the disc a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border.

Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The flight symbols arcing from the globe denote the unit's support of the Wing's mission of "Global Reach, Global Power "The stars represent the fighter squadron directly supported by the unit.

Commanders.***56th Station Complement Squadron [20 May 1943-21 November 1945]***

Unknown

Unknown

⁴⁸⁷ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁴⁸⁸ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁴⁸⁹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁴⁹⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁴⁹¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

**56th Logistics Support Squadron [1 November 1991-30 September 1993
1 April 1994-27 September 2002]**

Maj Donald H. Campbell	ca. 1 November 1991
Maj Paul E. Bryant	ca. 24 July 1992
Capt James A. Hyde	August 1993-30 September 1993
Lt Col Jeffrey C. Davis	1 April 1994 ⁴⁹²
Lt Col Earlie O. Rose, Jr.	25 March 1995 ⁴⁹³
Maj Mark E. Booth	19 April 1996 ⁴⁹⁴
Maj Nancy A.P. Stinson	4 June 1998 ⁴⁹⁵
Maj Eugene E. Trizinsky	5 July 2000 ⁴⁹⁶
Maj Michael J. Costello	4 June 2002 ⁴⁹⁷ -27 September 2002

56th Maintenance Operations Squadron [27 September 2002-.]

Maj Michael J. Costello	27 September 2002 ⁴⁹⁸
Maj Mark L. Helleksen	30 June 2003 ⁴⁹⁹
Maj Tanya R. Kubinec	13 May 2004 ⁵⁰⁰
Maj Robert B. Copes	28 June 2005 ⁵⁰¹
Maj Kevin E. O'Connor	30 June 2006 ⁵⁰²
Capt William H. Reynolds	bef 28 August 2008 ⁵⁰³
Maj Scott B. Dubsy	28 August 2008 ⁵⁰⁴
Maj Christopher L. Chestnut	14 May 2010 ⁵⁰⁵
Maj James E. Schieser	23 July 2012 ⁵⁰⁶

⁴⁹² [58 MSS SO SO-G-69, 19 June 1992]

⁴⁹³ 56 FW SO SO-G-002, 21 March 1995

⁴⁹⁴ 56 LG SO SO-GK-05, 18 April 1996

⁴⁹⁵ 56 LSS SO SO-GK-3, 2 June 1998

⁴⁹⁶ 56 LSS SO SO-GK 7, 27 June 2000

⁴⁹⁷ 56 LSS SO SO-GK-02, 28 May 2002

⁴⁹⁸ 56 MOS SO SO-GK-04, 26 September 2002

⁴⁹⁹ 56 MOS 56 MOS-G-2003-03, 26 June 2003

⁵⁰⁰ 56 MSO SO 56 MOS-G-6, 11 May 2004

⁵⁰¹ 56 MOS SO 56 MOS-G2005-02, 31 May 2005

⁵⁰² 56 MOS SO 56 MOS-G-02, 13 June 2006

⁵⁰³ 56 MSS SO G-044, 26 August 2008

⁵⁰⁴ 56 MSS SO G-044, 26 August 2008

⁵⁰⁵ 56 MSG SO G-001, 6 May 2010

⁵⁰⁶ 56 FW so g-029, 11 July 2012

56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Lineage.

Activated on 3 July 1972 prior to being constituted 56th Organizational Maintenance Squadron on 7 July 1972.⁵⁰⁷
 Inactivated on 15 July 1974.⁵⁰⁸

Activated on 30 June 1975.⁵⁰⁹
 Redesignated 56th Aircraft Generation Squadron on 15 June 1977.
 Inactivated on 1 November 1991.

Redesignated 56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on 17 July 2002.
 Activated on 27 September 2002.⁵¹⁰



Honors.

Campaign Streamers.

Vietnam

Vietnam Ceasefire [1972-1973]

Decorations.

Presidential Unit Citation

Vietnam, [3 July] 1972-22 February 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device
 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁵¹¹
 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁵¹²
 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁵¹³
 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁵¹⁴
 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁵¹⁵

⁵⁰⁷ PACAF SO G-107, 3 July 1972

⁵⁰⁸ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁰⁹ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵¹⁰ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁵¹¹ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

⁵¹² DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

⁵¹³ DAF SO GB-275/1987

⁵¹⁴ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

⁵¹⁵ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁵¹⁶
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁵¹⁷
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁵¹⁸
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁵¹⁹
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁵²⁰
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁵²¹
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁵²²
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁵²³
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁵²⁴

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross With Palm, 3 July 1972-28 January 1973.

Assignments. 56th Special Operations Wing, 3 July 1972-15 July 1974. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975-1 November 1991. 56th Maintenance Group, 27 September 2002-.

Stations. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 3 July 1972-15 July 1974. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-1 November 1991. Luke AFB, Arizona, 27 September 2002-.

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 19 March 1979. Updated 30 January 2003.

Blazon. On a disc edged with a narrow yellow border, a background divided horizontally into a medium blue sky with a stylized White cloud formation issuing from sinister, above a green arced land area, overall issuing from base four arced vapor trails ascending bendwise, attached in base and dispersing in the top of the disc, each ending in a flight symbol, the colors from dexter to sinister yellow, white, blue and red.

Attached above the disc a white scroll edged yellow and inscribed "CAN DO" in blue letters. Attached below the disc a blank white scroll edged yellow.

⁵¹⁶ TAC SO GA-069/1991

⁵¹⁷ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁵¹⁸ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁵¹⁹ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁵²⁰ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁵²¹ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁵²² AETC SO G-025/2010

⁵²³ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁵²⁴ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Motto. Can Do.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The red cross represents strength within the medical arena; it also symbolizes the "blanket" of medical commitment provided by unit personnel to both flying and non-flying military members. The Caduceus, the symbolic staff of a herald, is at the point of the futuristic aircraft. This position signifies that the unit is ready to supply aeromedical support to aircrews, personnel and the environmental elements of space. The earth signifies the worldwide commitment of peacekeeping and the environmental protection of air, water and land.

Commanders.

56th Organizational Maintenance Squadron [3 July 1972-15 July 1974;

30 June 1975-15 June 1977]

Unknown	3 July 1972-November 1972
Lt Col Ray J. Lunnen, Jr.	ca. November 1972
Lt Col Wayne R. Bratcher	bef 31 March 1974
Maj Stanley D. Sebring	19 May 1974-15 July 1974. ⁵²⁵
Maj James L. Knoblauch	30 June 1975
Lt Col John M. Hagood	bef 31 March 1976
Lt Col Robert J. Larison	1 June 1977-15 June 1977.

56th Aircraft Generation Squadron [15 June 1977-1 November 1991]

Lt Col Robert J. Larison	15 June 1977
Maj Billy A. Barrett	28 June 1977
Lt Col Robert J. Larison	bef 30 September 1977
Lt Col Leroy W. Stutz	14 March 1980
Maj David F. Goodwin	15 July 1983 ⁵²⁶
Lt Col Brian L. Osborn	29 August 1985
Maj Donald J. Wetekam	2 July 1987 ⁵²⁷ (Lieutenant General)
Lt Col Clarence L. Campbell	3 August 1989 ⁵²⁸
Lt Col Mark A. Taylor	19 September 1990-1 November 1991.

⁵²⁵ 56 OMS SO G-001, 19 May 1974

⁵²⁶ 56 CSG SO G-24, 15 July 1983

⁵²⁷ 56 CSG SO G-56, 2 July 1987

⁵²⁸ 56 MSS SO G-036, 2 August 1989

56th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron [27 September 2002-.]

Lt Col Harry A. Truhn	27 September 2002 ⁵²⁹
Maj John C. Mateer, IV	30 May 2003 ⁵³⁰
Lt Col Walter J. Lindsley	24 June 2004 ⁵³¹
Lt Col Fredrick G. Plaumann	14 July 2006 ⁵³²
Maj Brian P. Shawaryn	11 July 2008
Lt Col Matthew G. Pollock	21 September 2008 ⁵³³
Maj (later, Lt Col) James D. Upchurch	23 August 2010 ⁵³⁴
Maj Jason M. Mitchell	27 June 2012-. ⁵³⁵



62d Aircraft Maintenance Unit Crew Chief's change a worn tire.

⁵²⁹ 56 AMXS SO 56 AMXS G-1, 27 September 2002

⁵³⁰ 56 AMXS SO 56 AMXS - G-4, 21 May 2003

⁵³¹ 56 AMXS SO 56 AMXS - G-1, 21 June 2004

⁵³² 56 AMXS SO 56 AMXS G-3, 30 May 2006

⁵³³ 56 AMXS SO G-048, 19 September 2008

⁵³⁴ 56 MSG SO G-037, 17 November 2010

⁵³⁵ 56 FW SO G-022, 2 July 2012

56th Component Maintenance Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 56th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron, and activated, on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁵³⁶

Redesignated 56th Avionics Maintenance Squadron on 1 January 1969.

Inactivated on 15 July 1974.⁵³⁷

Activated on 30 June 1975.⁵³⁸

Redesignated 56th Component Repair Squadron on 15 June 1977.

Inactivated on 1 November 1991.

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁵³⁹

Redesignated 56th Component Maintenance Squadron on 27 September 2002.⁵⁴⁰



Avionics Test Bench circa 2002

⁵³⁶ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵³⁷ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵³⁸ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵³⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁵⁴⁰ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 July 2002

Honors.**Campaign Streamers.****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁵⁴¹
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁵⁴²
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁵⁴³
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁵⁴⁴
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁵⁴⁵
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁵⁴⁶
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁵⁴⁷

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citation**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁵⁴⁸
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁵⁴⁹
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

1 December 1970-30 November 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁵⁵⁰
 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁵⁵¹
 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁵⁵²
 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁵⁵³

⁵⁴¹ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁵⁴² PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁵⁴³ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁵⁴⁴ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁵⁴⁵ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁵⁴⁶ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁵⁴⁷ PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁵⁴⁸ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁵⁴⁹ DAF SO GB-352/1971

⁵⁵⁰ DAF SO GB-667, 28 September 1972

⁵⁵¹ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁵⁵² DAF SO GB-600/1975

⁵⁵³ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁵⁵⁴
 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁵⁵⁵
 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁵⁵⁶
 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁵⁵⁷
 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁵⁵⁸
 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁵⁵⁹
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁵⁶⁰
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁵⁶¹
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁵⁶²
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁵⁶³
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁵⁶⁴
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁵⁶⁵
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁵⁶⁶
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁵⁶⁷
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁵⁶⁸
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁵⁶⁹

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross With Palm, 8 April [1967]-28 January 1973

⁵⁵⁴ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

⁵⁵⁵ DAF SO GB-275/1987

⁵⁵⁶ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

⁵⁵⁷ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

⁵⁵⁸ TAC SO GA-069/1991

⁵⁵⁹ AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁵⁶⁰ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁵⁶¹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁵⁶² AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁵⁶³ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁵⁶⁴ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁵⁶⁵ AETC SO G-054/2008 [Labeled as 56th Consolidated Maintenance Squadron]

⁵⁶⁶ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁵⁶⁷ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁵⁶⁸ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁵⁶⁹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Assignments. Pacific Air Forces, 16 March 1967. 56th Air Commando (later, 56th Special Operations) Wing 8 April 1967⁵⁷⁰-15 July 1974. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975-1 November 1991. 56th Logistics (later, 56th Maintenance) Group, 1 April 1994-⁵⁷¹

Stations. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁵⁷²-15 July 1974. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-1 November 1991. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-⁵⁷³

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 13 July 1978; modified on 5 May 2003.

Blazon. On a disc Celeste, beneath five mullets enarched in chief Or, a large mullet Azure, thereon three flight symbols ascending palewise in chevron, the lower two emitting contrails embowed to dexter and sinister Argent, the top center one emitting a contrail flared out between the lower two Gules, all within a narrow border Black.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "56TH COMPONENT MAINTENANCE SQ" in Black letters

Motto. None.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The large star is representative of the insignia appearing on all Air Force aircraft. The three flight symbols allude to the space continuum, Air Force operations and the aggressiveness of component maintenance. The five stars denote flight operations, personnel, offices, shops and support structure.

⁵⁷⁰ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵⁷¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁵⁷² PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵⁷³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron*****[8 April 1967-1 January 1969]**

Capt Robert N. Hancock	8 April 1967
Lt Col George A. Zukowski	by 31 July 1967
Capt David E. Hall	bef 10 December 1967
Capt Joseph S. Sansone	by 31 March 1968
Capt Billy C. McNair	25 April 1968
Maj Charles E. McCartney, Jr.	16 March 1968-1 January 1969.

56th Avionics Maintenance Squadron* [1 January 1969-15 July 1974*30 June 1975-15 June 1977]**

Maj Charles E. McCartney, Jr.	1 January 1969
Capt Peter J. Larson	by May 1969
Capt Glenn A. Perkins	ca. July 1969
Capt Peter J. Larson	November 1969
Lt Col Clifford D. Cork	January 1970
Maj Philip M. Middleton	28 September 1970
Lt Col Lewis C. Mayo, Jr.	6 November 1970
Lt Col John W. Douglas	by 4 November 1971
Capt William A. Carter	August 1972
Lt Col Joseph B. Kata	10 September 1972
Capt John A. Long	10 September 1973
Maj Robert L. Proteau	12 October 1973
Capt Keith S. Simpson	11 June 1974-15 July 1974.
Lt Col Edgar L. Henley	30 June 1975
Lt Col William M. Stewart	1 September 1975
Lt Col Grey L. Carter	22 May 1977-15 June 1977.

56th Component Repair Squadron* [15 June 1977-1 November 1991;*1 April 1994-27 September 2002]**

Lt Col Grey L. Carter	15 June 1977
Lt Col Joseph E. Jefferson	14 February 1979
Lt Col David R. Olds	2 May 1980
Maj Robert E. Alfred, Jr.	10 July 1981
Lt Col James W. Miles	9 July 1982 ⁵⁷⁴
Lt Col Samuel M. O. Prince	27 January 1983 ⁵⁷⁵
Lt Col John G. Sellers	11 July 1985

⁵⁷⁴ 56 CSG SO G-9, 9 July 1982⁵⁷⁵ 56 CSG SO G-3, 27 January 1983

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col Clarence L. Campbell, Jr.	29 May 1987
Maj Lisa B. Long	21 July 1989 ⁵⁷⁶
Unknown	January 1991-1 November 1991.
Lt Col Martha J. M. Kelley	1 April 1994 ⁵⁷⁷
Maj (later, Lt Col) Deborah R. Sanders	3 June 1994 ⁵⁷⁸
Maj Brett D. Haswell	19 September 1996 ⁵⁷⁹
Lt Col Joseph A. Swillum	16 September 1998 ⁵⁸⁰
Maj Richard S. Nelson	6 July 2000 ⁵⁸¹
Maj Douglas C. Cato	5 June 2001 ⁵⁸² -27 September 2002.

56th Component Maintenance Squadron [27 September 2002-.]

Lt Col Barry G. Miller	27 September 2002 ⁵⁸³
Maj Bryan L. Harris	23 July 2004 ⁵⁸⁴
Lt Col James R. Baumgardner	9 June 2006 ⁵⁸⁵
Maj Brian P. Shawaryn	31 March 2008 ⁵⁸⁶
Maj (later, Lt Col) Robert M. Brinker	11 July 2008 ⁵⁸⁷
Maj (later, Lt Col) James A. Blackman	21 June 2010-. ⁵⁸⁸

⁵⁷⁶ 56 MSS SO G-003, 17 July 1989

⁵⁷⁷ [58 MSS SO SO-G-72, 24 June 1992]

⁵⁷⁸ 56 CRS SO GM-01, 3 June 1994

⁵⁷⁹ 56 CRS SO GM-02, 18 September 1996

⁵⁸⁰ 56 CRS SO GM-01, 10 August 1998

⁵⁸¹ 56 CRS SO GM-04, 28 June 2000

⁵⁸² 56 CRS SO GM-01, 25 May 2001

⁵⁸³ 56 CMS SO 56 CRS G-4, 26 September 2002

⁵⁸⁴ 56 CMS SO 56 CMS G-1, 23 July 2004

⁵⁸⁵ 56 CMS SO 56 CMS GO 06-04, 9 June 2006

⁵⁸⁶ 56 CMS SO GS 08-02, 31 March 2008

⁵⁸⁷ 56 CMS SO GS 08-02, 31 March 2008

⁵⁸⁸ 56 MSG SO G-014, 14 June 2010

56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Maintenance Squadron,
56th Maintenance and Supply Group,
on 28 July 1947.

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (22 October 1984) with the
56th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance
Squadron.

Constituted on 17 June 1957.

Activated on 8 September 1957.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on
1 January 1964.⁵⁸⁹



Activated on 15 July 1974.⁵⁹⁰

Inactivated on 30 June 1975.

Consolidated (22 October 1984) with the 56th Maintenance Squadron, Fighter, Jet.

Constituted on 14 June 1948.

Activated 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Maintenance Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated 6 February 1952.

Redesignated 56th Field Maintenance Squadron, and activated, on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁵⁹¹

Inactivated on 15 July 1974.⁵⁹²

Activated on 30 June 1975.⁵⁹³

Redesignated 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron on 15 June 1977.

Redesignated 56th Maintenance Squadron on 1 November 1991.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁵⁹⁴

Redesignated 56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁵⁹⁵

⁵⁸⁹ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁵⁹⁰ PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁹¹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁵⁹² PACAF SO GA-20, 17 June 1974

⁵⁹³ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁵⁹⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

Honors.**Campaign Streamers.****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁵⁹⁶
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁵⁹⁷
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁵⁹⁸
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁵⁹⁹
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁶⁰⁰
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁶⁰¹
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁶⁰²

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citation**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁶⁰³
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁶⁰⁴
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973



56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Airmen sort 20mm Practice Ammunition.

⁵⁹⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁵⁹⁶ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁵⁹⁷ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁵⁹⁸ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁵⁹⁹ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁶⁰⁰ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁶⁰¹ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁶⁰² PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁶⁰³ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁶⁰⁴ DAF SO GB-352/1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:

- 1 December 1970-30 November 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁰⁵
- 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁰⁶
- 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁰⁷
- 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁶⁰⁸
- 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁶⁰⁹
- 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁶¹⁰
- 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁶¹¹
- 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁶¹²
- 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁶¹³
- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁶¹⁴
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁶¹⁵
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁶¹⁶
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁶¹⁷
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁶¹⁸
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁶¹⁹
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁶²⁰
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁶²¹
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁶²²
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁶²³
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁶²⁴

⁶⁰⁵ DAF SO GB-667, 28 September 1972

⁶⁰⁶ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁶⁰⁷ DAF SO GB-600/1975

⁶⁰⁸ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

⁶⁰⁹ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

⁶¹⁰ DAF SO GB-275/1987

⁶¹¹ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

⁶¹² TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

⁶¹³ TAC SO GA-069/1991

⁶¹⁴ AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁶¹⁵ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁶¹⁶ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁶¹⁷ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁶¹⁸ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁶¹⁹ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁶²⁰ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁶²¹ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁶²² AETC SO G-025/2010

⁶²³ AETC SO G-086/2011

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross With Palm, 8 April 1967-28 January 1973.

Assignments. 56th Maintenance and Supply Group 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Maintenance and Supply Group 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Air Commando (later, 56th Special Operations) Wing 8 April 1967⁶²⁵-30 June 1975. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975-1 November 1991. 56th Logistics Group, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994.⁶²⁶ 56th Logistics (later, 56th Maintenance) Group, 1 April 1994-⁶²⁷

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. O'Hare International Airport, Illinois, 8 September 1957; K. I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 October 1959-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁶²⁸-30 June 1975. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-⁶²⁹

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 27 October 1977.

Blazon. On a blue disc edged with a narrow yellow border, three yellow triangles with points up, centered overall a blue triangle with point to base. Attached below the disc a blank yellow scroll.

Motto. None.

Significance. The large triangle on the ultramarine blue background symbolizes the integrity of the unit, working together towards a common goal. The three smaller Air Force yellow triangles symbolize the three major functional areas of the squadron: AGE, Maintenance, and Munitions. The ultramarine blue inverted triangle reminds each leader that he/she is charged to serve the unit's Airmen, whether military or civilian. The Air Force yellow border binds the unit with a strong commitment to quality, teamwork, and dedication to the mission.

⁶²⁴ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁶²⁵ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁶²⁶ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁶²⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁶²⁸ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁶²⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***Maintenance Squadron, 56th Maintenance and Supply Group*****[15 August 1947-1 August 1948]**

Unknown

Unknown

56th Maintenance Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown

Unknown

56th Maintenance Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952]

Unknown

Unknown

56th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron**[8 September 1957-1 January 1964]**

Unknown

Unknown

Maj (later, Lt Col) Douglas W. Mauldin

bef 31 March 1963

Maj H.L. Bogdanski

26 April 1963

2d Lt Frederick J. Heyer

1 July 1963

Maj Paul A. Mickelsen

3 July 1963

56th Field Maintenance Squadron [8 April 1967-15 July 1974]

Maj Winton W. Wilson

8 April 1967⁶³⁰

Capt Robert N. Hancock

bef 31 July 1967

Maj Albert S. Mercer

November 1967

Lt Col Richard J. Watson

bef 18 December 1968

Unknown

Unknown

Lt Col Harry E. Lyndes, Jr.

bef 30 June 1970

Lt Col John J. Byrne

bef 30 September 1970

Lt Col William N. Foster

bef 31 December 1970

Lt Col Joseph W. Norrbohm

ca. 18 November 1971

Lt Col Robert B. Anderson

ca. May 1972

Lt Col William R. Southerland

bef 31 March 1973

Capt James F. Brady

bef 10 September 1973

Maj Ronald W. Janssen

10 September 1973

Capt Robert L. Walters

18 May 1974⁶³¹

Maj Ronald W. Janssen

20 June 1974 – 15 July 1974.⁶³²⁶³⁰ 56 FMS SO 1, 8 April 1967⁶³¹ 56 FMS SO G-1, 13 May 1974⁶³² 56 FMS SO G-3, 20 June 1974

56th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron [15 July 1974-30 June 1975].

Lt Col Wayne R. Bratcher	15 July 1974
Lt Col William H. Hester	13 February 1975
Col William H. Lewis	25 March 1975-30 June 1975

56th Field Maintenance Squadron [30 June 1975-15 June 1977]

Lt Col Richard J. Pouloit	30 June 1975
Lt Col Robert G. Carter	1 March 1977-15 June 1977 ⁶³³

56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron [15 June 1977-1 November 1991]

Lt Col Robert G. Carter	15 June 1977
Lt Col Billy A. Barrett	31 December 1977
Lt Col Richard M. Higbie	1 June 1979 ⁶³⁴
Maj Michael O. Mullikin	10 July 1981
Maj John T. Stephens	5 May 1983 ⁶³⁵
Lt Col Ferris O. Garrett, Jr.	5 August 1983 ⁶³⁶
Lt Col James W. Geith	11 November 1983
Maj Devon L. Overmeyer, Jr.	5 December 1985
Maj Patrick M. Thayer	2 June 1986
Maj Donald J. Wetekam	10 July 1986 ⁶³⁷ (Lieutenant General)
Maj Patrick M. Thayer	20 January 1987
Lt Col Peter R. Mooy	27 June 1988 ⁶³⁸
Maj Donald H. Campbell	13 June 1990-1 November 1991. ⁶³⁹

56th Maintenance Squadron [1 November 1991-4 January 1994]

Lt Col Mark A. Taylor	1 November 1991-4 January 1994. ⁶⁴⁰
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⁶³³ 56 CSG SO G-11, 11 March 1977

⁶³⁴ 56 TFW SO G-25, 1 June 1979

⁶³⁵ 56 CSG SO G-15, 5 May 1983

⁶³⁶ 56 CSG SO G-30, 5 August 1983

⁶³⁷ 56 CSG SO G-48, 10 July 1986

⁶³⁸ 56 CSG SO G-61, 27 June 1988

⁶³⁹ 56 MSS SO G-009, 11 June 1990

⁶⁴⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron [1 April 1994-.

Maj Danny D. Brandt	1 April 1994 ⁶⁴¹
Maj Roy G. Lanier III	1 July 1994 ⁶⁴²
Lt Col Danny R. Tipton	12 September 1996 ⁶⁴³
Lt Col Dewey A. Holmes	18 September 1998 ⁶⁴⁴
Lt Col Lorraine M. Souza	6 October 1999 ⁶⁴⁵
Lt Col James L. Broome III	20 November 2001 ⁶⁴⁶
Maj John C. Kubinec	1 April 2003 ⁶⁴⁷
Lt Col Timothy S. Molnar	29 June 2005 ⁶⁴⁸
Lt Co Benjamin L. Alley	6 July 2007 ⁶⁴⁹
Lt Col Paul W. Sturges	30 June 2008 ⁶⁵⁰
Maj Dominic P. Clementz	6 July 2010 ⁶⁵¹
Maj Jeffrey E. Campbell	22 June 2012 ⁶⁵²



56th Equipment Maintenance Squadron's Sheet Metal Shop

⁶⁴¹ [58 MSS SO SO-G-71, 24 June 1992]
⁶⁴² 56 EMS SO SO-GN-0002, 20 June 1994
⁶⁴³ 56 EMS SO SO-GN-0001, 11 September 1996
⁶⁴⁴ 56 EMS SO SO-GN-0001, 26 August 1998
⁶⁴⁵ 56 EMS SO SO-GN-0001, 6 October 1999
⁶⁴⁶ 56 EMS SO SO-GM-0001, 16 November 2001
⁶⁴⁷ 56 EMS SO SO-GN-0006, 1 April 2003
⁶⁴⁸ 56 EMS SO 56 EMS GS-04-02, 29 June 2005
⁶⁴⁹ 56 MXG SO SO-GS-001, 7 July 2007
⁶⁵⁰ 56 MSG SO G-027, 18 August 2008
⁶⁵¹ 56 MSG SO G-021, 6 July 2010
⁶⁵² 56 FW SO G-018, 26 June 2012

756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on 17 July 2002.

Activated on 27 September 2002.⁶⁵³

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁶⁵⁴

1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁶⁵⁵

1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁶⁵⁶

1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁶⁵⁷

1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁶⁵⁸

1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁶⁵⁹

1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁶⁶⁰

1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁶⁶¹



Assignments. 56th Maintenance Group, 27 September 2002-.⁶⁶²

Stations. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 27 September 2002-.⁶⁶³



309th Aircraft Maintenance Unit members look for Foreign Object Damage (FOD) items.

⁶⁵³ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁶⁵⁴ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁶⁵⁵ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁶⁵⁶ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁶⁵⁷ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁶⁵⁸ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁶⁵⁹ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁶⁶⁰ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁶⁶¹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁶⁶² AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁶⁶³ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 20 May 2003

Blazon. On a disc per bend Sable and Azure, the sinister chief charged with a radiant rayonne' of the second, issuant from sinister chief three lightning flashes converging bendwise sinister Or, overall and issuing from sinister flank the head of a Jaguar roaring Tenne' detailed, shaded and spotted of the first, teeth and muzzle Argent, all within a narrow border Black.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "JAGUARS" in Black letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "756TH AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQ" in Black letters.

Motto. Jaguars.

Significance. Ultramarine Blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The background indicates the squadron's day and night capabilities. The lightning flashes are symbolic of the maintenance units, which provide sortie-capable aircraft in the required numbers - on time, safely and in proper configuration to support the parent wings mission. The Jaguar is the symbol of the unit, which possesses the aggressive and powerful nature of the great cat.

Commanders.

756th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron [27 September 2002-.]

Lt Col Douglas C. Cato, Jr.	27 September 2002 ⁶⁶⁴
Maj Mark L. Helleksen	14 May 2004 ⁶⁶⁵
Maj Kevin J. Traw	19 May 2006 ⁶⁶⁶
Lt Col Benjamin L. Alley	1 July 2008 ⁶⁶⁷
Maj (later, Lt Col) Timothy W. Trimmell	28 June 2010 ⁶⁶⁸
Lt Col James Upchurch	28 June 2012 ⁶⁶⁹

⁶⁶⁴ 756 AMXS SO 756 AMXS-1, 27 September 2002

⁶⁶⁵ 756 AMXS SO 756 AMXS-G04-1, 23 April 2004

⁶⁶⁶ 756 AMXS SO 756 AMXS-G06-1, 28 April 2006

⁶⁶⁷ 756 AMXS SO 756 AMXS-G08-2, 1 July 2008

⁶⁶⁸ 56 MSG SO G-018, 25 June 2010

⁶⁶⁹ 56 MSG SO G-019, 26 June 2012

56th Mission Support Group



Col Nathan C. Mooney II

Lineage.

Established as 56th Airdrome Group on 28 July 1947.

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (1 October 1984) with the 56th Air Base Group, which was established on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Activated on 28 December 1960.⁶⁷⁰

Organized on 1 February 1961.

Redesignated 56th Combat Support Group on 1 April 1963.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.⁶⁷¹

Activated on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁶⁷²

Redesignated 56th Support Group on 1 November 1991.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁶⁷³

⁶⁷⁰ AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960

⁶⁷¹ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁶⁷² PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁶⁷³ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁶⁷⁴

Redesignated 56th Mission Support Group on 27 September 2002.⁶⁷⁵

Honors.

Campaign Streamers.

Vietnam

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁶⁷⁶

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]

Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]

Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]

Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁶⁷⁷

Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]

Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁶⁷⁸

Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁶⁷⁹

Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁶⁸⁰

Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁶⁸¹

Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁶⁸²

Decorations.

Presidential Unit Citations

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁶⁸³

Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁶⁸⁴

Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973

⁶⁷⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁶⁷⁵ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁶⁷⁶ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁶⁷⁷ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁶⁷⁸ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁶⁷⁹ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁶⁸⁰ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁶⁸¹ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁶⁸² PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁶⁸³ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁶⁸⁴ DAF SO GB-352/1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

- 1 June 1970-31 May 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁸⁵
- 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁸⁶
- 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁸⁷
- 24 January 1975-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device⁶⁸⁸
- 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁶⁸⁹
- 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁶⁹⁰
- 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁶⁹¹
- 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁶⁹²
- 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁶⁹³
- 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁶⁹⁴
- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁶⁹⁵
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁶⁹⁶
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁶⁹⁷
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁶⁹⁸
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁶⁹⁹
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁷⁰⁰
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁷⁰¹
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁷⁰²
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁷⁰³

-
- ⁶⁸⁵ DAF SO GB-703, 9 November 1971
 - ⁶⁸⁶ DAF SO GB-553/1973
 - ⁶⁸⁷ DAF SO GB-600/1975
 - ⁶⁸⁸ USAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976
 - ⁶⁸⁹ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979
 - ⁶⁹⁰ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983
 - ⁶⁹¹ DAF SO GB-275/1987
 - ⁶⁹² TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989
 - ⁶⁹³ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990
 - ⁶⁹⁴ TAC SO GA-069/1991
 - ⁶⁹⁵ AETC SO GA-18/1996
 - ⁶⁹⁶ AETC SO GA-12/1998
 - ⁶⁹⁷ AETC SO GA-9/2000
 - ⁶⁹⁸ AETC SO GA-55/2004
 - ⁶⁹⁹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006
 - ⁷⁰⁰ AETC SO GA-045/2007
 - ⁷⁰¹ AETC SO G-054/2008
 - ⁷⁰² AETC SO G-071/2009

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁷⁰⁴1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁷⁰⁵***Special Honors.***

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, 8 April 1967-28 January 1973

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Civil Engineer Squadron	1 April 1994. ⁷⁰⁶
56th Communications Squadron	1 April 1994 ⁷⁰⁷
56th Contracting Squadron	1 April 1994 ⁷⁰⁸
56th Logistics Readiness Squadron	1 August 2002 ⁷⁰⁹
56th Services Squadron	
later, Force Support Squadron	1 April 1994 ⁷¹⁰
56th Security Police Squadron	
later, 56th Security Forces Squadron	1 April 1994. ⁷¹¹
Previously Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
Squadron "A," 56th Airdrome Group	15 August 1947-1 August 1948.
56th Communications Squadron	1 August 1948-6 February 1952;
	1 October 1991-4 January 1994. ⁷¹²

⁷⁰³ AETC SO G-025/2010⁷⁰⁴ AETC SO G-086/2011⁷⁰⁵ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012⁷⁰⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994⁷⁰⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994⁷⁰⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994⁷⁰⁹ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002⁷¹⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-09-9, 26 February 2009⁷¹¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994⁷¹² ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group 56th Air Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet later, 56th Air Police Squadron later, 56th Security Police Squadron	15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 1 August 1948-6 February 1952; 15 February 1963-1 January 1964; 8 April 1967-4 January 1994. ⁷¹³
Squadron "C," 56th Airdrome Group 56th Installations Squadron, Fighter, Jet later, 56th Installations Squadron, later, 56th Civil Engineering Squadron, later, 56th Civil Engineer Squadron	15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 1 August 1948-6 February 1952; 1 February 1961 ⁷¹⁴ -1 January 1964; 8 April 1967-4 January 1994. ⁷¹⁵
Squadron "D," 56th Airdrome Group 56th Food Service Squadron, Fighter, Jet later 56th Food Service Squadron 56th Services Squadron later, 56th Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron	15 August 1947-1 August 1948 1 August 1948-6 February 1952 8 April 1967 ⁷¹⁶ -28 February 1975; 30 June 1975-4 January 1994 ⁷¹⁷
Squadron "E," 56th Airdrome Group 56th Motor Vehicle Squadron, Fighter, Jet later, 56th Motor Vehicle Squadron 56th Transportation Squadron	15 August 1947-1 August 1948 1 August 1948-6 February 1952 1 February 1961-1 April 1963 8 April 1967 ⁷¹⁸ -30 June 1975
Squadron "F," 56th Airdrome Group 4th Finance Disbursing Unit, Fighter, Jet 56th Air Base Squadron	March 1948-Unknown 1 August 1948-1 November 1949 1 February 1961 ⁷¹⁹ -1 January 1964.

⁷¹³ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷¹⁴ ADC GO #192, 28 December 1960

⁷¹⁵ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷¹⁶ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁷¹⁷ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷¹⁸ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁷¹⁹ ADC GO #192, 28 December 1960

Previously Assigned Units (Continued)	Time Frame Assigned
56th Base Service Squadron, Fighter, Jet, later, 56th Mission Support Squadron	1 August 1948-13 March 1950; 15 August 1988-4 January 1994 ⁷²⁰ ; 1 April 1994 ⁷²¹ -26 February 2009.
56th Combat Support Squadron (Avon Park, Florida) later, 56th Support Squadron (Avon Park, Florida)	30 June 1975-4 January 1994. ⁷²²
56th Comptroller Squadron	[15 August 1988]-1 November 1991.
56th Headquarters Squadron	1 February 1961-Unknown
56th Morale, Welfare and Recreation Squadron	1 October 1991-4 September 1992. ⁷²³
56th Supply Squadron	1 February 1961-1 April 1963.
56th Support Squadron	1 April 1994-1 October 1994 ⁷²⁴
56th Transportation Squadron	1 February 1961-
32d Crash-Rescue Boat Flight	attached 14 July 1951-Unknown ⁷²⁵

Assignments. 56th Fighter Wing on 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Fighter (later, 56th Fighter-Interceptor) Wing on 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Fighter Wing (Air Defense), 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. 56th Air Commando (later, 56th Special Operations,) Wing, 8 April 1967-Unknown. Tactical Air Command, Unknown-30 June 1975. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training, 56th Fighter) Wing 30 June 1975-4 January 1994.⁷²⁶ 56th Fighter Wing 1 April 1994-.⁷²⁷

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-1 August 1948; 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967-30 June 1975; MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975⁷²⁸-4 January 1994.⁷²⁹ Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁷³⁰

⁷²⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷²¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-09-9, 26 February 2009

⁷²² TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷²³ TAC SO GB-001, 1 October 1991; ACC SO GB-124, 21 August 1992

⁷²⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-49, 30 June 1994

⁷²⁵ 56 FIW GO 22, 14 July 1951

⁷²⁶ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷²⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁷²⁸ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁷²⁹ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
Emblem approved 19 April 1967. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Blazon. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.].

Motto. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
Cave Tonitrum (Beware of the Thunderbolt). [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Significance. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.]
The emblem is symbolic of the Wing. The heraldic chevron, represents support and signifies the Wing's support of our nation's quest for peace. The blue of the chevron represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The lightning bolt symbolizes speed and aggressiveness with which the unit performs. The color of the shield represents the Air Corps and commemorates the service of the 56th Fighter Group, whose honors and history the Wing inherits. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of golden yellow and ultramarine blue. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Commanders.

56th Airdrome Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]

Maj James R. Woods	ca. 15 August 1947	
Lt Col Irwin H. Dregne	bef 30 September 1947	[Ace]
Lt Col David T. McKnight	bef 30 June 1948-1 August 1948	

56th Air Base Group [1 August 1948-6 February 1952; 1 February 1961-1 April 1963]

Lt Col David T. McKnight	1 August 1948
Lt Col Burton E. McKenzie	bef 30 June 1949
Lt Col Robert N. Lacy	bef 31 December 1949
Maj Roy L. Bowlin	bef 1 January 1950
Lt Col William W. Ingehut	bef 1 September 1950
Lt Col George J. Ola	21 December 1950
Col Graeme S. Bond	bef 31 March 1951
Col Blake C. Miller	27 August 1951-Unknown
Unknown	1 February 1961
Col Daniel P. McLean	bef 28 March 1963

⁷³⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

**56th Combat Support Group [1 April 1963-1 January 1964;
8 April 1967-1 November 1991**

Col Daniel P. McLean	1 April 1963 - Unknown
Col Frank A. Sheehan	8 April 1967 ⁷³¹
Lt Col Lewis C. Hughes	20 May 1967 ⁷³²
Col Benjamin F. De Haan	2 July 1967 ⁷³³
Col Thomas R. Owens	bef 18 December 1968
Col Thomas B. Carter	13 June 1969
Col Thomas L. Carroll	1 June 1970
Col James D. Pearson	bef 30 September 1971
Lt Col William E. Flanigin	bef 18 July 1972
Col Edward H. Aune	18 July 1972
Col John R. Boyd	bef 31 December 1972
Col John L. Webb	1 April 1973
Col Robert G. Rogers	1 April 1974
Col Howard T. Nuckels	15 March 1975
Col David G. Harston	bef 25 August 1975
Col William E. Adams	25 August 1975
Unknown	Unknown
Col George E. Wehling	1 March 1979
Col Milton A. Steadman	27 February 1981
Col Edward A. Zompa	11 May 1984 ⁷³⁴
Col David L. Wagner	14 November 1984
Col Jack P. Cross	17 June 1987
Col Robert J. Smith	18 April 1988 ⁷³⁵
Col Jack P. Cross	bef 7 July 1988
Col Robert J. Smith	7 July 1988 ⁷³⁶
Col George G. Giddens	25 July 1989 ⁷³⁷
Col Stig Egede Nissen	August 1991-1 November 1991.

⁷³¹ 56 CSG SO G-05, 8 April 1967

⁷³² 56 CSG SO G-07, 20 May 1967

⁷³³ 56 CSG SO G-10, 2 July 1967

⁷³⁴ 9 AF SO G-13, 9 May 1984

⁷³⁵ 56 CSG SO G-48, 19 April 1988

⁷³⁶ 56 CSG SO G-63, 8 July 1988

⁷³⁷ 56 MSS SO G-034, 24 July 1989

**56th Support Group [1 November 1991-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-27 September 2002]**

Col Stig Egede Nissen	1 November 1991
Col Charles T. Ohlinger III	August 1992
Col Larry A. Timmerman	18 August 1993-4 January 1994
Col Samuel E Young, Jr.	1 April 1994 ⁷³⁸
Col Elizabeth A. Harrell	17 October 1994 ⁷³⁹ (Major General)
Vacant	13 June 1995
Col Rodney E. Gibson	9 August 1995 ⁷⁴⁰
Lt Col (later, Col) Norman L. Watson	7 August 1996 ⁷⁴¹
Lt Col (later, Col) Michael Hazen	15 June 1998 ⁷⁴²
Col Robert L. Worley, Jr.	18 May 2000 ⁷⁴³ -27 September 2002.

56th Mission Support Group [27 September 2002-.]

Col Michael J. Maloney	27 September 2002 ⁷⁴⁴
Col Keith E. Smith	7 June 2004 ⁷⁴⁵
Col Ronald J. Mozzillo	10 July 2006 ⁷⁴⁶
Col Andre K. Curry	2 May 2008 ⁷⁴⁷
Col Philippe R. Darcy	18 June 2010 ⁷⁴⁸
Col Nathan C. Mooney II	9 July 2012-. ⁷⁴⁹

⁷³⁸ [832 MSS SO SO-G-8, 27 December 1990 and 58 MSS SO SO-G-1, 1 October 1991]

⁷³⁹ 56 FW SO SO-GR-001, 21 October 1994

⁷⁴⁰ 56 FW SO SO-GR-004, 24 July 1995

⁷⁴¹ 56 FW SO SO-GR-001, 31 July 1996

⁷⁴² 56 FS SO SO-GR-001, 28 May 1998

⁷⁴³ 56 FW SO SO-GR-003, 17 May 2000

⁷⁴⁴ 56 MSG SO MSG G-2, 24 September 2002

⁷⁴⁵ 56 MSS SO 56 MSS G-2 2004, 3 June 2004

⁷⁴⁶ 56 MSG SO MSG-06-05, 30 June 2006

⁷⁴⁷ 56 MSS SO G-015, 2 May 2008

⁷⁴⁸ 56 MSG SO G-011, 9 June 2010

⁷⁴⁹ 56 FW SO G-021, 9 July 2012

56th Civil Engineer Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Squadron "C," 56th Airdrome Group on 28 July 1947.

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (3 October 1984) with 56th Installations Squadron, Fighter, Jet, which was constituted on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Installations Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated 6 February 1952.



Redesignated 56th Civil Engineering Squadron, and activated, on 28 December 1960.⁷⁵⁰

Organized on 1 February 1961.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.⁷⁵¹

Activated on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁷⁵²

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁷⁵³

Redesignated 56th Civil Engineer Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated 1 April 1994.⁷⁵⁴



Fire Department practice putting out an aircraft fire.

⁷⁵⁰ AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960

⁷⁵¹ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁷⁵² PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁷⁵³ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷⁵⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Honors.**Campaign Streamers.****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁷⁵⁵
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁷⁵⁶
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citations**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁷⁵⁷
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁷⁵⁸
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 June 1970-31 May 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁷⁵⁹
 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁷⁶⁰
 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁷⁶¹
 24 January-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device⁷⁶²
 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁷⁶³

⁷⁵⁵ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁷⁵⁶ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁷⁵⁷ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁷⁵⁸ DAF SO GB-352/1971

⁷⁵⁹ DAF SO GB-703, 9 November 1971

⁷⁶⁰ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁷⁶¹ DAF SO GB-600/1975

⁷⁶² USAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976

⁷⁶³ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

- 1 October 1979-30 September 1980⁷⁶⁴
- 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁷⁶⁵
- 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁷⁶⁶
- 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁷⁶⁷
- 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁷⁶⁸
- 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁷⁶⁹
- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁷⁷⁰
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁷⁷¹
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁷⁷²
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁷⁷³
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁷⁷⁴
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁷⁷⁵
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁷⁷⁶
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁷⁷⁷
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁷⁷⁸
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁷⁷⁹
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁷⁸⁰

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, 8 April 1967-28 January 1973

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- ⁷⁶⁴ DAF SO GB-122/1982
 - ⁷⁶⁵ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983
 - ⁷⁶⁶ DAF SO GB-275/1987
 - ⁷⁶⁷ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989
 - ⁷⁶⁸ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990
 - ⁷⁶⁹ TAC SO GA-069/1991
 - ⁷⁷⁰ AETC SO GA-18/1996
 - ⁷⁷¹ AETC SO GA-12/1998
 - ⁷⁷² AETC SO GA-9/2000
 - ⁷⁷³ AETC SO GA-55/2004
 - ⁷⁷⁴ AETC SO GA-0052/2006
 - ⁷⁷⁵ AETC SO GA-045/2007
 - ⁷⁷⁶ AETC SO G-054/2008
 - ⁷⁷⁷ AETC SO G-071/2009
 - ⁷⁷⁸ AETC SO G-025/2010
 - ⁷⁷⁹ AETC SO G-086/2011
 - ⁷⁸⁰ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Assignments. 56th Airdrome Group, 15 August 1947-31 July 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Air Base (later, 56th Combat Support) Group, 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group, 8 April 1967-4 January 1994.⁷⁸¹ 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group on 1 April 1994-.⁷⁸²

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁷⁸³-30 June 1975; MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994.⁷⁸⁴ Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁷⁸⁵

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 30 October 2003

Blazon. On a disc per bend Or and Azure, emerging in front of a keystone outlined Tenné, voided of the field, an armed knight in prospect Proper garnished Sable, plumed Gules, on sinister arm a shield blazoned: “Tenné a chevron Azure, edged Or, thereon a lightning flash chevron-wise of the last, all within a narrow border Blue.

Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed “DRAGONSLAYERS” in Blue letters.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQ" in Blue letters.

Motto. Dragonslayers.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The knight with sword down represents the support provided by the Squadron to its parent wing by preparing it for battle. The shield is reminiscent of the coat of arms of the parent wing and reflects the unit’s contribution to a worldwide defense deployment capability.

⁷⁸¹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷⁸² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁷⁸³ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁷⁸⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁷⁸⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***Squadron "C," 56th Airdrome Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]***

Unknown	15 August 1947-1 August 1948
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56th Installations Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown	1 August 1948-20 January 1950
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56th Installations Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952]

Unknown	20 January 1950
Lt Col Richard J. Coffee	bef 26 March 1951
Capt Tom E. LeRetailley	August 1951

***56th Civil Engineering Squadron [1 February 1961-1 January 1964;
8 April 1967-4 January 1994]***

Lt Col D.C. Oldershaw	1 February 1961
Capt Wayne V. Jorgensen	July 1961
Maj James F. Klentzman	4 December 1961
Lt Col H.W. Pollock	bef 31 March 1962- aft 30 September 1963
Unknown	1 October 1963-1 January 1964.

Maj Robert K. Jones	8 April 1967
Lt Col Sydney E. Key	26 April 1967 ⁷⁸⁶
Maj Edmund H. Keranen	bef 20 November 1967
Lt Col Sydney E. Key	bef 6 February 1968
Lt Col John G. Rice	bef 31 March 1968
Maj Joe G. Winslow	bef 17 November 1968
Lt Col George R. Grube	bef 31 March 1969
Lt Col Ray C. Rawlston	bef 31 December 1969
Lt Col Harry H. Magazu	bef 30 June 1970
Lt Col John P. Turner	bef 30 September 1970
Maj Paul M. Richter	bef 30 September 1971
Lt Col Aaron A. Powers, Jr.	bef 30 June 1972
Maj Milton D. Rindahl	bef 31 March 1973
Lt Col Terrance E. Hobbs	13 July 1973
Lt Col Ernest E. Walkup	15 July 1974
Lt Col Donald L. Spurrier	bef 30 June 1975
Lt Col Vincent E. DelVecchio	30 June 1975
Lt Col David P. Gibbs	24 June 1977
Col Walter F. Tatum, Jr.	2 October 1978

⁷⁸⁶ 56 CES SO 11, 1967

Commanders. (Continued)

Col Earle R. Cole	11 July 1983 ⁷⁸⁷
Col Robert L. Bell	12 June 1985
Lt Col Gary C. Gibson	16 March 1988 ⁷⁸⁸
Col Walter L. Gray	15 August 1988 ⁷⁸⁹
Lt Col Scott L. Smith	10 October 1990
Lt Col Jeffrey L. Tyley	July 1992-4 January 1994

56th Civil Engineer Squadron [1 April 1994-.]

Lt Col Steven A. Bitler	1 April 1994 ⁷⁹⁰
Lt Col Raymond E. Dinsmore	19 June 1995 ⁷⁹¹
Maj Joseph Lacatus	2 June 1997 ⁷⁹²
Lt Col Steven E. Heorn	30 July 1997 ⁷⁹³
Lt Col David C. Brewer	13 July 1999 ⁷⁹⁴
Lt Col John R. Lohr	3 July 2001 ⁷⁹⁵
Lt col John P. Dewine	6 June 2003 ⁷⁹⁶
Lt Col Douglas M. Hammer	17 June 2005 ⁷⁹⁷
Lt Col Anthony R. Ramage	11 June 2007 ⁷⁹⁸
Lt Col John D. Thomas	2 July 2009 ⁷⁹⁹
Lt Col Chad B. Bondurant	8 July 2011-. ⁸⁰⁰

⁷⁸⁷ 56 CSG SO G-22, 11 July 1983

⁷⁸⁸ 56 CSG SO G-42, 16 March 1988

⁷⁸⁹ 56 CSG SO G-79, 12 August 1988

⁷⁹⁰ [58 MSS SO SO-G-48, 6 February 1992]

⁷⁹¹ 56 CES SO GP-002, ca. 20 June 1995

⁷⁹² 56 CES SO G-001, 5 June 1997

⁷⁹³ 56 CES SO SO-GP-02, ca. 30 July 1997

⁷⁹⁴ 56 CES SO G-001, 13 July 1999

⁷⁹⁵ 56 CES SO G-004, 28 June 2001

⁷⁹⁶ 56 CES SO 56 CES G-1, 6 June 2003

⁷⁹⁷ 56 CES SO 56 CES G-1, 17 June 2005

⁷⁹⁸ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-06, 5 June 2007

⁷⁹⁹ 56MSG SO G-040, 16 July 2009

⁸⁰⁰ 56 FSS SO G-022, 8 July 2011

56th Contracting Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 56th Contracting Squadron
on 28 October 1991.

Activated on 1 November 1991.
Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁸⁰¹

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁸⁰²

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁸⁰³
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁸⁰⁴
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁸⁰⁵
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁸⁰⁶
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁸⁰⁷
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁸⁰⁸
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁸⁰⁹
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁸¹⁰
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁸¹¹
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁸¹²
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁸¹³



⁸⁰¹ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸⁰² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁸⁰³ AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁸⁰⁴ AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁸⁰⁵ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁸⁰⁶ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁸⁰⁷ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁸⁰⁸ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁸⁰⁹ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁸¹⁰ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁸¹¹ AETC SO G-025/2010

⁸¹² AETC SO G-086/2011

⁸¹³ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Assignments. 56th Logistics Group on 1 November 1991-4 January 1994⁸¹⁴ and 1 April 1994⁸¹⁵-27 September 2002. 56th Mission Support Group on 27 September 2002-⁸¹⁶

Stations. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 November 1991-4 January 1994.⁸¹⁷ Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-⁸¹⁸

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 22 June 2001

Blazon. On a disc Azure, a bezant enhanced surmounted by a bald eagle stooping Brown, garnished Argent, eyed and armed Sable, unfurled from its dexter talon a parchment Proper, garnished with a certification ribbon of the fourth, all within a diminished border Black.

Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "56TH CONTRACTING SQ" in Black letters.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "WE MAKE IT HAPPEN" in Black letters.

Motto. We Make It Happen.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The eagle symbolizes the Air Force, holding the contract parchment representing the unit's mission of managing the formation of legal agreements in support of the parent wing.

⁸¹⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸¹⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁸¹⁶ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁸¹⁷ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸¹⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Contracting Squadron* [1 November 1991-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-.]**

Lt Col Don Drenkhan	ca. 1 November 1991-4 January 1994
Maj Gerald H. Jacques	1 April 1994 ⁸¹⁹
Maj Brenda J. Bobbitt	10 July 1996 ⁸²⁰
Capt Anthony K. McGraw	bef 24 November 1998
Maj Karen L. Bruce	24 November 1998 ⁸²¹
Lt Col Jose R. Solis, Jr.	12 July 2001 ⁸²²
Maj Richard E. Wells	23 July 2004 ⁸²³
Maj Thomas D. Ficklin	7 July 2006 ⁸²⁴
Lt Col Rick C. Denmann	22 January 2007 ⁸²⁵
Maj (later, Lt Col) Thomas D. Ficklin	30 July 2007 ⁸²⁶
Lt Col Tommy M. Gates III	1 July 2009 ⁸²⁷
Maj Quoc-Nam Nguyen	18 June 2012 ⁸²⁸

⁸¹⁹ [58 FW SO n.n., ca. 30 November 1993]

⁸²⁰ 56 CONS SO SO-GX-0001, ca. 8 July 1996

⁸²¹ 56 CONS SO GO-0009, 12 November 1998

⁸²² 56 CONS SO SO-GO-01, 12 July 2001

⁸²³ 56 MSS SO 56 CONS G-1 2004, 1 July 2004

⁸²⁴ 56 MSG SO MSG-06-04, 19 June 2006

⁸²⁵ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-02, 27 December 2006

⁸²⁶ 56 MSG SO MSG-06-04, 19 June 2006

⁸²⁷ 56 MSG SO G-049, 24 September 2009

⁸²⁸ 56 FW SO G-020, 28 June 2012

56th Communications Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted as 56th Communications Squadron, Fighter, Jet, on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Communications Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Activated on 1 October 1991.

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁸²⁹

Activated 1 April 1994.⁸³⁰

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁸³¹
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁸³²
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁸³³
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁸³⁴
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁸³⁵
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁸³⁶
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁸³⁷
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁸³⁸
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁸³⁹



⁸²⁹ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸³⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁸³¹ AETC SO GA-18/1996

⁸³² AETC SO GA-12/1998

⁸³³ AETC SO GA-9/2000

⁸³⁴ AETC SO GA-55/2004

⁸³⁵ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

⁸³⁶ AETC SO GA-045/2007

⁸³⁷ AETC SO G-054/2008

⁸³⁸ AETC SO G-071/2009

⁸³⁹ AETC SO G-025/2010

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁸⁴⁰1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁸⁴¹

Assignments. 56th Airdrome Group, 14 June 1948-31 July 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group, 1 October 1991-1 January 1994. 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group on 1 April 1994-.⁸⁴²

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 1 October 1991-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁸⁴³

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 8 May 1998

Blazon. On a disc Azure, four lightning flashes issuant from chief pile wise Or, surmounted by a bat, wings displayed Proper, eyes Gules, all within a narrow border Black.

Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "56th COMMUNICATIONS SQ" in Black letters.

Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "LOQUIMINI TONITRUM" in Black letters.

Motto. Loquimini Tonitrum. [Speak the Thunder]

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The four lightning flashes signify the four operational environments: land, sea, air and space. They also represent all forms of communication, as depicted on the Air Force Communications and Information occupational badge. The bat, noted for its sophisticated communication system, symbolizes the importance of communications to the Air Force mission. All elements combined reinforce the motto, Loquimini Tonitrum," translated as "Speak the Thunder."

⁸⁴⁰ AETC SO G-086/2011

⁸⁴¹ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

⁸⁴² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁸⁴³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***56th Communications Squadron, Fighter, Jet* [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]**

Unknown

Unknown

***56th Communications Squadron* [20 January 1950-6 February 1952;
1 October 1991-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-.]**

Unknown

Unknown

Col Robert Popp

by December 1991

Col Doreen M. Wolf

January 1992

Lt Col John C. Goodman

18 June 1992-4 January 1994

Lt Col Stanley D. Howard

1 April 1994⁸⁴⁴

Maj Robert J. Steele

4 August 1994⁸⁴⁵

Lt Col Wilson D. Crafton

1 July 1997⁸⁴⁶

Lt Col Jeffrey A. Corvey

2 June 1999⁸⁴⁷

Lt Col Frank Knickerbocker, IV

12 June 2001⁸⁴⁸

Lt Col Eric J. Pierce

8 July 2003⁸⁴⁹

Lt Col Timothy J. Pearson

9 June 2005⁸⁵⁰

Maj Rashone J. Tate

5 June 2007⁸⁵¹

Lt Col David Hillman

22 June 2009⁸⁵²

Maj Zachary S. Warakomski

8 April 2011⁸⁵³

⁸⁴⁴ [58 MSS SO SO-G-7, 1 October 1991]

⁸⁴⁵ 56 CS SO SO-GQ-2, 4 August 1994

⁸⁴⁶ 56 CS SO SO-G-9701, ca. 30 June 1997

⁸⁴⁷ 56 CS SO GS-002, 27 April 1999

⁸⁴⁸ 56 CS SO OS-TQ-002, 7 May 2001

⁸⁴⁹ 56 CS SO 56 CS-G-2003-1, 7 July 2003

⁸⁵⁰ 56 CS SO 56 CS GS-01, 8 June 2005

⁸⁵¹ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-06, 5 June 2007

⁸⁵² 56 MSG SO G-027, 22 June 2009

⁸⁵³ 56 MSG SO G-004, 8 April 2011

56th Force Support Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Squadron "D," 56th Airdrome Group, on 27 July 1947.⁸⁵⁴

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (10 October 1984) with the 56th Food Service Squadron.

Constituted as 56th Food Service Squadron, Fighter, Jet, on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Food Service Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Consolidated (10 October 1984) with the 56th Services Squadron.

Constituted, and activated, on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁸⁵⁵

Inactivated on 28 February 1975.

Activated on 30 June 1975.⁸⁵⁶

Redesignated 56th Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron on 4 September 1992.⁸⁵⁷

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁸⁵⁸

Redesignated 56th Services Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁸⁵⁹

Redesignated 56th Forces Support Squadron on 26 February 2009.⁸⁶⁰



⁸⁵⁴ 56 FW GO-1, ca. 15 August 1947

⁸⁵⁵ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁸⁵⁶ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975

⁸⁵⁷ ACC SO GB-124, 21 August 1992

⁸⁵⁸ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸⁵⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁸⁶⁰ AETC SO G-09-9, 26 February 2009

Honors.***Campaign Streamers.*****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁸⁶¹
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁸⁶²
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁸⁶³
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁸⁶⁴
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁸⁶⁵
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁸⁶⁶
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁸⁶⁷

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citations**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁸⁶⁸
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁸⁶⁹
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 June 1970-31 May 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁸⁷⁰
 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁸⁷¹
 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁸⁷²
 1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁸⁷³

⁸⁶¹ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁸⁶² PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁸⁶³ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁸⁶⁴ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁸⁶⁵ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁸⁶⁶ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁸⁶⁷ PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁸⁶⁸ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁸⁶⁹ DAF SO GB-352/1971

⁸⁷⁰ DAF SO GB-703, 9 November 1971

⁸⁷¹ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁸⁷² DAF SO GB-600/1975

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

- 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁸⁷⁴
- 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁸⁷⁵
- 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁸⁷⁶
- 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁸⁷⁷
- 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁸⁷⁸
- 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁸⁷⁹
- 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁸⁸⁰
- 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁸⁸¹
- 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁸⁸²
- 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁸⁸³
- 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁸⁸⁴
- 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁸⁸⁵
- 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁸⁸⁶
- 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁸⁸⁷
- 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁸⁸⁸

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 8 April 1967-28 January 1973.

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- ⁸⁷³ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979
 - ⁸⁷⁴ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983
 - ⁸⁷⁵ DAF SO GB-275/1987
 - ⁸⁷⁶ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989
 - ⁸⁷⁷ TAC SO GA-069/1991
 - ⁸⁷⁸ AETC SO GA-18/1996
 - ⁸⁷⁹ AETC SO GA-12/1998
 - ⁸⁸⁰ AETC SO GA-9/2000
 - ⁸⁸¹ AETC SO GA-55/2004
 - ⁸⁸² AETC SO GA-0052/2006
 - ⁸⁸³ AETC SO GA-045/2007
 - ⁸⁸⁴ AETC SO G-054/2008
 - ⁸⁸⁵ AETC SO G-071/2009
 - ⁸⁸⁶ AETC SO G-025/2010
 - ⁸⁸⁷ AETC SO G-086/2011
 - ⁸⁸⁸ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Assignments. 56th Airdrome Group 27 July 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Combat Support 8 April 1967⁸⁸⁹-28 February 1975. 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group 30 June 1975-4 January 1994⁸⁹⁰; 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group 1 April 1994-.⁸⁹¹

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁸⁹²-28 February 1975. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994.⁸⁹³ Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁸⁹⁴

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 11 March 2003

Blazon. On a disc per fess Azure and Vert, in base a garland of wheat crescent the stems in saltire Or, below a bull regardant Gules, in sinister chief a mullet counterchanged of the third and fourth, all within a narrow border Yellow.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "CRADLE TO GRAVE " in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "56TH FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON" in Yellow letters.

Motto. CRADLE TO GRAVE.

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The garland of wheat symbolizes the unit's largest focus, food service. The bull signifies strength and readiness. The points of the star stand for the five core areas of the 56th Force Support Squadron's mission; Manpower and Personnel (Military and Civilian), Airmen and Family Services (Dependent Care), Sustainment Services (Food, Fitness, Lodging), Force Development (Education and Training), and Community Services (Airmen Regeneration).

⁸⁸⁹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁸⁹⁰ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸⁹¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁸⁹² PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁸⁹³ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁸⁹⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***Squadron "D," 56th Airdrome Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]***

Unknown	15 August 1947-1 August 1948.
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56th Food Service Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown	1 August 1948
Capt Edward C. Unger	bef 30 November 1948
Unknown	Unknown-20 January 1950.

56th Food Service Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952]

Unknown	20 January 1950-6 February 1952.
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56th Services Squadron [8 April 1967-28 February 1975;***30 June 1975-1 September 1992]***

Maj Donald D. Trimble	8 April 1967
Capt Richard J. Tessier	bef 30 September 1967
Capt James P. Davison	bef 31 December 1967
Unknown	Unknown-
Capt James F. Wise	bef 31 March 1969
Capt Charles D. McKenzie	bef 31 December 1969
Maj Albert N. Turner	bef 30 September 1970
Maj Byron L. Carroll	bef 31 December 1970
Lt Col Joseph J. O'Hara	bef 31 March 1971
Capt Allen B. Alexander, Jr.	bef 30 September 1971
Capt Phillip T. Shealy	bef 31 December 1972
Capt Rodney P. Harrison	28 September 1973
Capt W. R. Guevara	5 March 1974
Maj Lewis A. Elam	bef 31 March 1974
Capt Thomas S. Summers	11 June 1974
Maj Norwood. J. Meche	6 September 1974
Capt Thomas S. Summers	bef 31 December 1974-28 February 1975.
Lt Col D. W. Ottoway	30 June 1975
Maj Norwood. J. Meche	15 August 1975 ⁸⁹⁵
Lt Col David B. Bates	19 July 1977
Capt Donald N. Jones	1 March 1979
Lt Col David B. Bates	6 July 1979
Capt Donald B. Jones	14 May 1980
Maj (later, Lt Col) Phillip T. Shealy	1 July 1980
Maj Harold H. Holden	18 May 1984 ⁸⁹⁶
1st Lt Alvin J. Heggem	5 June 1986

⁸⁹⁵ 56 CSG SO G-5, 7 October 1975

⁸⁹⁶ 56 CSG G-7, 18 May 1984

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col Thomas B. Fletcher	9 July 1986 ⁸⁹⁷
Maj Sharon Hines-Marquis	27 February 1990 ⁸⁹⁸
Maj John C. McClelland	5 September 1991-1 September 1992

56th Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron [1 September 1992-4 January 1994.]

Maj John C. McClelland	1 September 1992
Lt Col Warren J. Brookhart	June 1993-4 January 1994.

56th Services Squadron [1 April 1994-26 February 2009]

Lt Col Jack L. Baily, Jr.	1 April 1994 ⁸⁹⁹
Maj Lynne D. Bitler	5 May 1994 ⁹⁰⁰
Lt Col Claude C. Braley	10 June 1994 ⁹⁰¹
Lt Col Ron L. Winkel	7 June 1996 ⁹⁰²
Maj Anne F. Fitch	24 June 1999 ⁹⁰³
Lt Col Patricia M. Carpenter	11 June 2001 ⁹⁰⁴
Lt Col Alan C. Gnann	15 July 2003 ⁹⁰⁵
Lt Col Dane D. Matthew	23 June 2005 ⁹⁰⁶
Maj William M.G. Manley	23 July 2007 ⁹⁰⁷ -26 February 2009.

56th Forces Support Squadron [26 February 2009-.]

Maj William M.G. Manley	26 February 2009
Maj Carol Gordon	27 February 2009 ⁹⁰⁸
Maj (later, Lt Col) Rodney J. Nichols	11 June 2009 ⁹⁰⁹
Maj (later, Lt Col) Timothy A. Farr	6 July 2011 ⁹¹⁰

⁸⁹⁷ 56 CSG SO G-47, 8 July 1986

⁸⁹⁸ 56 MSS SO G-003, 23 February 1990

⁸⁹⁹ 58 MSS SO SO-GS-001, 6 October 1992

⁹⁰⁰ 56 SVS SO SO-GS-003, 18 May 1994

⁹⁰¹ 56 SVS SO SO-GS-005, 13 June 1994

⁹⁰² 56 SG, SO SO-GS-003, 5 June 1996

⁹⁰³ 56 FW SO GS-99-01, 23 June 1999

⁹⁰⁴ 56 FW SO GS-01-02, 11 June 2001

⁹⁰⁵ 56 SVS SO 56 SVS G-2003-1, 8 July 2003

⁹⁰⁶ 56 SVS SO 56 SVS-G-05-01, 8 June 2005

⁹⁰⁷ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-11, 5 June 2007

⁹⁰⁸ 56 MSG SO G-025, 24 April 2009

⁹⁰⁹ 56 FSS SO G-032, 10 June 2009

56th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Supply Squadron,
56th Maintenance and Supply
Group on 28 July 1947.

Organized on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (8 February 1988) with
56th Supply Squadron, Fighter,
Jet, which was constituted on
14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Supply Squadron on
20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Activated on 28 December 1960.⁹¹¹

Organized on 1 February 1961.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.⁹¹²

Activated 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁹¹³

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁹¹⁴

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁹¹⁵

Redesignated 56th Logistics Readiness Squadron on 1 August 2002.⁹¹⁶



⁹¹⁰ 56 MDG SO G-019, 6 July 2011

⁹¹¹ AFOMO 536m, 28 December 1960

⁹¹² AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁹¹³ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁹¹⁴ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁹¹⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁹¹⁶ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

Honors.***Campaign Streamers.*****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁹¹⁷
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁹¹⁸
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁹¹⁹
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁹²⁰
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁹²¹
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁹²²
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁹²³

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citations**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁹²⁴
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁹²⁵
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 December 1970-30 November 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁹²⁶
 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁹²⁷
 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁹²⁸
 24 January 1975-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device⁹²⁹

⁹¹⁷ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁹¹⁸ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁹¹⁹ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁹²⁰ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁹²¹ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁹²² PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁹²³ PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁹²⁴ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁹²⁵ DAF SO GB-352/1971

⁹²⁶ DAF SO GB-667, 28 September 1972

⁹²⁷ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁹²⁸ DAF SO GB-600/1975

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁹³⁰
 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁹³¹
 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁹³²
 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁹³³
 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁹³⁴
 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁹³⁵
 1 July 1994-30 June 1996⁹³⁶
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998⁹³⁷
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000⁹³⁸
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003⁹³⁹
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005⁹⁴⁰
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006⁹⁴¹
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007⁹⁴²
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008⁹⁴³
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009⁹⁴⁴
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010⁹⁴⁵
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011⁹⁴⁶

-
- ⁹²⁹ USAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976
⁹³⁰ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979
⁹³¹ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983
⁹³² DAF SO GB-275/1987
⁹³³ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989
⁹³⁴ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990
⁹³⁵ TAC SO GA-069/1991
⁹³⁶ AETC SO GA-18/1996
⁹³⁷ AETC SO GA-12/1998
⁹³⁸ AETC SO GA-9/2000
⁹³⁹ AETC SO GA-55/2004
⁹⁴⁰ AETC SO GA-0052/2006
⁹⁴¹ AETC SO GA-045/2007
⁹⁴² AETC SO G-054/2008
⁹⁴³ AETC SO G-071/2009
⁹⁴⁴ AETC SO G-025/2010
⁹⁴⁵ AETC SO G-086/2011
⁹⁴⁶ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 8 April 1967-28 January 1973.

Assignments. 56th Maintenance and Supply Group, 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Maintenance and Supply Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Air Base (later, 56th Combat Support) Group, 1 February 1961-1 April 1963. 56th Fighter Wing (Air Defense), 1 April 1963-1 January 1964. 56th Air Commando (later, 56th Special Operations,) Wing, 8 April 1967⁹⁴⁷-Unknown. Tactical Air Command, Unknown-30 June 1975.⁹⁴⁸ 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training; later, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975⁹⁴⁹-1 November 1991. 56th Logistics Group on 1 November 1991-4 January 1994⁹⁵⁰; 1 April 1994⁹⁵¹-1 August 2002.⁹⁵² 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support Group) on 1 August 2002-.⁹⁵³

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 February 1961-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁹⁵⁴-28 February 1975. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁹⁵⁵

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 11 February 2003

Blazon. On a disc Azure, a globe Celeste, gridlined Argent, encircled from behind by an orbit bendwise sinister Gules, trisecting in front of the globe and terminating in three mullets in bend of the third, all within a narrow border Yellow.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "SEMPER EXPEDITUS" in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "56TH LOGISTICS READINESS SQ" in Yellow letters.

Motto. Service to The Best.

⁹⁴⁷ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁹⁴⁸ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975;

⁹⁴⁹ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975;

⁹⁵⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁹⁵¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁹⁵² AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁹⁵³ AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁹⁵⁴ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁹⁵⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Significance. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The blue globe represents logistics. The rings and stars circling the globe represent the disciplines of supply, transportation and plans. The Latin motto translates in English to “Always Ready.”

Commanders.

Supply Squadron, 56th Maintenance and Supply Group

[15 August 1947-1 August 1948]

Unknown 15 August 1947-1 August 1948

56th Supply Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown 1 August 1948-Unknown
Lt Col Robert E. Bremer bef 31 July 1949

56th Supply Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952;

1 February 1961-1 January 1964;

8 April 1967-4 January 1994;

1 April 1994-1 August 2002]

Unknown 20 January 1950-6 February 1952

Capt (later, Maj) Elmer E. Williams, Jr. 1 February 1961
Capt Daniel D. Rosinsky 30 January 1963
1st Lt H.K. Lawler 23 July 1963
Maj Ralph L. Bent 30 August 1963-Unknown

Lt Col Thaviu P. Hackler 8 April 1967
Lt Col John A. Moe 23 April 1967⁹⁵⁶
Lt Col M.H. Mynheir bef 31 March 1969
Lt Col Wilbert D. Wesse bef 30 September 1969
Maj (later, Lt Col) Wayne G. Mathern 15 August 1970
Lt Col Alvin L. Yanke bef 30 September 1971
Lt Col Leland E. Turner, Jr. bef 31 January 1973
Lt Col William A. Lawrence 17 September 1973
Capt Richard M. LaFontaine 10 May 1974⁹⁵⁷
Maj James W. Hopp 31 July 1974⁹⁵⁸

⁹⁵⁶ 56 SUPS SO 3, 23 April 1967

⁹⁵⁷ 56 SUPS SO G-2, 10 May 1974

⁹⁵⁸ 56 SUPS SO G-3, 31 July 1974

Commanders. (Continued)

Lt Col James O. Turner	bef 27 August 1975
Lt Col Richard W. Dush	27 August 1975 ⁹⁵⁹
Lt Col Fredrick L. Freshcorn	5 June 1978
Maj David C. Johnson	25 October 1980 ⁹⁶⁰
Maj (later, Lt Col William C. Shaw	26 November 1980 ⁹⁶¹
Maj Alan R. Lewis	22 July 1983 ⁹⁶²
Lt Col Jose L. Miranda	17 October 1983
Lt Col Harry M. Barash	28 September 1984 ⁹⁶³
Maj Loretta L. Floyd	29 April 1985
Lt Col Raymond N. Angor, Jr.	23 August 1985
Mr. Louis M. Crawford	1987
Lt Col Gayle H. Pfeiffer	17 August 1987 ⁹⁶⁴
Lt Col Joe N. Carter, Jr.	31 October 1990
Lt Col Carolyn D. Hamilton	1 March 1993-4 January 1994 ⁹⁶⁵
Lt Col Robert K. Hutto	1 April 1994 ⁹⁶⁶
Maj Marcus W. Hogins	bef 20 June 1997
Lt Col James A. Teaford	20 June 1997 ⁹⁶⁷
Maj Peter D. Hofelich	8 August 2000 ⁹⁶⁸ -1 August 2002

⁹⁵⁹ 56 CSG SO G-3, 27 August 1975

⁹⁶⁰ 56 CSG SO G-48, 25 October 1980

⁹⁶¹ 56 CSG SO G-51, 26 November 1980

⁹⁶² 56 CSG SO G-27, 22 July 1983

⁹⁶³ 56 CSG SO G-29, 28 September 1984

⁹⁶⁴ 56 CSG SO G-69, 17 August 1987

⁹⁶⁵ 56 SUPS SO G-002, 12 March 1993

⁹⁶⁶ [58 SUPS SO SO-GAA-3, 20 August 1993]

⁹⁶⁷ SO SO-GC-003, ca. 20 June 1997

⁹⁶⁸ 56 SUPS SO SO-GC-001, ca. 3 August 2000

56th Logistics Readiness Squadron [1 August 2002-.]

Lt Col Gary W. Larberg	1 August 2002 ⁹⁶⁹
Maj Louis P. Seliqini, Jr.	28 June 2004 ⁹⁷⁰
Lt Col Michael E. Washington	30 June 2006 ⁹⁷¹
Lt Col Carrie J. Bausano	18 June 2008 ⁹⁷²
Maj (later, Lt Col) Michael T. Davis	30 June 2010 ⁹⁷³
Lt Col Erin C. Cluff	6 July 2012 ⁹⁷⁴



The 87th Sub-Depot Supply's Main Issue Aisle during World War II at Luke Field.

⁹⁶⁹ 56 LRS SO SO-GH-002, 26 September 2002
⁹⁷⁰ 56 LRS SO 56 LRS GS-2004-3, 14 July 2004
⁹⁷¹ 56 MSG SO MSG-06-03, 19 June 2006
⁹⁷² 56 MSG SO G-025, 10 June 2008
⁹⁷³ 56 MSG SO G-020, 25 June 2010
⁹⁷⁴ 56 MSG SO G-023, 3 July 2012

56th Security Forces Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group on 28 July 1947.

Activated on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (12 October 1984) with the 56th Air Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet, which was constituted on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Air Police Squadron on 20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Activated on 15 February 1963.

Organized on 1 April 1963.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.⁹⁷⁵

Redesignated 56th Security Police Squadron, and activated, on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.⁹⁷⁶

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.⁹⁷⁷

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁹⁷⁸

Redesignated 56th Security Forces Squadron on 1 July 1997.⁹⁷⁹



With help from augmentees, the 56th Security Police Squadron processed 260,000 people during the 2011 Luke AFB Open House.

⁹⁷⁵ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963

⁹⁷⁶ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁹⁷⁷ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁹⁷⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁹⁷⁹ AETC SO G-97-28, 17 June 1997

Honors.***Campaign Streamers.*****Vietnam**

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁹⁸⁰
 Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]
 Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]
 Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]
 Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁹⁸¹
 Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
 Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁹⁸²
 Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁹⁸³
 Commando Hunt VI [1971]⁹⁸⁴
 Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]⁹⁸⁵
 Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]⁹⁸⁶

Decorations.**Presidential Unit Citations**

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969⁹⁸⁷
 Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970⁹⁸⁸
 Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 June 1970-31 May 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁹⁸⁹
 1 December 1970-30 November 1971 with Combat "V" Device⁹⁹⁰
 1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device⁹⁹¹
 23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device⁹⁹²
 24 January 1975-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device⁹⁹³

⁹⁸⁰ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

⁹⁸¹ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁹⁸² PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁹⁸³ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

⁹⁸⁴ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

⁹⁸⁵ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

⁹⁸⁶ PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

⁹⁸⁷ DAF SO GB-552/1970

⁹⁸⁸ DAF SO GB-352/1971

⁹⁸⁹ DAF SO GB-703, 9 November 1971

⁹⁹⁰ DAF SO GB-667, 28 September 1972

⁹⁹¹ DAF SO GB-553/1973

⁹⁹² DAF SO GB-600/1975

⁹⁹³ DAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 January 1977-1 January 1979⁹⁹⁴
 1 July 1980-31 May 1982⁹⁹⁵
 1 June 1984-31 May 1986⁹⁹⁶
 1 May 1987-30 April 1989⁹⁹⁷
 1 May 1989-30 April 1990⁹⁹⁸
 1 May 1990-30 April 1991⁹⁹⁹
 1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹⁰⁰⁰
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰⁰¹
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁰⁰²
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹⁰⁰³
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹⁰⁰⁴
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁰⁰⁵
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁰⁰⁶
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁰⁰⁷
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰⁰⁸
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁰⁰⁹
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁰¹⁰

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 8 April 1967-28 January 1973.

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- ⁹⁹⁴ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979
⁹⁹⁵ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983
⁹⁹⁶ DAF SO GB-275/1987
⁹⁹⁷ TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989
⁹⁹⁸ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990
⁹⁹⁹ TAC SO GA-069/1991
¹⁰⁰⁰ AETC SO GA-18/1996
¹⁰⁰¹ AETC SO GA-12/1998
¹⁰⁰² AETC SO GA-9/2000
¹⁰⁰³ AETC SO GA-55/2004
¹⁰⁰⁴ AETC SO GA-0052/2006
¹⁰⁰⁵ AETC SO GA-045/2007
¹⁰⁰⁶ AETC SO G-054/2008
¹⁰⁰⁷ AETC SO G-071/2009
¹⁰⁰⁸ AETC SO G-025/2010
¹⁰⁰⁹ AETC SO G-086/2011
¹⁰¹⁰ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

Assignments. 56th Airdrome Group, 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Air Base (later, 56th Combat Support) Group, 15 February 1963-1 January 1964. 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group, 8 April 1967¹⁰¹¹-4 January 1994. 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group on 1 April 1994-¹⁰¹²

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 April 1963-1 January 1964. Nakhon Phanon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967¹⁰¹³-28 February 1975. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-¹⁰¹⁴

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. Approved on 13 August 1979

Blazon. On a blue disc edged with a narrow yellow border, a tan rattlesnake, coiled, with black markings and details, eye yellow, emitting from its open mouth a horizontal yellow lightning bolt.

Motto. Ready to Strike.

Significance. The lightning Bolt was taken from the insignia of the 56th Combat Support Group, which the 56th Security Police Squadron is a part of. The rattlesnake has 50 diamonds and six rattles, and represents the 56th Security Police Squadron. The Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake is very prevalent in the area that the 56th Security Police Squadron is stationed in. The Eastern diamondback is an appropriate symbol, because it will stand its ground, and will strike when threatened. The motto, "Ready to Strike," means that the 56th Security Police Squadron is ready for action, and can be immediately mobilized and deployed anywhere in the world.

¹⁰¹¹ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

¹⁰¹² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

¹⁰¹³ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

¹⁰¹⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]***

Unknown	15 August 1947-1 August 1948
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56th Air Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown	1 August 1948-20 January 1950
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***56th Air Police Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952;
1 April 1963-1 January 1964]***

Unknown	20 January 1950-6 February 1952
Maj Eugene A. Lamar	1 April 1963-1 January 1964

***56th Security Police Squadron [8 April 1967-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-1 July 1997]***

Capt Ralph N. Dunlap	8 April 1967
1st Lt John W. Ross	bef 8 June 1967
Capt Paul N. Scheidel	bef 15 August 1967
1st Lt Charles Sprunk	bef 15 October 1967
Capt Paul N. Scheidel	bef 15 January 1968
Maj Melvin N. Toloso	bef November 1968
Maj Robert V. Jones	bef 30 June 1969
Lt Col William D. Raven	bef 30 September 1969
Maj Gerald R. Frank	bef 30 September 1970
Maj Renwick F. Mottley	bef 30 September 1971
Maj James S. Barger	bef 31 March 1972
Maj Joseph W. Wilson	bef 30 June 1972
Maj Thomas J. Murphy	bef 31 December 1972
Maj Gary G. Allison	bef 31 March 1973
Lt Col Billie M. Downer	1 May 1973
Maj George T. Harper	15 March 1974
Maj Lewis A. Elam	bef 31 March 1974
Maj George T. Harper	bef 30 September 1974
Capt Charles J. Heubusch	bef 30 June 1975
Lt Col B. M. Downer	30 June 1975
Maj Robert F. Picinus	bef 17 January 1977
Capt James M. Randel	17 January 1977 ¹⁰¹⁵
Maj Kenneth R. Anderson	2 February 1977 ¹⁰¹⁶
Lt Col William B. Driggers, Jr.	1 September 1978
Maj Karl J. Woelz	4 August 1979

¹⁰¹⁵ 56 CSG SO G-2, 17 January 1977

¹⁰¹⁶ 56 CSG SO G-7, 2 February 1977

Commanders. (Continued)

Maj Carl E. Gunderson	12 December 1980	
Lt Col James L. Hendrickson	14 October 1983	
Lt Col Sydney W. Griffin	14 February 1986 ¹⁰¹⁷	
Maj Jonnie L. Wright	14 November 1988	
Capt John W. Probst	12 July 1990	
Lt Col David H. Donatelli	30 August 1990	
Maj J. Karen Fiedor	28 June 1993-4 January 1994.	
Maj Edward N. Addison	1 April 1994 ¹⁰¹⁸	
Maj Eugene V. Morabito	29 May 1996-1 July 1997. ¹⁰¹⁹	

56th Security Forces Squadron [1 July 1997-.]

Maj Eugene V. Morabito	1 July 1997	
Lt Col Allen J. Jamerson	1 July 1998 ¹⁰²⁰	(Brigadier General)
Maj Tracey M. Meck	5 July 2000 ¹⁰²¹	
Maj Michael D. Ross, Sr.	23 May 2002 ¹⁰²²	
Maj Stephen R. Mezhir	14 June 2004 ¹⁰²³	
Lt Col Stephen R. Mezhir	16 May 2007 ¹⁰²⁴	
Maj Christopher J. DeGuelle	13 July 2007 ¹⁰²⁵	
Lt Col Michael J. Borders, Jr.	13 June 2008 ¹⁰²⁶	
Maj Gerald C. Mulhollen, Jr.	14 June 2010 ¹⁰²⁷	
Maj Sean R. Gibbs	6 July 2012-. ¹⁰²⁸	

¹⁰¹⁷ 56 CSG SO G-19, 13 February 1986

¹⁰¹⁸ [58 SG SO G-01, 7 July 1993

¹⁰¹⁹ 56 SG SO GA-04, 20 May 1996

¹⁰²⁰ 56 SFS SO GA-09, 29 June 1998

¹⁰²¹ 56 SFS SO GA-002, 13 September 2000

¹⁰²² 56 SFS SO GA-001, 2 July 2002

¹⁰²³ 56 SFS SO SFS-004, 25 June 2004

¹⁰²⁴ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-01, 19 October 2006

¹⁰²⁵ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-09, 3 July 2007

¹⁰²⁶ 56 SFS SO G-021, 15 May 2008

¹⁰²⁷ 56 MSG SO G-015, 14 June 2010

¹⁰²⁸ 56 FW SO G-024, 3 July 2012

56th Medical Group



Col Yolanda D. Bledsoe

Lineage.

Constituted as USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill, on 18 March 1969.

Activated on 1 July 1969.

Redesignated 56th Medical Group on 15 March 1987.¹⁰²⁹

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.¹⁰³⁰

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹⁰³¹

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1969-31 December 1969¹⁰³²

1 January 1977-1 January 1979¹⁰³³

1 July 1980-30 June 1982

1 June 1984-31 May 1986¹⁰³⁴

1 May 1989-30 April 1990¹⁰³⁵

1 May 1990-30 April 1991¹⁰³⁶

¹⁰²⁹ DAF/PRM 770q, 5 March 1987

¹⁰³⁰ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹⁰³¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁰³² DAF SO GB-891, 4 November 1970

¹⁰³³ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

¹⁰³⁴ DAF SO GB-275/1987

¹⁰³⁵ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

¹⁰³⁶ TAC SO GA-069/1991

Decorations. (Continued)**Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)**

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹⁰³⁷
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰³⁸
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁰³⁹
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹⁰⁴⁰
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹⁰⁴¹
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁰⁴²
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁰⁴³
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁰⁴⁴
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰⁴⁵
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁰⁴⁶
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁰⁴⁷

PAST AND PRESENT UNITS ASSIGNED

Currently Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁰⁴⁸
56th Dental Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁰⁴⁹
56th Medical Operations Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁰⁵⁰
56th Medical Support Squadron	1 April 1994. ¹⁰⁵¹
Previously Assigned Units	Time Frame Assigned
<i>Squadrons</i>	
56th Tactical Hospital later, 56th Air Transportable Hospital	15-March 1987-4 January 1994. ¹⁰⁵²
<hr/>	
¹⁰³⁷ AETC SO GA-18/1996	
¹⁰³⁸ AETC SO GA-12/1998	
¹⁰³⁹ AETC SO GA-9/2000	
¹⁰⁴⁰ AETC SO GA-55/2004	
¹⁰⁴¹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006	
¹⁰⁴² AETC SO GA-045/2007	
¹⁰⁴³ AETC SO G-054/2008	
¹⁰⁴⁴ AETC SO G-071/2009	
¹⁰⁴⁵ AETC SO G-025/2010	
¹⁰⁴⁶ AETC SO G-086/2011	
¹⁰⁴⁷ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012	
¹⁰⁴⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994	
¹⁰⁴⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994	
¹⁰⁵⁰ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994	
¹⁰⁵¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994	

Assignments. 15th Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 July 1969. 1st Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 October 1970. 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training; later, 56th Fighter) Wing, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994.¹⁰⁵³ 56th Fighter Wing, 1 April 1994-.¹⁰⁵⁴

Stations. MacDill AFB, FL, 1 July 1969-4 January 1994.¹⁰⁵⁵ Luke AFB, AZ, 1 April 1994-.¹⁰⁵⁶

Aircraft. None.

Emblem. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Emblem approved 19 April 1967. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Blazon. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.].

Motto. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] Cave Tonitrum (Beware of the Thunderbolt) . [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

Significance. [Group will use the wing emblem with group designation in the scroll.] The emblem is symbolic of the Wing. The heraldic chevron, represents support and signifies the Wing's support of our nation's quest for peace. The blue of the chevron represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The lightning bolt symbolizes speed and aggressiveness with which the unit performs. The color of the shield represents the Air Corps and commemorates the service of the 56th Fighter Group, whose honors and history the Wing inherits. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of golden yellow and ultramarine blue. [Source: 1967 Emblem Approval Letter.]

¹⁰⁵² ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹⁰⁵³ TAC SO GA-12, 10 June 1975; ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹⁰⁵⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁰⁵⁵ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

¹⁰⁵⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Commanders.***USAF Regional Hospital, MacDill [1 July 1969-15 March 1987]***

Unknown	Unknown
Col John S. Flint	bef 23 January 1977
Col Frank E. Edmunds, Jr.	17 September 1978
Col James E. McClure	bef 5 July 1982
Lt Col Fredrick S. Arnold	bef 5 July 1982
Col William E. Palma	5 July 1982 ¹⁰⁵⁷
Col Pedro N. Rivera	15 November 1984 ¹⁰⁵⁸
Col Thomas F. Treat	9 May 1986
Col Martin I. Victor	23 May 1986
Col Karl N. Schaberl	16 July 1986 ¹⁰⁵⁹
Col Martin I. Victor	29 July 1986-15 March 1987 ¹⁰⁶⁰



A 56th Medical Support Squadron Laboratory Technician examines a sample in the Lab.

¹⁰⁵⁷ 56 CSG SO G-15, 4 August 1982

¹⁰⁵⁸ 56 CSG SO G-35, 13 November 1984

¹⁰⁵⁹ 56 CSG SO G-50, 16 July 1986

¹⁰⁶⁰ 56 CSG SO G-54, 29 July 1986

56th Medical Group [15 March 1987-4 January 1994; 1 April 1994-.]

Col Martin I. Victor	15 March 1987
Col Mervin T. Avants, Jr.	14 September 1987 ¹⁰⁶¹
Col Martin I. Victor	10 October 1987 ¹⁰⁶²
Col Gary K. Brandon	16 July 1990
Col Lynn M. Jones	6 June 1993 ¹⁰⁶³
Col John J. Kalosis	August 1993-4 January 1994
Col Roger A. Beck	1 April 1994 ¹⁰⁶⁴
Col Michael W. Lischak	7 August 1998 ¹⁰⁶⁵
Col James Malenkos III	11 July 2000 ¹⁰⁶⁶
Col Donald E. Taylor	9 July 2002 ¹⁰⁶⁷
Col Schuyler K. Geller	8 July 2004 ¹⁰⁶⁸
Col Joseph P. Chozinski	7 June 2006 ¹⁰⁶⁹
Col Mark J. Holland	11 May 2009 ¹⁰⁷⁰
Col Yolanda D. Bledsoe	17 June 2011 ¹⁰⁷¹



An airman first class in the 56th Medical Operations Squadron's Allergy/Immunizations Clinic gives a treatment to 1st Lt Bryson Byrd.

¹⁰⁶¹ 56 CSG SO G-75, 14 September 1987
¹⁰⁶² 56 CSG SO G-4, 9 October 1987
¹⁰⁶³ 56 MS SO G-002, 28 May 1993
¹⁰⁶⁴ [58 MDG SO SO-GU-001, 26 January 1993]
¹⁰⁶⁵ 56 MDG SO GU-008, 7 August 1998
¹⁰⁶⁶ 56 MDG SO GU-012, 26 June 2000
¹⁰⁶⁷ 56 MDG SO GU-003, 20 June 2002
¹⁰⁶⁸ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-3, 12 July 2004
¹⁰⁶⁹ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-3, 9 May 2006
¹⁰⁷⁰ 56 MSG SO G-029, 13 May 2009
¹⁰⁷¹ 56 MDG SO 56 MSG G-013, 17 June 2011

56th Medical Operations Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Medical Operations Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹⁰⁷²

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹⁰⁷³
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰⁷⁴
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁰⁷⁵
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹⁰⁷⁶
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹⁰⁷⁷
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹⁰⁷⁸
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹⁰⁷⁹
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹⁰⁸⁰
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹⁰⁸¹
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹⁰⁸²
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹⁰⁸³



Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹⁰⁸⁴

Stations. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹⁰⁸⁵

¹⁰⁷² AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁰⁷³ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹⁰⁷⁴ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹⁰⁷⁵ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹⁰⁷⁶ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹⁰⁷⁷ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹⁰⁷⁸ AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹⁰⁷⁹ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹⁰⁸⁰ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹⁰⁸¹ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹⁰⁸² AETC SO G-086/2011

¹⁰⁸³ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹⁰⁸⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁰⁸⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. Approved on 23 October 1997

Blazon. Per fess Azure and Gules radiating to chief from fess point four rays Or, overall a Staff of Aesculapius, staff Brown, serpent Vert; all within a diminished bordure of the first.

Attached below the disc a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56th MEDICAL OPS SQ. " in Black letters.

Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Staff of Aesculapius stands for hope, life and wisdom as well as the unit's mission of providing quality patient health care.

The alternating rays suggest twenty-four hour medical care that is provided by the squadron.

Commanders.

56th Medical Operations Squadron [1 April 1994-.]

Col Reba Ray	1 April 1994 ¹⁰⁸⁶
Col Michael Gookin	20 October 1994 ¹⁰⁸⁷
Lt Col James N. Black	13 February 1997 ¹⁰⁸⁸
Lt Col Margaret B. Matarese	12 July 1999 ¹⁰⁸⁹
Lt Col Gail McCain	31 May 2001 ¹⁰⁹⁰
Lt Col Paul A. Friedrichs	22 May 2003 ¹⁰⁹¹
Lt Col Janet T. Taylor	17 May 2005 ¹⁰⁹²
Col Dean L. Messelheiser	5 June 2007 ¹⁰⁹³
Col David C. Hall	20 May 2009 ¹⁰⁹⁴
Col Nicola A. Choate	10 June 2011 ¹⁰⁹⁵

¹⁰⁸⁶ 56 MDSS SO GU-001, ca. 12 May 1994

¹⁰⁸⁷ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 17 October 1994

¹⁰⁸⁸ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 30 January 1997

¹⁰⁸⁹ 56 MDG SO GU012, 8 July 1999

¹⁰⁹⁰ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 30 May 2001

¹⁰⁹¹ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, ca. 1 May 2003

¹⁰⁹² 56 MDG SO G-05-02, 19 April 2005

¹⁰⁹³ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 31 May 2007

¹⁰⁹⁴ 56MSG SO G-031, 8 June 2009

¹⁰⁹⁵ 56 MSG SO G-014, 10 June 2011

56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹⁰⁹⁶

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹⁰⁹⁷

1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹⁰⁹⁸

1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹⁰⁹⁹

1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹¹⁰⁰

1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹¹⁰¹

1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹¹⁰²

1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹¹⁰³

1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹¹⁰⁴

1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹¹⁰⁵

1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹¹⁰⁶

1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹¹⁰⁷



Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹¹⁰⁸

Stations. Luke AFB, AZ, 1 April 1994-.¹¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁹⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹⁰⁹⁷ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹⁰⁹⁸ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹⁰⁹⁹ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹¹⁰⁰ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹¹⁰¹ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹¹⁰² AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹¹⁰³ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹¹⁰⁴ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹¹⁰⁵ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹¹⁰⁶ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹¹⁰⁷ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹¹⁰⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹⁰⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. Approved on 26 January 1996

Blazon. Azure, a demi-globe issuant from base Celeste gridlined Sable charged with a cross in perspective Gules, the palewise member garnished as a runway Argent and Sable, overall in chief a Caduceus of the fourth detailed Black with the lower portion of the staff Red issuing two speed lines chevronwise from its wings White; all within a diminished bordure Or.

Attached below the disc a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border.

Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The red cross represents strength within the medical arena; it also symbolizes the "blanket" of medical commitment provided by unit personnel to both flying and non-flying military members. The Caduceus, the symbolic staff of a herald, is at the point of the futuristic aircraft. This position signifies that the unit is ready to supply aeromedical support to aircrews, personnel and the environmental elements of space. The earth signifies the worldwide commitment of peacekeeping and the environmental protection of air, water and land.



56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron's SSgt Lee Del Gerrard fits an Airman with a gas mask prior to a mask fit test.

Commanders.***56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron [1 April 1994-.]***

Lt Col Howard D. Wilcox	1 April 1994 ¹¹¹⁰
Lt Col Brian J. Funke	13 December 1995 ¹¹¹¹
Lt Col Richard L. Neel	13 September 1996 ¹¹¹²
Maj (later, Lt Col) Richard A. Clark	9 January 1998 ¹¹¹³
Lt Col Rolland C. Reynolds, Jr.	3 August 1999 ¹¹¹⁴
Lt Col William H. Sneeder, Jr.	17 July 2001 ¹¹¹⁵
Lt Col Patrick P. Miles	9 July 2003 ¹¹¹⁶
Lt Col Charles S. Tedder	14 March 2005 ¹¹¹⁷
Col Andrew Marchiando	10 June 2008 ¹¹¹⁸
Col Neal R. Taylor	16 July 2010 ¹¹¹⁹
Lt Col Daniel T. Smith	2 July 2012-. ¹¹²⁰



A 56th Aerospace Medicine Squadron's optometrist examines an Airman's eyes.

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- ¹¹¹⁰ 56 MDSS SO GU-003, ca. 12 May 1994
- ¹¹¹¹ 56 MDG SO GU-001, 8 December 1995
- ¹¹¹² 56 MDG SO GU-004, 12 September 1996
- ¹¹¹³ 56 AMDS SO GU-003, 8 January 1998
- ¹¹¹⁴ 56 MDG SO GU-014, 30 July 1999
- ¹¹¹⁵ 56 MDG SO GU – 006, 11 July 2001
- ¹¹¹⁶ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G2003-2, 7 July 2003
- ¹¹¹⁷ 56 MDG SO G-05-01, 10 March 2005
- ¹¹¹⁸ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-2, 8 May 2008
- ¹¹¹⁹ 56 MSG SO G-022, 7 July 2010
- ¹¹²⁰ 56 MSG SO G-027, 2 July 2012

56th Dental Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Dental Squadron on
21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹¹²¹

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹¹²²
 1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹¹²³
 1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹¹²⁴
 1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹¹²⁵
 1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹¹²⁶
 1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹¹²⁷
 1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹¹²⁸
 1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹¹²⁹
 1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹¹³⁰
 1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹¹³¹
 1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹¹³²



Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹¹³³

Stations. Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹¹³⁴

¹¹²¹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹²² AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹¹²³ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹¹²⁴ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹¹²⁵ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹¹²⁶ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹¹²⁷ AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹¹²⁸ AETC SO G-054/2008

¹¹²⁹ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹¹³⁰ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹¹³¹ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹¹³² AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹¹³³ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. Approved on 5 November 1997

Blazon. Per fess Or and Azure in chief three rays issuant from fess point Gules the center one charged with the Roman cypher "D" debruised with a Staff of Aesculapius Sable, overall a bald eagle stooping Proper between three mullets arcing to base Argent; all within a diminished bordure Black.

Attached below the disc a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border.

Motto. None.

Significance. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The red rays represent the valor displayed by unit members in performance of their duties. The Staff of Aesculapius denotes the medical profession. The letter "D" signifies the specific duties associated with dental health care. The eagle reflects the dental service provided by the nation's defenders. The stars reflect the excellent quality of health care provided by unit personnel.

Commanders.

56th Dental Squadron [1 April 1994-.]

Col Brian J. Seek	1 April 1994 ¹¹³⁵
Col James W. Basden	15 August 1994 ¹¹³⁶
Col Barry J. Baiorunos	7 August 1995 ¹¹³⁷
Lt Col (later, Col) Kevin F. Blair	4 August 1998 ¹¹³⁸
Col Benjamin Blackham	11 July 2000 ¹¹³⁹
Col Peter C. Antinopoulos	13 August 2002 ¹¹⁴⁰
Col Jeffrey M. Swartz	29 June 2004 ¹¹⁴¹
Col Glenn L. Terry	10 July 2007 ¹¹⁴²
Col Jeffery F. Baker	27 July 2009 ¹¹⁴³
Col Larry J. Evans	4 August 2011-. ¹¹⁴⁴

¹¹³⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹³⁵ 56 MDSS SO GU-002, ca. 12 May 1994

¹¹³⁶ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 13 September 1994

¹¹³⁷ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 7 August 1995

¹¹³⁸ 56 MDG SO GU-007, 3 August 1998

¹¹³⁹ 56 MDG SO GU-011, 26 June 2000

¹¹⁴⁰ 56 MDG SO GU-004, 16 July 2002

¹¹⁴¹ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-2, 27 May 2004

¹¹⁴² 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-2, 25 June 2007

¹¹⁴³ 56 MSG SO G-043, 29 July 2009

¹¹⁴⁴ 56 MDG SO G-020, 28 June 2011

56th Medical Support Squadron

Lineage.

Constituted 56th Medical Support Squadron
on 21 March 1994.

Activated on 1 April 1994.¹¹⁴⁵

Honors.

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 July 1994-30 June 1996¹¹⁴⁶

1 July 1996-30 June 1998¹¹⁴⁷

1 July 1998-30 June 2000¹¹⁴⁸

1 July 2001-30 June 2003¹¹⁴⁹

1 June [July] 2003-30 June 2005¹¹⁵⁰

1 July 2005-30 June 2006¹¹⁵¹

1 July 2006-30 June 2007¹¹⁵²

1 July 2007-30 June 2008¹¹⁵³

1 July 2008-30 June 2009¹¹⁵⁴

1 July 2009-30 June 2010¹¹⁵⁵

1 July 2010-30 June 2011¹¹⁵⁶



Assignments. 56th Medical Group, 1 April 1994-.¹¹⁵⁷

Stations. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.¹¹⁵⁸

¹¹⁴⁵ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹⁴⁶ AETC SO GA-18/1996

¹¹⁴⁷ AETC SO GA-12/1998

¹¹⁴⁸ AETC SO GA-9/2000

¹¹⁴⁹ AETC SO GA-55/2004

¹¹⁵⁰ AETC SO GA-0052/2006

¹¹⁵¹ AETC SO GA-045/2007

¹¹⁵² AETC SO G-054/2008

¹¹⁵³ AETC SO G-071/2009

¹¹⁵⁴ AETC SO G-025/2010

¹¹⁵⁵ AETC SO G-086/2011

¹¹⁵⁶ AETC SO G-171/17 April 2012

¹¹⁵⁷ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. Approved on 15 November 1996

Blazon. A gules, or and ultramarine azure shield is centered on an ultramarine azure disc. A gules cross is surmounted over the shield at the nombril point. The disc is bordered with gules. An ultramarine azure scroll is attached below the disc. The scroll, which is blank, is also bordered with gules.

Motto. None.

Significance. Ultramarine Blue and Air Force Yellow are used in the design. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow signifies the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Red Cross symbolizes the medical mission of the unit. The alternating YELLOW and RED represent the excellence and valor of support personnel in providing healthcare.

Commanders.

56th Medical Support Squadron [1 April 1994-.]

Lt Col Gary W. Milner	1 April 1994 ¹¹⁵⁹
Maj (later, Lt Col) Dale A. Villani	20 September 1996 ¹¹⁶⁰
Lt Col Douglas E. Anderson	1 August 1998 ¹¹⁶¹
Lt Col Timothy R. McCormick	9 January 2001 ¹¹⁶²
Lt Col Fabrizio Saraceni	27 June 2002 ¹¹⁶³
Lt Col Jesus E. Zarate	10 June 2004 ¹¹⁶⁴
Lt Col Daniel Milnes	17 May 2006 ¹¹⁶⁵
Lt Col Ronald L. Johnson	22 May 2008 ¹¹⁶⁶
Lt Col Scott C. Suckow	14 June 2010 ¹¹⁶⁷
Maj Gregory A. Coleman	15 June 2012 ¹¹⁶⁸

¹¹⁵⁸ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

¹¹⁵⁹ 56 MDSS SO GU-004, ca. 12 May 1994

¹¹⁶⁰ 56 MDG SO GU-005, 12 September 1996

¹¹⁶¹ 56 MSS SO GU-010, 10 August 1998

¹¹⁶² 56 MDG SO GU-015, 15 February 2001

¹¹⁶³ 56 MDG SO GU-002, 20 June 2002

¹¹⁶⁴ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 27 May 2004

¹¹⁶⁵ 56 MDG SO 56 MDG G-1, 9 May 2006

¹¹⁶⁶ 56 MDG SO 56MDSS SO G-1, 8 May 2008

¹¹⁶⁷ 56 MSG SO G-027, 14 June 2010

¹¹⁶⁸ 56 MDG SO G-014, 13 June 2012

History of Luke AFB

On 8 August 1940, the same day the Battle of Britain began, President Franklin D. Roosevelt directed the military to produce 12,000 pilots annually. In response to that order, the Army Air Corps conducted feasibility studies for the construction of eight new air fields. Phoenix City Manager Donald C. Scott announced on 13 February 1941 that the War Department had approved a site two miles north of the town of Litchfield Park, Arizona, for the construction of an advanced single engine flying training base. The site not only had almost year-round flying weather, but it also enjoyed proximity to vast stretches of Sonoran Desert that were ideal for bombing and gunnery practice. Two days later, Lt Col Ennis C. Whitehead arrived in the area to supervise construction of the base and to act as its first commander.

Ground was broken for Litchfield Park Air Base on 31 March 1941, and on 6 June 1941 the installation was renamed Luke Field for 2d Lt Frank Luke, Jr., a Phoenix native who was a World War I ace and the first aviator to be awarded the Medal of Honor. The first student pilot class began training the next day. During World War II, Luke Field produced 17,321 graduates from fighter training programs for the US and its allies. The base closed on 30 November 1946.

Luke was redesignated an air force base when it reopened on 1 February 1951 in response to a need for fighter aircrews generated by the Korean Conflict. The base was initially equipped with F-51 Mustang and F-84 Thunderjet aircraft. In 1957, Luke Air Force Base joined the supersonic age when the North American F-100 Super Sabre was assigned to the installation. That was followed in 1964 by foreign military sales programs in the F-104 Starfighter and the F-5A Freedom Fighter. The A-7D Corsair arrived in 1969, but was reassigned when the decision was made to make Luke USAF's primary F-4 Phantom II training base. The first F-4 was assigned in 1971. The first of the "Superfighters," the F-15 Eagle, was assigned to the base in 1974 followed in 1982 by the second "Superfighter," the F-16 Fighting Falcon. Then the F-15E Strike Eagle arrived in 1988. Three years later, in 1991, a decision to make Luke Air Force Base the service's primary F-16 training base led to the reassignment of the F-15 and four years later, in 1995, the F-15E was reassigned.

Prior to the reassignment of the F-15E, the real world political and military situation resulted in a perceived lessening of international tensions and resulted in a down-sizing of the nation's military. Senior Air Force leadership moved to ensure the most highly decorated units in USAF history remained part of the active force during the drawdown. That led to the reassignment of one of the most highly decorated units in USAF history, the 56th Fighter Wing, from scheduled-to-close MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, to Luke Air Force Base on 1 April 1994. Since 1941, Luke has produced more than 57,500 graduates from fighter training programs for the US and its allies and is truly: "The Home of the Fighter Pilot."

Luke Field/AFB Chronology

World War II

- 8 August 1940 President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered military to produce 12,000 pilots annually for proposed 54-group Army Air Corps.
- 1 October 1940 Lt Col Arthur L Wilson, Army's airport engineer chief, arrived in Phoenix, Arizona, to discuss possible establishment of flying training base.
- 26 November 1940 Brig Gen Henry W. Harms, West Coast Training Center commander, recommended Phoenix site to War Department for construction of advanced single engine flying training base.
- 17 December 1940 President Roosevelt increased target for annual pilot production from 12,000 to 30,000.
- 13 February 1941 Phoenix City Manager Donald C. Scott announced War Dept okayed for site just north of Litchfield Park, Arizona, for construction of air base and leased to Army for \$1 annually.
- 31 March 1941 Del Webb Construction Company broke ground for first building.
- 21 April 1941 Litchfield Park Air Base, Arizona, formally designated.
- 1 June 1941 2d Lt Martin D. Mulligan, a flight instructor piloting a North American AT-6 Texan, made first landing at base.
- 6 June 1941 Base renamed Luke Field for 2d Lt Frank Luke, Jr., Phoenix native who achieved triple ace status in WW I and first aviator awarded Medal of Honor.
- 7 June 1941 Class 41-F began training at Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport.
- 20 June 1941 Army Air Corps redesignated Army Air Forces.
- 15 July 1941 Flight operations moved from Sky Harbor to Luke Field.
- 15 August 1941 Class 41-F and 43 students first class to complete training.
- 5 September 1941 President Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8892 withdrawing federal lands at Gila Bend, Arizona, from public use and set land aside for bombing/gunnery practice.
- 29 September 1941 Luke Field formally dedicated.
- 7 December 1941 Nation's entry into World War II saw Luke construction 95 percent complete with facilities for 3,700 personnel.

- 26 December 1941 Federal judge authorized government to seize cattle on Gila Bend Range. Ranchers had grazing rights under Taylor Grazing Act and refused to move herds after President Roosevelt issued his 5 September 1941 order. Judge's ruling prompted ranchers to move herds.
- December 1941 Heavy rains caused flooding; base covered with silt and debris.
- 9 January 1942 2d Lt Richard I. Bong completed AT-6 advanced training as a member of Class 42-A. He was all-time top US ace with 40 kills and received Medal of Honor.



2d Lt Richard I. Bong
as an Instructor Pilot at Luke in 1942

- 30 January 1942 Gila Bend Gunnery Range placed on exempted status.
- 18 March 1942 Executive Order 9104 issued and again allowed military use of Gila Bend Range.
- 27 March 1942 First Chinese Air Force AT-6 class, 42-E, graduated 42 students.



- 25 May 1942 Project started to modify irrigation ditches/drainage canals to carry excess flood waters away from base.
- 22 June 1942 Curtis P-40 Warhawk training began.
- 14 July 1942 Heavy rains filled canal near base and resulted in flood.
- September 1942 Heavy rains damaged Luke Field and disrupted training.
- 12 September 1942 First Chinese Air Force P-40 class, 42-F, graduated 40 students.
- 2 October 1942 First Army Air Forces class completed P-40 training.
- 6 November 1942 Interior Department Order 56 issued allowing military use of Gila Bend Range.
- 14 March 1943 Base's P-40 operational training unit revised into P-40 fighter transition training program.

- April 1943 First US P-40 fighter transition class graduated.
- 5 June 1943 First Women's Army Auxiliary Corps members arrived at Luke.
- July 1943 Record-setting 49,784 sorties flown in one month.
- December 1943 Luke produced record 6,447 graduates during year.



- 7 February 1944 Col Lester S. Harris, Director of Training, Maj Hugh A. Griffith, Jr., Base Operations Officers, and Capt William A. Payton, Assistant Operations Officer, greet Col John K. Nissley, Commanding Officer after he completed the 1,000,000 flying hour at Luke Field.
- 23 August 1944 First Women Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) arrived at Luke.



- 20 December 1944 WASP unit inactivated.
- December 1944 Luke had 546 aircraft, the largest number ever assigned to base.
- 28 February 1945 Executive Order 9526 issued allowing military use of Gila Bend Range.
- 13 March 1945 Lockheed P-38 Lightning fighter transition training began.
- July 1945 North American P-51 Mustang fighter transition training began.
- 14 August 1945 P-40, P-38, and P-51 training terminated for US pilots.
- 13 October 1945 Chinese Air Force P-40 training ended.

- 15 May 1946 Chinese Air Force P-51 training ended.
- 15 May 1946 Class 46-A (AT-6) graduated as last class at Luke.
- 30 November 1946 3028th Army Air Forces Air Base Unit inactivated at Luke. Base became auxiliary of Williams Field, Arizona. Luke produced 17,231 graduates training during World War II. Graduates included 13,568 US and 508 Chinese Air Force in AT-6, 2,483 US and 331 Chinese Air Force in P-40, 280 US in P-38, and 61 US graduates in P-51 program.
- 30 November 1946 Gila Bend Range reassigned to Williams Field and redesignated Williams Bombing and Gunnery Range.
- 13 January 1948 Williams Field renamed Williams Air Force Base.
- 28 May 1948 Congress enacted Public Law 561 allowing military use of range.

Korean War to Present

- 1 January 1951 Luke redesignated an Air Force Base; removed from inactive list in response to need for fighter aircrews generated by Korean Conflict.
- 1 February 1951 127th Fighter Wing (Michigan Air National Guard) federalized and assigned to Luke as 127th Pilot Training Wing. Base equipped with North American AT-6 Texan, North American F-51 Mustang, and Republic F-84 Thunderjet aircraft.
- 1 July 1951 Intense rains flood base. Residents of nearby Glendale took in military families whose quarters damaged by flooding.



Flooded Front Gate

- 14 November 1951 Gunnery range reassigned from Williams to Luke as were Gila Bend and Dateland Air Force Auxiliary Fields, both in Arizona.

- 2 May 1952 Federal government took possession of 600,000 acres of public domain land to expand range at Gila Bend.
- 1 November 1952 127th Pilot Training Wing defederalized. The 3600th Flying Training Wing (Fighter) activated as Luke host unit and was assigned to the Crew Training Air Force-Air Training Command. The 3600th Flying Training Group, 3600th Air Base Group, 3600th Maintenance & Supply Group, and 3600th Medical Group activated as subordinates of the new wing.
- 21 April 1953 F-51 program ended after producing 624 graduates.
- 1 June 1953 3600th USAF Air Demonstration Team, the Thunderbirds, formed at Luke flying the Republic F-84G Thunderjet.



Left to Right: Aubrey D. "Brownie" Brown, Robert S. "Mac" McCormick, Cuthbert A. "Bill" Pattillo, Maj Richard C. "Dick" Catledge, Commander, and Charles C. "Buck" Pattillo

- 24 June 1953 The 3600th USAF Air Demonstration Flight (Arco-Jet) formally assigned to the wing
- 1 October 1953 The 3600th Medical Group redesignated the 3600th USAF Hospital
- December 1953 Range at Gila Bend included over 2 million acres of public lands and over 600,000 acres leased from state or private landowners.



4 September 1954

Capt Edward W. Kenny won Bendix Trophy Air Race/Bendix Trophy in F-84F when set cross-country record of three hours and two minutes for average speed of 616 miles per hour.



27 October 1954

3600th Flying Training Wing (Fighter) redesignated 3600th Combat Crew Training Wing (Fighter). The 3600th Flying Training Group (Fighter) also redesignated the 3600th Combat Crew Training Group (Fighter).

15 February 1955

The 3600th Installations Group activated as a subordinate of the wing.

April 1955

The Thunderbirds traveled to Long Island to pick up six new Republic F-84F Thunderstreak aircraft at the factory for the team.

7 April 1956

USAF gained title to land on which base situated from Phoenix for \$1.

31 May 1956

Thunderbirds moved to Nellis AFB, Nevada, to fly supersonic-capable North American F-100 Super Sabres assigned there.

1 July 1957

The 3600th Flying Training Wing (Fighter) reassigned to the Flying Training Air Force-Air Training Command.

23 August 1957

First German AF class entered F-84 training. Class included seven World War II Luftwaffe aces.



Left to right: Capt Friedrich Obleser (20 kills), Lt Col Guenther Rall (275), Capt Paul Schauder (20), Capt Fritz Wegner (8), Maj Erich Hartmann (352), Capt Dieter Bernhard (8), and 1st Lt Gerd Tetteroo (9).

8 November 1957

First F-100 Super Sabre delivered to Luke.



Senator Barry M. Goldwater, Air Force Reserve Officer, climbs into a North American F-100 at Luke AFB.

1 April 1958

The 3600th Combat Crew Training Wing reassigned as a direct subordinate of Air Training Command.



1 July 1958

In a move to place all fighter training under one command, wing reassigned from Air Training Command to Twelfth Air Force Command under Tactical Air Command. The 3600th Combat Crew Training Wing redesignated as 4510th Combat Crew Training Wing (Tactical Fighter) and became the host unit. Subordinate groups were redesignated as the 4510th Combat Crew Training Group (Fighter), 4510th Air Base Group, 4510th Maintenance & Supply Group, 4510th Installations Group and 4510th USAF Hospital

September 1959

Saguaro Manor base housing north of Glendale Ave opened with 724 units.



Bldg 1150, circa 1960

10 June 1960

Phoenix Air Defense Sector, Luke's largest tenant unit, moved into "Blockhouse," bldg 1150, which was designed to withstand near miss by a nuclear device.

1 July 1960

The 4510th Installations Group redesignated 4510th Civil Engineering Group and relieved of assignment to the wing.

5 July 1960

F-86F program transferred to Luke from Williams AFB.

23 October 1960

302d Special Operations Squadron assigned to base.

- 27 September 1962 F-86F program transferred to Nellis AFB after producing 123 graduates.
- 6 March 1963 Range redesignated Luke Air Force Range.
- 1 July 1963 The 4510th Air Base Groups redesignated the 4510th Combat Support Group.
- 1 August 1963 The 4510th Combat Crew Training Wing (Tactical Fighter) reorganized using the dual deputy system with a Deputy Commander for Operations, a Deputy Commander for Materiel, 4510th Combat Support Group (Tactical Air Command), and the 4510th USAF Hospital. The 4510th Combat Crew Training Group and 4510th Maintenance Supply Group were discontinued. The following units were activated and assigned to the wing: 4511th, 4512th, 4514th, 4515th, 4516th, and 4517th Combat Crew Training Squadrons; 4511th, 4512th, and 4513th Organizational Maintenance Squadrons; 4510th Field Maintenance Squadron, 4514th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron, 4515th Munitions Maintenance Squadron, and 4510th Supply Squadron.
- 1 December 1963 The 4441st Combat Crew Training Squadron organized at Williams Air Force Base, but was assigned to 4510th Combat Crew Training Wing (Tactical Fighter) at Luke to train students to fly the Northrop F-5A/B Freedom Fighter.
- 1 December 1963 The 4518th Combat Crew Training Squadron activated and assigned to 4510th Combat Crew Training Wing (Tactical Fighter).
- 1 April 1964 The 4540th Combat Crew Training Group activated as a subordinate to the wing to conduct German Air Force F-104G training. The Group Commander, Col J.D. Collingsworth, was an equal to the Deputy Commander for Operations. The 4518th, Combat Crew Training Squadron was assigned to the group.



F-104s on the Luke AFB ramp.

- 1 April 1964 First F-104 student sortie flown under USAF/German Air Force F-104 Starfighter Foreign Military Sales Program.
- 30 April 1964 First F-5A Freedom Fighter delivered to 4441st Combat Crew Training Squadron at Williams AFB. Program conducted by Luke but based at Williams due to commonality of maintenance/parts between F-5 and Williams T-38 trainer.
- 11 June 1964 F-84 program ended after producing 6,930 graduates.
- 15 June 1964 With the end of F-84 training, the 4513d Organizational Maintenance Squadron deactivated.
- 15 June 1964 Col James Jabara, the first jet ace, assumed command of the 4540th Combat Crew Training Group
- 22 July 1965 Project Skoshi Tiger conducted to determine combat effectiveness of F-5A. Success of test resulted in basing jets in South Vietnam.
- 12 December 1967 Luke was operations center for Operation Haylift which saved 500,000 snowbound Indian livestock in northern Arizona.
- 1 September 1969 First A-7D Corsair delivered to base as part of plan to conduct fighter training in jet at Luke.



- 15 October 1969 4510th Combat Crew Training Wing inactivated and 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing activated as Luke host unit in move to redesignate training wings as fighter wings with combat histories. Also, 69th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron and 418th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated as F-104 units, and 425th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated as F-5 unit.
- 15 December 1969 310th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, which was historically aligned with 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing, activated to conduct A-7D training.

- 18 January 1970 311th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, which was historically aligned with 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing, activated to conduct F-100 training, and 426th and 550th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated to conduct F-100 training.
- 13 February 1970 First A-7D class entered training.
- February 1971 Ocotillo Manor south of Glendale Ave opened with 150 units.
- 8 March 1970 Reassignment of A-7D program to Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, announced to make room for F-4 training.



Col John S. Clark, Jr., Commander, 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing climbs into his F-4C.

- 7 May 1971 Wing received first F-4C Phantom II.
- 20 July 1971 Last A-7D class graduated. Program moved to Davis-Monthan AFB after producing 143 graduates.
- 30 August 1971 F-100 program ended after producing 3,451 graduates.
- 15 December 1972 Air Installation Compatible Use Zone (AICUZ) study submitted to Maricopa County Board of Supervisors to assist in planning for compatible land use near Luke. Board judged requests for development on case-by-case basis as impossible in 1972 to determine what noise zones to adopt for what areas, and board's authority to zone based on noise was questioned.

- 6 April 1973 First F-5E Tiger II delivered to 425th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron.
- 5 July 1974 555th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron reassigned without assets from Thailand to Luke and named as USAF's first McDonnell Douglas F-15A Eagle squadron.
- 14 November 1974 First F-15A Eagle in USAF's operational inventory delivered to Luke. Event presided over by President Gerald Ford.



Lt Col Ernest T. "Ted" Laudis, Commander, 555th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron briefs President Gerald Ford on the F-15. Colonel Laudis flew the first F-15 into Luke.

- 17 January 1975 Group called Westside Property Owners filed suit against Luke charging F-15 bed down violated 1969 National Environmental Policy Act, that jet created air/noise pollution. They argued the F-15 posed dangerous accident threat, and that Environmental Impact Statement on bed down contained misleading/inaccurate statements.
- 20 August 1975 First F-15 repainted from air superiority blue to gray.
- 1976 1976 Luke AICUZ published as land use planning guide. Report listed noise/accident potential zones near base caused by air operations. Study had no enforcement power.
- 17 June 1976 Federal judge ruled in favor of Luke in Westside Property Owners' suit (see entry 17 January 1975).

- 23 June 1976 Second F-15 squadron, the 4461st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, activated.
- 1 October 1976 F-104 program began scaling down with inactivation of 418th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron.
- 15 November 1976 Five Israeli AF pilots completed F-15 course, F1500F, with 555th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron as members of Class 76 AFL.
- 1 April 1977 New intermediate headquarters, Tactical Training Luke (TTL), activated and 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing redesignated a Tactical Training Wing under the headquarters.
- 1 July 1977 4461st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron inactivated and 461st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated to assume that unit's assets/mission.
- ca. 1977 Glendale annexed a 10-foot-wide strip around Luke to protect it from encroachment.
- 6 June 1978 Fire from ground accident between two F-15s resulted in first CORKER (boron composite fibers subjected to combustion became electromagnetically charged and shorted out electrical systems).



- 29 August 1979 58th Tactical Training Wing conducted F-4/F-104/F-15/F-5 training. Span of control problems led to activation of second wing, 405th Tactical Training Wing, to assume F-5/F-15 programs while 58th Tactical Training Wing retained F-4/F-104 programs.
- 21 November 1980 302d Special Operations Squadron helicopters rescued 17 people during fire at MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas.
- 1 December 1980 TTL inactivated and 832d Air Division activated as Luke host unit in move to do away with nonstandard organizations.



- 1 January 1981 426th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron reassigned from 58th to 405th Tactical Training Wing. 58th left with its original World War II squadrons, the 69th, 310th, and 311th.
- 6 April 1981 First of 12 Japanese pilots entered F-15 training under Peace Eagle Program.
- 4 August 1981 First of 12 Saudi pilots entered F-15 training under Peace Sun Program.
- 29 June 1982 F-4 program ended after producing 3,147 graduates.



- 6 December 1982 First F-16A/B jet, Tail No. 78-0081, delivered to 58th Tactical Training Wing.
- 25 January 1983 Training began in F-16 with Class 83 AIL in Instructor Pilot course.



- 16 March 1983 USAF/German AF F-104 Starfighter Program ended after producing 2,200 graduates for North Atlantic Treaty Organization air forces. The 69th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, which conducted the F-104 program, was inactivated.
- 06 April 1983 Foreign training began in F-16 as four Pakistanis entered Transition course with 311th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron.
- December 1983 58th Tactical Training Wing proposed LF for use on F-16 tails to differentiate 58th Tactical Training Wing from 405th Tactical Training Wing jets. All Luke host unit jets had used LA on tails since 1957. Request approved, but extended to all Luke host unit aircraft.
- 23 December 1983 The 26th North American Aerospace Defense Command Region/Air Division (formerly Phoenix Air Defense Sector), Luke tenant unit, moved to March AFB, California.
- 24 December 1983 Media reported dispute between Luke/El Mirage over base's opposition to envisioned \$70 million El Mirage project. Luke opposed project as homes planned too close to runways. Initial findings of upcoming AICUZ revealed proposed development would be in high noise areas.
- 1 October 1984 312d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated as USAF's first F-16C/D squadron.



- 5 November 1984 First F-16C/D in USAF's inventory delivered to 58th Tactical Training Wing, Tail Nos. 83-1121 (left) and 83-1175 (right).
- January 1985 12AF Aerial Demonstration Team formed at Luke to demonstrate F-16 capabilities at sites not usually visited by Thunderbirds.
- May 1985 1985 Luke AICUZ published and included expanded high noise areas to north resulting from departures to northeast turning west earlier to avoid over flights of most of El Mirage, and because F-15E operations were factored in.
- 26 June 1985 Interstate 10 near Luke completed. It improved access to West Valley and attractiveness of West Valley developments.
- 25 July 1985 Peoples Republic of China delegation visited base to look for possible areas of cooperation between Peoples Liberation Army and USAF.
- 10 April 1986 State revised annexation law and required municipality to be adjacent to unincorporated land and have okay from landowners before could annex it (see entry ca. 1977).

- 2 May 1986 Arizona Senate Bill 1011 signed into law. It intended to direct compatible land use in areas affected by military air operations, but weakened in House when zoning left to municipalities and suggested rather than directed compatible land use.
- 30 June 1986 After close coordination with Luke AFB, a new Glendale Airport was opened some four miles east of the base.
- 1 October 1986 Maricopa County Joint Land-Use Study (JLUS) Committee conducted own noise study on Luke operations. USAF contributed \$60,000 for study.
- 1 October 1986 314th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron activated as 58th Tactical Training Wing's fourth F-16 unit.
- 6 November 1986 Congress passed Land Withdrawal Act requiring 832d Air Division to submit Environmental Impact Statement to Congress on effects of fighter training on Luke AF Range environment. Congress withdrew range from public use until 2001.
- 1986 Papago Indians at Sells, Arizona, change name to Tohono O'odham.
- 23 March 1987 Luke Range renamed Barry M. Goldwater Range for retired US Senator Barry M. Goldwater (Rep, Arizona). At dedication Goldwater declared, "...Luke Air Force Base will be here forever."
- 9 June 1987 US Supreme Court ruling on taking directed landowners be compensated when new restrictions denied them use of their land.
- 1 July 1987 944th Fighter Group (AFRES) activated. 302d Special Operations Squadron redesignated tactical fighter squadron, equipped with F-16s, and assigned to 944th Fighter Group.
- 21 December 1987 USAF canceled plans to base Midgetman Missile on Goldwater Range. Basing system on range would have restricted its use as overflying nuclear sites prohibited.
- 4 March 1988 First class of two Republic of Singapore AF pilots entered training with 311th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron under a Peace Carvin Foreign Military Sales Program.



- 12 April 1988 The 461st Tactical Fighter Training Squadron received Tail No. 86-0186. Aircraft was first McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle in USAF.
- 1 September 1988 County officials approved JLUS study that reduced noise zones near Luke by 4,000 acres over 1985 AICUZ study.
- 1 April 1989 4444th Operations Squadron activated and assigned to 832d Air Division.
- 2 May 1989 First Block 42 F-16C/D in USAF delivered to 58th Tactical Training Wing.
- 15 May 1989 550th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron became 405th Tactical Training Wing's second F-15E training unit.
- 17 May 1989 First low altitude navigation and targeting infra-red for night (LANTIRN) system accepted into USAF inventory at Luke.
- 1 September 1989 F-5 Foreign Military Sales program ended after producing 1,499 graduates locally and over 200 more in customer nations through deployment of mobile training teams. 425th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, unit that conducted program, inactivated.
- 5 October 1989 Soviet Defense Minister Yazov visited base.



- October 1989 832d Air Division Support Center activated in Blockhouse, bldg 1150, and relieved some of base's facilities shortfall.
- 26 December 1989 310th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron conducted Blacklight exercise and became first unit to drop live ordnance on uncontrolled range at night using LANTIRN system.
- 3 January 1990 Peace Carvin Program ended.
- 29 November 1990 426th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, 405th Tactical Training Wing F-15 fighter squadron, inactivated.
- 18 January 1991 312d Tactical Fighter Training Squadron inactivated as USAF drew down F-16A/B units. Unit's jets reassigned to more historically significant 311th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron.
- 26 February 1991 Last F-16A/B used for training USAF pilots left Luke.
- 11 April 1991 Operation Desert Storm ended. Luke deployed over 600 personnel in support of operations, including 13 pilots who flew 258 combat missions and provided real-world training in LANTIRN system.
- 15 April 1991 USAF announced plan to consolidate all Regular AF F-16C/D training at Luke.
- 1 October 1991 Major force structure realignment inactivated 832d Air Division and 405th Tactical Training Wing while 58th Tactical Training Wing redesignated a fighter wing (FW) and Luke host unit. Reorganization implemented objective wing, did away with deputy commanders for operations, maintenance, and resource management, and set up operations, logistics, support, and medical groups. 4444th Operations Squadron reassigned to Tactical Air Command.
- 1 November 1991 All Tactical Fighter Training Squadron units redesignated Fighter Squadrons.

- 14 November 1991 550th Fighter Squadron inactivated; 555th Fighter Squadron assumed unit's F-15E assets/mission.
- 9 December 1991 Fifty years of stemming encroachment ended as county officials approved JLUS recommendation allowing some residential development in high noise areas near Luke.
- 20 December 1991 Last F-15A Eagle left Luke and F-15A/B/C/D program ended after producing 3,303 graduates since 1974.
- 1 May 1992 607th Air Control Squadron assigned to 58th Fighter Wing. It had been a Davis-Monthan AFB unit but based at Luke as a tenant.
- 1 June 1992 In another reorganization, Tactical Air Command inactivated and Air Combat Command (ACC) activated. Luke and 58th Fighter Wing reassigned to ACC.
- 1 July 1992 Reorganization on 1 October 1991 also merged Component Repair Squadron and Equipment Maintenance Squadron into 58th Maintenance Squadron. Span of control problems led new squadron to split into two units, the 58th Component Repair Squadron and 58th Equipment Maintenance Squadron
- 11 August 1992 Phoenix civic leaders traveled to Washington, District of Columbia and met USAF secretary/USAF vice chief of staff to stress area's support for continued existence of Luke. Group met ACC commander next day to stress same message.
- 17 August 1992 Tests concluded over flights of bat caves on range had no significant impact on Sanborne long-nosed bats which were vital in pollinating desert plant life.
- 20 October 1992 Intense storms caused overflow of Dysart Drainage Canal north of base, resulted in over \$3 million in damage to base housing. Flood caused by land subsidence of 17 feet due to long-term pumping of ground water.



Flooded Base Bowling Alley, 20 October 1992

- 30 December 1992 425th Fighter Squadron activated to conduct Peace Carvin II Program. Program designed to provide Republic of Singapore AF F-16-qualified pilots with continuation training in F-16A/B.
- 25 February 1993 63d Fighter Squadron reassigned from 56th Fighter Wing to 58th Fighter Wing as Block 42 F-16C/D unit.
- 31 March 1993 Williams AFB closed with inactivation of 82d Flying Training Wing. Luke assumed responsibility for servicing some 27,000 retirees in East Valley.
- 18 May 1993 Governor's Regional Airport Advisory Committee, formed to determine if Phoenix area aviation needs better served by regional or reliever airport, recommended Williams AFB be used as reliever airport. Luke favored recommendation as regional airport (at Casa Grande) could have affected access to range.
- 1 July 1993 58th Fighter Wing reassigned from ACC to Air Education and Training Command (AETC) in move to place all training units in AETC. Wing's lone operational unit, 607th Air Control Squadron, remained in ACC and reassigned to Davis-Monthan AFB but based at Luke as a tenant.
- 22 September 1993 Work began on \$12 million Dysart Canal project to protect base from future flooding.
- 9 October 1993 Luke and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed agreement putting base on road to full environmental compliance.
- 23 October 1993 Range Management Office established as a wing staff agency to manage operations, scheduling, maintenance of range.
- 15 November 1993 USAF announced F-15E to move to Seymour Johnson AFB, North Carolina, in 1995 due to facilities saturation at Luke. Move being made to accommodate Taiwan AF F-16 training program and an F-16 international flying training activity (IFTA).
- 23 December 1993 EPA policy change requiring federal projects conform to state environmental requirements resulted in AETC issuing moratorium on bed down of additional F-16s at Luke. Moratorium in effect until assessment completed to determine effects of bed down on environment.
- 31 December 1993 All 58th Fighter Wing jets equipped with Pratt and Whitney 200 engine retrofitted with 220E engine in move to decrease engine maintenance and enhance safety.



- 10 February 1994 First female fighter pilot in USAF history, 1st Lt Jeannie M. Flynn, completed F-15E basic course with 555th Fighter Squadron.
- 28 February 1994 In move to ensure most highly decorated units remained in active fighter force during period of military drawdown, USAF directed 56th Fighter Wing be reassigned from scheduled-to-close MacDill AFB, Florida, to Luke, effective 1 April 1994. 56th to move without personnel/equipment and take over 58th Fighter Wing assets/ mission.
- 10 March 1994 Environmental assessment/conformity analysis completed and revealed basing of additional F-16s at Luke would have no significant impact. Assessment resulted in lifting of moratorium on bed down of additional F-16s at Luke (see entry 23 December 1993).
- 18 March 1994 62d Fighter Squadron activated at Luke as Block 25 F-16C/D training unit.
- 25 March 1994 555th Fighter Squadron inactivated and 550th Fighter Squadron activated to assume 555th Fighter Squadron' assets/mission and complete F-15E program transfer.

1 April 1994

58th Fighter Wing redesignated a special operations wing and reassigned to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. Most 58-numbered units inactivated as did the 311th Fighter Squadron and 314th Fighter Squadron. 56th Fighter Wing moved from MacDill AFB to Luke AFB and assumed assets/mission of 58th Fighter Wing. 308th Fighter Squadron moved from Moody AFB, GA, to Luke and assigned to 56th Fighter Wing. All 56-numbered groups and squadrons, including four new medical squadrons, activated and assigned to 56th Fighter Wing as were the 61st Fighter Squadron and 309th Fighter Squadron. Additionally, the 62d Fighter Squadron, 63d Fighter Squadron, 310th Fighter Squadron, 425th Fighter Squadron, 461st Fighter Squadron, and 550th Fighter Squadron were reassigned from 58th Fighter Wing to 56th Fighter Wing.

Luke chronology joins with that of 56th Fighter Wing, effective 1 April 1994 on page 15.



Seven North American AT-6 Texans from Luke Field in formation over the Agua Fria River during World War II.

Luke Field/AFB Commanders

<u>Luke Field</u>	<u>Date Assigned</u>	
Lt Col (later Brig Gen) Ennis C. Whitehead	21 April 1941	(Lieutenant General)
Col Ross G. Hoyt	13 July 1942	(Brigadier General)
Lt Col Lester R. Harris	13 February 1943	
Col John K. Nissley	19 March 1943	
Lt Col Graham M. Bates	28 July 1944	
Col John K. Nissley	5 October 1944	
Col Lance Call	9 January 1945	
Col John M. Davies	14 April 1945	
Col Graham M. Bates	5 July 1945	
Lt Col Howard J. Bechtel	10 September 1945	
Col Lance Call	27 October 1945	
Col J. Garret Jackson	9 November 1945	
Col Gladwyn E. Pinkston	10 December 1945	(Brigadier General)
Luke Field Inactivated	30 November 1946.	

127th Pilot Training Wing (1 January 1951 – 1 November 1952)

Luke Removed from Inactive List	1 January 1951	
Col Henry J. Amen	1 February 1951	
Col Thomas L. Mosley	15 October 1951-1 November 1952.	

3600th Flying Training Wing (1 November 1952 – 1 July 1958)

Col Thomas L. Mosley	1 November 1952	
Brig Gen Charles F. Born	15 November 1952	(Major General)
Brig Gen Turner C. Rogers	15 August 1953	(Major General)
Brig Gen Robert L. Scott, Jr	1 October 1956	
Col Warren H. Higgins	1 October 1957–1 July 1958.	

4510th Combat Crew Training Wing (1 July 1958 – 15 October 1969)

Col Warren H. Higgins	1 July 1958	
Col (later, Brig Gen) James W. Chapman, Jr	18 January 1959	
Col Bingham T. Kleine	24 June 1961	
Col Augustus M. Hendry, Jr	1 November 1963	(Major General)
Col Arthur Small	16 May 1966	
Col Gerald Brown	1 July 1967	
Col Richard C. Catledge	1 November 1967	(Major General)
Col John J. Burns	1 October 1969 – 15 October 1969.	(Lieutenant General)

58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing (15 October 1969 – 1 April 1977)

Col John J. Burns	15 October 1969	(Lieutenant General)
Col John S. Clarke, Jr	26 June 1970 ¹¹⁶⁹	
Col (later, Brig Gen) Albert L. Melton	31 August 1972	
Col Fred A. Haeffner	15 August 1974–1 April 1977. ¹¹⁷⁰	(Major General)

Tactical Training Luke (1 April 1977 – 1 December 1980)¹¹⁷¹

Brig Gen (later Maj Gen) Fred A. Haeffner	1 April 1977 ¹¹⁷²	
Col (later Brig Gen) John F. O'Donnell	10 June 1977	
Brig Gen John L. Pickitt	17 July 1978	(Lieutenant General)
Brig Gen William A. Gorton	3 January 1980. ¹¹⁷³	– 1 December 1980 (Major General)

832d Air Division (1 December 1980 – 1 October 1991)

Brig Gen William A. Gorton	1 December 1980	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Michael J. Dugan	31 March 1981 ¹¹⁷⁴	(General, CSAF)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Henry D. Canterbury	12 May 1982 ¹¹⁷⁵	(Major General)
Col Daniel J. Sherlock	14 December 1984 ¹¹⁷⁶	
Col (later, Brig Gen) John M. Davey	16 January 1985	(Major General)
Brig Gen Billy G. McCoy	25 July 1986 ¹¹⁷⁷	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Daniel J. Sherlock	29 June 1987 ¹¹⁷⁸	
Brig Gen Ralph T. Browning	4 September 1990. ¹¹⁷⁹	– 1 October 1991 (POW, 8 July 1966)(Brigadier General)

¹¹⁶⁹ 58 TFTW SO G-1, 26 June 1970¹¹⁷⁰ 12 SF SO G-66, 15 July 1974; DAF SO AA-496, 30 March 1977¹¹⁷¹ TAC SO GA-22, 9 May 1977¹¹⁷² DAF SO AA-496, 30 March 1977 and TTL SO G-16, 1 April 1977¹¹⁷³ 58 CSG SO G-2, 3 January 1980¹¹⁷⁴ 58 CSG SO G-22, 18 June 1981¹¹⁷⁵ 832 CSG SO G-24, 12 May 1982¹¹⁷⁶ 12 AF SO G-08, 11 December 1984¹¹⁷⁷ 832 CSG SO G-51, 25 July 1986¹¹⁷⁸ 832 CSG SO G-53, 26 June 1987¹¹⁷⁹ 12 AF SO G-012, 28 August 1990

58th Tactical Training Wing (1 April 1977 – 1 October 1991)¹¹⁸⁰

Col John F. O'Donnell	1 April 1977 ¹¹⁸¹	(Brigadier General)
Col James P. Coyne	10 June 1977	
Col Edward Levell, Jr.	4 August 1977	
Col Peter T. Kempf	27 March 1978	(Major General)
Col Alan P. Lurie	29 August 1979 ¹¹⁸²	(Brigadier General)
Col Malcolm F. Bolton	5 June 1981 ¹¹⁸³	(Brigadier General)
Col James F. Record	23 May 1983 ¹¹⁸⁴	(Lieutenant General)
Col James M. Johnston	5 May 1984 ¹¹⁸⁵	(Brigadier General)
Col Ralph T. Browning	18 September 1985 ¹¹⁸⁶	(POW, 8 July 1966)(Brigadier General)
Col W. Thomas West	16 July 1987 ¹¹⁸⁷	(Major General)
Col William F. Looke	20 April 1988 ¹¹⁸⁸	
Col William S. Hinton, Jr.	7 September 1989 ¹¹⁸⁹	(Major General)
Col Steven R. Polk	2 July 1991 ¹¹⁹⁰ – 1 October 1991.	(Lieutenant General)



Brig Gen Ralph T. Browning, POW in North Vietnam 8 July 1966-12 February 1973, held four commands at Luke AFB. He commanded the 555th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, the 58th Tactical Training Wing, the 832d Air Division, and on 1 October 1991, the 58th Fighter Wing, when the Air Force did away with air divisions.

¹¹⁸⁰ TAC SO GA-22, 9 May 1977
¹¹⁸¹ 58 TTW SO G-15, 1 April 1977
¹¹⁸² 58 CSG SO G-30, 29 August 1979
¹¹⁸³ 58 CSG SO G-21, 5 June 1981
¹¹⁸⁴ 832 CSG SO G-20, 19 May 1983
¹¹⁸⁵ 832 CSG SO G-008, 5 May 1984
¹¹⁸⁶ 832 CSG SO G-41, 17 September 1985
¹¹⁸⁷ 832 CSG SO G-58, 14 July 1987
¹¹⁸⁸ 832 CSG SO G-38, 20 April 1988
¹¹⁸⁹ 832 MSS SO G-31, 24 August 1989
¹¹⁹⁰ 832 MSS SO SO-G-23, 27 June 1991

405th Tactical Training Wing (29 August 1979 – 1 October 1991)¹¹⁹¹

Col Charles A. Horner	29 August 1979 ¹¹⁹²	(General, USSPACECOM)
Col Robert W. Ruark	21 May 1980 ¹¹⁹³	
Col Peter D. Hayes	9 March 1981 ¹¹⁹⁴	(Brigadier General)
Col Philip W. Handley	23 April 1982 ¹¹⁹⁵	
Col Daniel J. Sherlock	15 April 1983 ¹¹⁹⁶	(Brigadier General)
Col Thomas C. Skanchy	24 June 1985 ¹¹⁹⁷	
Col Robin G. Tornow	30 December 1986 ¹¹⁹⁸	(Brigadier General)
Col George T. Lewis, Jr.	15 June 1988 ¹¹⁹⁹	
Col John D. Lauher	1 June 1990 ¹²⁰⁰	
Col William T. Hobbins	2 August 1991 ¹²⁰¹	–1 October 1991. (General, USAFE)

¹¹⁹¹ Redesignated from HQ 405th Fighter Wing [inactivated on 16 September 1974] to HQ 405th Tactical Training Wing on 20 August 1979. Same dates for AMS to CRS, FMS to EMS, and OMS to AGS. 405 TTS, AGS, CRS, and EMS activated on 29 August 1979. 405 Tactical Training Sq constituted 24 August 1979. TAC SO GA-95, 20 August 1979.

¹¹⁹² 58 CSG SO G-29, 29 August 1979

¹¹⁹³ 12 AF SO G-6, 14 May 1980 and 58 CSG SO G-24, 19 May 1980

¹¹⁹⁴ 12 AF SO G-1, 4 March 1981

¹¹⁹⁵ 832 CSG SO G-58, 27 April 1982

¹¹⁹⁶ 832 CSG SO G-12, 12 April 1983

¹¹⁹⁷ 832 CSG SO G-25, 20 June 1985

¹¹⁹⁸ 832 CSG SO G-11, 30 December 1986

¹¹⁹⁹ 832 CSG SO SO-G-45, 14 June 1988

¹²⁰⁰ 832 MSS SO SO-G-21, 24 May 1990

¹²⁰¹ 832 MSS SO SO-G-27, 31 July 1991

58th Fighter Wing (1 October 1991 – 1 April 1994)

Brig Gen Ralph T. Browning	1 October 1991 ¹²⁰²	(POW, 8 July 1966)
Brig Gen Patrick K. Gamble	21 August 1992 ¹²⁰³	(General, PACAF)
Brig Gen Stephen B. Plummer	24 June 1993 – 1 April 1994.	(Lieutenant General)

56th Fighter Wing (1 April 1994 – Present)

Brig Gen Stephen B. Plummer	1 April 1994 ¹²⁰⁴	(Lieutenant General)
Brig Gen (later, Maj Gen) Marvin R. Esmond	14 April 1995 ¹²⁰⁵	(Lieutenant General)
Col (later, Brig Gen Carrol H. Chandler	2 April 1996 ¹²⁰⁶	(General-VCSAF)
Brig Gen John L. Barry	17 July 1998 ¹²⁰⁷	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Stephen T. Sargeant	15 February 2000 ¹²⁰⁸	(Major General)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Philip M. Breedlove	17 June 2002 ¹²⁰⁹	(General-USAFE)
Col (later, Brig Gen) Robin Rand	8 June 2004 ¹²¹⁰	(Lieutenant General)
Col (later, Brig Gen Noel T. Jones	13 June 2006 ¹²¹¹	(Lieutenant General)
Brig Gen Kurt F. Neubauer	9 July 2008 ¹²¹²	(Major General)
Brig Gen Jerry M. Harris, Jr.	20 September 2010 ¹²¹³	
Brig Gen Michael D. Rothstein	12 September 2012 – Present.	

¹²⁰² 58 MSS SO SO-G-16, 1 October 1991

¹²⁰³ 12 AF SO G-019, 14 August 1992

¹²⁰⁴ 58 FW SO SO-GA-001, 24 June 1993

¹²⁰⁵ 19 AF SO G-002, 6 April 1995

¹²⁰⁶ 19 AF SO G-007, 26 March 1996

¹²⁰⁷ 56 MSS SO SO-GR-002, 17 July 1998

¹²⁰⁸ 19 AF SO G-00-002, 14 February 2000

¹²⁰⁹ 19 AF SO 56 MSS G-3, 13 June 2002

¹²¹⁰ 19 AF SO 56 MSS G-1-2004, 7 May 2004

¹²¹¹ 56 FW SO MSG-06-02, 13 June 2006

¹²¹² 56 MSG SO G-033, 3 July 2008

¹²¹³ 56 MSG SO G-032, 15 September 2010

Luke Field/AFB Primary Aircraft

<u>Airframe</u>	<u>Period</u>
North American AT-6 Texan	1941-1946
Curtis P-40 Warhawk	1942-1945
Lockheed P-38 Lightning	1944-1945
North American P-51 Mustang	1944-1945
North American F-51 Mustang	1951-1953
Lockheed F-80 Shooting Star	1951-1952
North American T-6 Texan	1951-1953
Republic F-84 Thunderjet	1951-1964
Lockheed T-33 Shooting Star	1951-1952
North American F-100 Super Sabre	1957-1971
North American F-86 Sabre	1961-1962
Lockheed F-104 Starfighter	1964-1983
Northrop F-5A/B Freedom Fighter	1964-1989
Ling-Temco-Vought A-7 Corsair II	1969-1971
McDonnell Douglas F-4C Phantom II	1971-1982
McDonnell Douglas F-15A/B/C/D Eagle	1974-1991
McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle	1988-1995
Lockheed F-16 Fighting Falcon	1982-Present



During the late 1970's the 58th Tactical Training Wing conducted F-4/F-104/F-15/F-5 training, which led to span of control problems. On 29 August 1979, a second wing, the 405th Tactical Training Wing, activated and took on the F-5/F-15 programs while the 58th Tactical Training Wing retained the F-4/F-104 programs. Shown in formation from top to bottom, F-15A, Tail No. 76-078; F-4C, Tail No. 63-420; F-104, Tail No. 63-13269; and F-5A, Tail No. 70-1396

Luke Field/AFB Student Production 1941 – FY11

<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Dates Assigned</u>	<u>Graduates</u>
AT-6	41-46/51-53	14,076/51
P-40	42-45	2,814
P-38	45	280
P/F-51	45-46/51-53	61/624
F-84	51-64	6,930
F-100	57-71	3,451
F-86	61-62	123
A-7D	69-71	147
F-104	64-83	2,200
F-5	64-89	1,699
F-4	71-82	3,147
F-15A	74-91/	3,303
F-15E	88-95	897
F-16A/B/C/D	83-	<u>17,765*</u>
Total		57,568**

*Included 144 graduates assigned to 944th Fighter Wing who received ground training from 56TRS and, therefore, were included in 56th Fighter Wing graduate totals, and 65 Forward Air Controller (Airborne) graduates trained by mobile training teams (MTT).

Total incomplete as MTT training not documented prior to 1982, 51-50 checkouts not formal course prior to early 1990s. Total was for US/Foreign Military Sales graduates of syllabus courses, not individual students as some graduated from more than one course. Because of incomplete statistics, exact total not possible; however, it is accurate to say, **"Luke is the world's largest fighter training base and produced over 57,500 graduates from fighter training programs from 1941 through FY11."



World War II student prepares to take his first solo flight.

F-16 Flying Hour Programs FY83 –FY11

<u>Category</u>	<u>*FY83</u>	<u>FY84</u>	<u>FY85</u>	<u>FY86</u>	<u>FY87</u>	<u>FY88</u>
Sorties	4718	10881	13277	15452	19704	21,612
Hours	6086	14175	18080	21331	27382	28,991
ASD	1.29	1.30	1.36	1.38	1.39	1.34
PAI	38	50.2	57.8	66	87.4	90
UTE	13.7	18.0	19.1	19.5	18.8	20.0
<u>Category</u>	<u>FY89</u>	<u>FY90</u>	<u>**FY91</u>	<u>**FY92</u>	<u>FY93</u>	<u>FY94</u>
Sorties	20,750	21,108	19,138	17,664	**17,414	26,142
Hours	28,191.9	28,181.5	26,043	23,856	22,904	34,633
ASD	1.36	1.33	1.36	1.35	1.31	1.32
PAI	89.5	96	90.5	76	78.6	111.2
UTE	19.3	18.3	17.6	19.3	18.5	19.6
<u>Category</u>	<u>FY95</u>	<u>FY96</u>	<u>FY97</u>	<u>FY98</u>	<u>FY99</u>	<u>FY00</u>
Sorties	37,128	36,615	33,575	33,577	31,473	31,983
Hours	49,163	48,586	44,178	44,888	41,444.6	42,843
ASD	1.32	1.33	1.31	1.34	1.32	1.34
PAI	159.2	156	144	149.2	151	151
UTE	19.4	19.5	19.4	18.7	17.4	17.6
<u>Category</u>	<u>FY01</u>	<u>FY02</u>	<u>FY03</u>	<u>FY04</u>	<u>FY05</u>	<u>FY06</u>
Sorties	31,841	31,891	31,536	32,228	32,092	29,535
Hours	43,843	43,221	42,831	43,895	43,840	40,370
ASD	1.37	1.36	1.36	1.36	1.37	1.37
PAI	151	151	151	151	151	144
UTE	17.6	17.6	17.4	17.8	17.7	17.1
<u>Category</u>	<u>FY07</u>	<u>FY08</u>	<u>FY09</u>	<u>FY10</u>	<u>FY11</u>	
Sorties	29,038	25,283	23,377	20,421	18,774	
Hours	38,959.7	33,928.1	30,317.3	27,006.7	25,082.8	
ASD	1.34	1.34	1.30	1.32	1.34	
PAI	138	143	1.24	119	96	
UTE	17.6	14.7	15.5	14.9	16.3	
<u>Category</u>					<u>Totals</u>	<u>Avg</u>
Sorties					718,227	24,766
Hours					964,252.4	33,250.1
ASD					NA	1.34
PAI					NA	115.9
UTE					NA	17.8

ASD=average sortie duration; PAI-programmed aircraft inventory; UTE=aircraft utilization rate; NA=not applicable

*FY83 program only nine months as first jet arrived here 6 December 82.

**Decreases in flying FY91-FY93 resulted from drawdown of F-16A/B and buildup of F-16C/D.



Foreign Military Sales (sorties/hours) not included in above totals.

Fiscal Year 1993	425 FS=810/1,142;	
Fiscal Year 1994	425 FS=2,177/2,862.7;	
Fiscal Year 1995	425 FS=2,026/2,821.1;	
Fiscal Year 1996	425 FS=2,396/2,971.1;	
Fiscal Year 1997	425 FS=2,824/3,588.3,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,285/2,946;
Fiscal Year 1998	425 FS=2,834/3,623.6,	21st Fighter Squadron=3,828/4,849.5;
Fiscal Year 1999	425 FS=2,656/3,656.7,	21st Fighter Squadron=3,665/4,738.4;
Fiscal Year 2000	425 FS=2,985/3,949.1,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,796/3,591.4;
Fiscal Year 2001	425 FS=2,875/3,768,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,602/3,431.7;
Fiscal Year 2002	425 FS=2,511/3,651.7,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,792/3,592.5;
Fiscal Year 2003	425 FS=2,473/3,293.3,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,630/3,398.8;
Fiscal Year 2004	425 FS=2,214/2,528.4,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,810/3,581.3;
Fiscal Year 2005	425 FS=2,270/2,931.3,	21st Fighter Squadron=2635/3514.1;
Fiscal Year 2006	425 FS=2,716/3,469.7,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,690/3,544;
Fiscal Year 2007	425 FS=1,340/1,741.7,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,627/3,512.8;
Fiscal Year 2008	425 FS=1,318/1,697.5,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,697/3,786.4;
Fiscal Year 2009	425 FS=1,389/1,763.2,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,724/3,739.3
Fiscal Year 2010	425 FS=2,495/3,273.1,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,729/3,693.4
Fiscal Year 2011	425 FS=2,508/3,296.1,	21st Fighter Squadron=2,703/3,601.0

56th Fighter Wing ORGANIZATION

HQ AETC

56th Fighter Wing

56 CPTS /STAFF

<u>56 OG</u>	<u>56 MXG</u>	<u>56 MSG</u>	<u>56 MDG</u>
56 OSS	56 MOS	56 CS	56 MDOS
56 TRS	56 AMXS	56 CES	56 AMDS
21 FS	56 CMS	56 CONS	56 DS
62 FS	56 EMS	56 FSS	56 MDSS
308 FS	756 AMXS	56 LRS	
309 FS		56 SFS	
310 FS			
425 FS			



F-16C at Sunset

The crest of the 56th Fighter Wing is a shield-shaped emblem. It features a central chevron with a blue background and yellow lightning bolts. The chevron is set against an orange background. The shield is bordered by a yellow outline. At the bottom, a white banner with a yellow border contains the text "56TH FIGHTER WING" in blue, serif capital letters.

Blazon

Tenne on a chevron azure fimbriated or two lightning flashes chevronwise of the last.

Motto

CAVE TONITRUM (Beware of the Thunderbolt)

Significance

The orange background was the color of the Army Air Corps and represents the 56th Fighter Group's World War II service. The chevron, representing support, is blue to signify the wing's flights in support of the nation's quest for peace. The lightning bolts are symbolic of speed, aggressiveness, and the capability to strike immediately in any direction.

"Cave Tonitrum," Beware of the Thunderbolt!