



# A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

### Activation and Early Aviation

In the aftermath of World War I, as the fledgling air service struggled for peacetime legitimacy, the first predecessor unit of the 3rd Wing was born. Activated as the Army Surveillance Group on 1 July 1919, the group was a loosely organized band of World War I veterans and newcomers serving on detached duty at scattered outposts along the Rio Grande--from Brownsville, Texas, to Nogales, Arizona. The group patrolled the U.S. Mexican border following several cross-border incidents instigated by unrest in northern Mexico. Though activated on 1 July, the group did not coalesce into a recognizable unit until its headquarters element activated as the 1st Army Surveillance Group on 15 August 1919. The group joined two other operational groups to form the 1st Wing--a composite organization of bombers, scouts, and pursuit planes.

Of the three original groups that formed the 1st Wing at Kelly Field, Texas, only the 1st Army Surveillance Group did not see action as in World War I. However, the group's initial complement of squadrons--the 8th, 12th, 13th (formerly the 104th), and 90th Observation Squadrons--each saw action in World War I and the 19 Maltese victory crosses that grace the border of the 3rd Wing emblem represent their aerial victories from that war. The missions flown by the observation squadrons were considered paramount in World War I. They apprised commanders of enemy ground movements and troop concentrations--certainly a hazardous and somewhat tenuous arrangement as many of the aerial battles were fought to keep that information from the ground commanders. During the last great offensive of the war, the observation squadrons expanded their usefulness by taking on close air support missions, firing their machine guns against German ground positions just in front of Allied troops.

From its humble and scattered beginnings the group wrote important chapters of airpower history over the course of 90-plus years. Flying the unreliable DeHavilland DH-4, the original surveillance mission did not hold much glamour or relevance by the early 1920s. The days of Pancho Villa and Mexican border guerrillas had largely ended by the time the group was in place and on 15 September 1921, the 1st Army Surveillance Group passed into history. Thereafter the group became the 3rd Attack Group--the numerical designation and mission that remains intact today.

The 3rd Attack Group became an important experimental organization, and its squadrons contributed resources and personnel to noteworthy aviation firsts, such as Lieutenant Jimmy Doolittle's transcontinental flight in 1922--the first to take place in under 24-hours. Pictures of the 3rd Attack Group aircraft in the interwar period highlight the experimental and highly transitory nature of its op-



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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erations.

In 1927, the 3rd Attack Group flew mail to Calvin Coolidge's "Summer White House" in the Black Hills of South Dakota. After a revolution in Mexico in 1929, the group began to fly its old border patrol missions again, though only briefly. By 1934, the group had begun to fly mail again, this time taking over for commercial contractors. The group's route was from Casper, Wyoming to Chicago, Illinois, and lasted from February to May, 1934.



**Figure 1: Major John H. "Jack" Jouette, Commander of the 3rd Attack Group from August 1928-February 1930, poses in front of his Curtiss A-3 after a training flight.**

By the mid-1930s, worldwide tensions were clearly on the rise. From Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, the group played an important role in training the air leaders of World War II. Indeed, the tactics of dive bombing and medium altitude light bombing were in a revolutionary period. From 1939 to 1941, the group rapidly dispersed its alumni around the greatly expanding Air Force, including future Generals Nathan Twining, Hoyt Vandenberg, and Earl Partridge. While stationed at Barksdale, the group also participated heavily in the famous prewar Louisiana Maneuvers, a series of exercises designed to test US military capabilities in the months just prior to the US entry into World War II.



# A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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## World War II

At the start of World War II, the 3rd Attack Group flew the revolutionary A-20 attack bomber, however that plane was not available in sufficient quantities to outfit its four squadrons. In addition to lacking equipment, when the war started, most of the group's senior leadership transferred to other assignments, leaving the group under the command of 1st Lieutenant Robert F. Strickland. After flying a few antisubmarine patrols over the Gulf of Mexico from its base near Savannah, Georgia, the group received orders to move *en masse* without planes or equipment, to San Francisco, California. On 19 January 1942, they left Georgia for a cross-country train ride to Fort Mason, California where they awaited transportation to an undisclosed destination. On 23 January they boarded the U.S.S. *Ancon*, bound for Brisbane Australia. They travelled over land to their final destination, Charters Towers, Australia, arriving there on 25 February 1942, becoming the first US air-based unit to arrive in that country following the US entry into the war.

The 3rd Attack Group took part in the desperate early fighting against the Japanese. As was generally the case in the very early days of World War II, the 3rd Attack Group conducted very hazardous operations against a superior force in spite of being undermanned and very poorly equipped. Outnumbered and often unescorted, the group suffered high losses but soldiered on, having always been known for its *esprit d'corps*. They began calling themselves "the Grim Reapers," a reference to the emblem of the 13th Bombardment Squadron, one of the group's original squadrons that briefly flew missions against the Japanese from a secret base in Mindanao before the Philippines fell.

In September 1942, the Army changed the group's designation to the 3rd Bombardment Group (Dive), and shortly thereafter, changed it once more to the 3rd Bombardment Group (Light). The group was still short of supplies and aircraft--they only had enough equipment to outfit a single squadron--but through the employment of innovation and creative acquisition of aircraft and supplies, the group soon began wartime operations with A-20s, A-24s and B-25s. The A-24 Dauntless proved unsatisfactory; almost all of the group's complement became operational losses. Thereafter, the group flew the A-20 and B-25 medium bombers exclusively.

By March 1943, the group was a taut, warfighting organization that attacked the Japanese in the tense battle for New Guinea with as much strength as it could muster. In attacks on a convoy of ships entering the Bismarck Sea, 3rd Bombardment Group A-20s and B-25s decimated the enemy fleet. This Battle of the Bismarck Sea changed the complexion of the war. No longer able to supply its forward bases at Lae, New Guinea, the Japanese retreated into a series of unsuccessful holding operations. The 3 March 1943 battle was considered one of the most decisive of all time for airpower. The 90th Bombardment Squadron had been experimenting with low level "skip bombing" for many weeks on a rusting merchant hulk near their airfield. Also, Maj Paul "Pappy" Gunn devised an ingenious field modification of a B-25C that involved replacing the forward bombardier with four forward



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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firing .50 caliber machine guns, supplemented with two twin .50 caliber gun packages side mounted on the fuselage. The rear machine gun and lower turret were discarded. This change made the B-25 into a fearsome low-level attack plane. During the Bismarck Sea operations, pilots attacked ships from just above mast height, firing the forward firing machine guns to silence the ship's anti-aircraft fire. This allowed the 90th Bombardment Squadron to score the most impressive hits of the battle with eleven of the twelve attacking B-25s scoring direct hits on Japanese ships. Later that afternoon, the 90th was one of the few squadrons that beat the weather to find the remnants of the convoy and claimed another eight hits on enemy ships. At least 12 Japanese ships were sunk and any pretenses they retained toward air superiority inexorably vanished.



**Figure 2: An A-20 from the 3rd Bombardment Group barely hit the mast of a Japanese freighter after a low-level skip bomb attack. This photo was taken during an attack on Japanese ships in the harbor at Rabaul, New Guinea. Major Raymond Wilkins was killed during the battle while exposing his aircraft to Japanese guns in order to allow the rest of his squadron to get clear of the heavy fire. He is one of two Medal of Honor recipients in the 3rd Wing's history.**

The 3rd Bomb Group helped to reduce the Japanese bastion at Rabaul, New Britain, in 1943 and 1944. The group spearheaded low-level assaults on surrounding enemy airfields and later led attacks against enemy shipping. In an attack on Rabaul Harbor on 2 November 1943, the 3rd Group





## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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led the striking force which eventually claimed 95,000 tons of shipping. In the process, Maj Raymond H. Wilkins--a veteran of the group's darkest days, a former A-24 pilot and Commander of the 8th Bombardment Squadron, lost his life drawing enemy cruiser fire away from other bombers under his command. They had established a choke-point at the neck of the harbor and shot a withering variety of anti-aircraft artillery and large caliber ammunition in an attempt to break up the attacks. Major Wilkins subsequently received a posthumous award of the Congressional Medal of Honor.

The 3rd Bombardment Group continued to serve with distinction throughout the remainder of the Pacific campaign, helping to permanently reduce Japanese air capacity at Wewak, New Guinea, and acquiring new A-26 Invader aircraft for the final assault on the Japanese mainland. Acquisition of the A-26 had future significance for the group. For the better part of the next decade, the group flew the A-26 as their primary aircraft.

### Post War and Korea

After the end of World War II, the 3rd Bombardment Group moved to Iwakuni Air Base, Japan as part of the US occupation force. The group took on new peacetime missions in addition to its attack mission in the A-26, especially that of photographic reconnaissance in a motley assortment of aircraft from the F-2 (C-45 Expediter) to the F-9 (Photographic version of the B-17). On 18 August 1948, the new Air Force organizational configuration was in place, and the 3rd Wing was activated. Wings in the new Air Force were configured very closely to the organization of the old groups and the Air Force perpetuated the history of the 3rd Bombardment Group by bestowing its combat record and history on the newly formed 3rd Bombardment Wing.



Figure 3: 3rd Bombardment Wing B-26s are prepared for the next night's missions at Kunsan Air Base, Korea during the Korean War.



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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Still flying the Invader (which had been redesignated "B-26" after the active retirement of Ma-rauders from the inventory, confounding aircraft purists ever since) from Iwakuni Air Base, the wing was in position to intervene on the Korean Peninsula when hostilities began in June 1950. The first aerial victory over North Korea came at the hands of Sergeant Nyle Mickly, a B-26 gunner assigned to the 3rd Bombardment Wing, when he shot down a North Korean YAK-3 on 30 June 1950. As in World War II, the group built a distinguished record of service in Korea. Its gloss-black Invaders flew night interdiction missions and became specialists in the art of locomotive busting (destroying over 300 engines during the war). On one such mission, 14 September 1951, Capt John S. Walmsley of the 8th Bombardment Squadron, attacked a train until he ran out of ammunition. He radioed for a follow-up strike and remained in the target area, illuminating the train with a spotlight for the subsequent strikes. His aircraft naturally came under intense fire as he illuminated the target, but he bravely persisted until he was shot down, but the target was destroyed. Like Major Wilkins, Captain Walmsley received a posthumous Medal of Honor.

In 1951, the 3rd Bombardment Wing moved to Kunsan AB, Republic of Korea, where it remained for the duration of the war. The 3rd Wing, one of the first air units to intervene on the side of the United Nations in 1950 was also the last air unit to drop ordnance on the North on 27 July 1953. After the cease-fire, the wing moved back to Iwakuni where it underwent a slight mission realignment in the mid-1950s and was redesignated the 3rd Bombardment Wing, Tactical. There, the wing flew its final missions with the propeller driven B-26s in 1956 with the arrival of their new aircraft, B-57 Canberra medium bombers.

### Vietnam

By 1964, the 3rd Bombardment Wing as it had previously existed slipped away and the Air Force gave it a new designation, the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing. It also moved, without personnel or equipment, to England AFB, Louisiana, where the wing assumed a multi-dimensional attack mission, flying the B-57, F-100, A-1, and F-5 aircraft. As it had done at Barksdale before World War II, the wing trained and equipped for an escalating conflict, this time the war in Southeast Asia. Detached elements of the wing were involved in the conflict from almost the beginning and the wing physically moved to Bien Hoa Air Base, South Vietnam on 25 November 1965. The headquarters and operational elements of the wing engaged in furious combat throughout Southeast Asia, flying more than 200,000 operational sorties while often coming under attack from insurgents.

During one such attack during the infamous Tet Offensive, the airfield came under intense fire from Viet Cong forces intent on capturing the base. Unlike other air bases in South Vietnam, the ground defense of Bein Hoa was totally in the hands of the 3rd Security Police Squadron and 100 Airmen on security augmentee duty, with no heavy artillery backup. The only obstacle standing between the Viet Cong and the flightline was Bunker Hill 10, a reinforced concrete bunker built by the French in the late 1940s, manned by two security police and a security augmentee. No one knows exactly how many Viet Cong attacked the base, but the outstanding efforts of the defenders,



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

especially those of two members of the wing, typified the actions of the base defense team. Captain Reginald V. Maisey directed the defense from Bunker Hill 10 during the most intense early stages of the attack, often exposing himself to enemy fire in order to communicate with the Security Command Post and to direct the efforts of the defenders in the bunker until he was hit and killed by the enemy. He received the Air Force Cross and Bronze Star with "V" device for his valor in keeping the base from falling. Staff Sergeant William Piazza, the NCO in charge of four ammunition resupply teams on duty at the time of the attack, drove through enemy positions to resupply the troops defending the base. He joined the battle, engaging the enemy with his M-16 and a 40 mm grenade launcher. Attack helicopters and gunships joined the battle and provided flares to help defenders see the attacking force. When the helicopters ran out of flares, SSgt Piazza threw out hand-held flares and directed fire from outside the bunker. His efforts resulted in his award of the Silver Star.



Figure 4: Col Homer K. Hansen, 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing Commander, sits in his cockpit after flying the wing's 100,000th combat mission at Bien Hoa Air Base near Saigon, South Vietnam.

At the end of the attack, the official reports disagreed on the number of enemy casualties--one said 139 attackers were killed while another said 153 with 25 prisoners--but only two Airmen died in the attack, Captain Massey and a sentry caught out in the open in the initial assault. All 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing operations in Vietnam ceased on 31 October 1970 and personnel and equipment were reassigned to other units in preparation for the wing's departure to Korea the following spring.



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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### Clark Air Base, Philippines

On 15 March 1971, the wing moved to Kunsan Air Base, Korea where it assimilated the equipment and personnel from the 475th Tactical Fighter Wing. Thousands of people witnessed the wing's rebirth as a formation of F-4Ds formed a three during a fly over. After becoming a proficient F-4 combat wing, the 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing moved to Clark AB, Republic of the Philippines on 18 September, 1974 replacing the 405th Fighter Wing, where it remained for 17 tumultuous years.



**Figure 5: The 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing Commander's F-4 on the maintenance ramp at Clark Air Base, Philippines in the late 1980s.**

The first order of business for the wing in the Philippines was establishing an orderly transit point for personnel and equipment returning from Vietnam, as that conflict wound down. During the evacuation of Saigon, the wing supported the "Operation Babylift" and "Operation Newlife" evacuations and received an Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for its tireless actions for the period from 5 April to 31 May 1975.

The 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing became synonymous with Clark Air Base in the ensuing years. The wing focused on an air superiority role during the late 1970s. Its various aircraft sported shark's mouth markings--the most colorful in the Pacific Air Forces (PACAF). Beginning in 1976, the wing





## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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hosted the PACAF Cope Thunder exercises at the Crow Valley Range and other weapons ranges in the Philippines. These were the premier tactical weapons exercises in the Pacific at that time.

Political instability in the Republic became increasingly acute in the 1980s and governmental turmoil caused the wing to maintain a constant vigil. In 1986, the wing won another Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for supporting the Air Force mission during the tenuous transition of power from Ferdinand Marcos to the newly installed democratic government. After the fall of the Marcos regime, bases in the Philippines came under increased pressure from the newly elected government. Nationalists wanted an end to the American presence. Others wanted to renew the base treaties with the United States, but at an extremely high price. Negotiations with the Philippine Government plodded on for many months. The tension was palpable as increased terrorist activity began to restrict the free movement of U.S. personnel. This general instability required the wing to stand pat--sending only a detachment of F-4G Wild Weasel personnel, but no planes, to Operation Desert Storm.



**Figure 6: Base housing at Clark AB covered with ash after the eruption. Many buildings' roofs collapsed under the weight of the ash.**

When Mount Pinatubo erupted on 14 June 1991, the wing's future in the Philippines was decided by nature. Clark AB, covered with debris, was hastily evacuated and the extended American presence in the Philippines, dearly won in 1944, summarily ended. The wing, the longest continuously serving unit of its kind in the Air Force, needed a new home.



# A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

## North to Alaska

Elmendorf AFB, near Anchorage, Alaska, the premier base of the Eleventh Air Force, proved to be the perfect location. Billy Mitchell considered Alaska the most strategic place in the world due to its proximity to the arctic air routes that greatly speeded travel to points around the globe. From its new home, the relocated wing could rapidly answer the call to move anywhere it was required. Re-designated the 3rd Wing in the months prior to its relocation to Alaska, the new name indicated a general mission carried out by many types of aircraft. Since 19 December 1991, the 3rd Wing has maintained vigil over the North Pacific.



**Figure 7: 3rd Wing aircraft, September 1993**

When the wing activated in Alaska, it included the 43rd and 54th Fighter Squadrons flying F-15 C/Ds, and the 90th Fighter Squadron with F-15Es. Shortly thereafter, the wing added the 517th Airlift Squadron (C-130s) and the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron (E-3s), making it a truly composite wing. In the ensuing years, while the wing continued to operate F-15s at Elmendorf, the only fighter squadron that remained unchanged was the 90th Fighter Squadron. The 19th Fighter Squadron replaced the 43rd Fighter and the 12th Fighter Squadron took over for the 54th, all flying F-15 s. Then, in 2007 the 517th Airlift Squadron exchanged its C-130s, the only aircraft the squadron flew since activating in Alaska in 1964, with a fleet of C-17s, and the wing added a new squadron, the 525th Fighter Squadron to join the 90th flying the Air Force's fifth-generation fighter, the F-22. An era officially came to an end in September 2010 when the last F-15 assigned to the wing departed.



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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At the end of 2011 the wing included five operational squadrons flying C-12s, C-17s, C-130s, E-3s and F-22s with both Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Associate Squadrons. The 302nd Fighter Squadron, assigned to the 477th Fighter Group (Air Force Reserve), flew 3rd Wing F-22s, and members of that organization deployed along with their active duty counterparts for the first time in 2010. The 249th Airlift Squadron provided people to work on and fly C-17s from the 517th Airlift Squadron, and many missions included crews with representatives from each squadron working together. In 2011 the 176th Wing (Air National Guard) moved to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson from Kulis Air National Guard Base at the Anchorage International Airport, and the 3rd Wing activated the 537th Airlift Squadron as an active duty reverse associate unit with the 144th Airlift Squadron. They recently deployed to Korea and Japan where they provided airlift support to the headquarters Pacific Air Forces inspector General during inspections in Korea and Japan.

The greatest single change to the wing in more than 50 years occurred in June 2010, when the Mission Support and Medical Groups inactivated as part of the joint base initiative as directed by Congress. When Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson stood up, the 3rd Wing became a tenant organization on the base, supported by the 673rd Air Base Wing. This move left only the Operations and Maintenance Groups active within the wing but kept its mission essentially unchanged allowing the wing commander to focus on that mission.



**Figure 8: Passengers deplane from a 517th Airlift Squadron C-130 in East Timor during Operation STABILIZE in 1999.**

Since moving to Alaska, The wing enjoyed many successful years, with deployments to Operations NORTHERN WATCH, SOUTHERN WATCH, ALLIED FORCE, and ENDURING FREEDOM, counter-drug operations in Panama, and humanitarian assistance missions throughout the world. It also began playing a greater role in theater stabilization efforts in the western Pacific. 2011 marked the



## A Brief History of the 3rd Wing

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third consecutive year that saw one or more 3rd Wing squadrons deployed in support of the Commander, US Pacific Command's Theater Support Program to increase the US military presence in the western Pacific. The wing remained active in humanitarian operations as well, deploying people and aircraft for airlift support to Haiti in 2010 and Japan in 2011 following devastating earthquakes in those countries and the subsequent tsunami in Japan.

The 3rd Wing's time in Alaska has not been without tragedy. On 22 September 1995 an E-3B, call-sign YUKLA 27, crashed on takeoff from Elmendorf AFB, claimed the lives of all 24 crewmembers. The 3rd Wing later built a memorial in their honor near its headquarters. On 26 July 1998, Lt Gen. David McCloud, the visionary Commander of the Eleventh Air Force, died when the private aircraft he was flying crashed on Fort Richardson near Elmendorf AFB. In 2008, the wing commander, Brigadier General Thomas Tinsley, died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. In 2010, the wing suffered two more fatal aircraft crashes; a C-17 operated by a mixed crew from the 517th and 249th Airlift Squadrons crashed on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson while practicing an aerial demonstration program for an upcoming airshow, and an F-22 assigned to the 525th Fighter Squadron crashed north of Anchorage in a remote, mountainous region near Cantwell, Alaska.

Remarkably, through strong leadership and with the involvement of many people throughout the wing, these tragedies were dealt with and people recovered and moved on. No matter the situation, whether a tragedy or some other major change faced by the wing over the years, the 3rd Wing's legacy presents an ongoing challenge to its membership to uphold the traditions rooted in past achievements while remaining ever mindful that potential adversaries old and new remember the wing well.

The wing's motto was approved in January 1922 and is one of the oldest in the Air Force. *Non Solum Armis* is Latin for "Not By Arms Alone." This phrase harkens back to the wing's many missions during its storied past. The wing's unique emblem is a collection of elements from its days on the Rio Grande. The cactus represents the region's desolate character and the blue stripe the river itself (and the Air Force's principal operating area--the limitless sky). ***The wing has never been inactivated.***





## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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### List of Commanders

#### Army Surveillance Group

Maj B.B. Butler 1 Jul 1919

#### 1st Surveillance Group

Maj B.B. Butler 15 Aug 1919

Maj William G. Schauffler, Jr. 1 Sep 1919

Lt Col Henry B. Clagett 27 Sep 1919

Maj Leo A. Walton 20 Nov 1919

#### 3rd Group (Attack)

Maj Leo A. Walton 15 Sep 1921

Maj Leo G. Heffernan 10 Oct 1921

Lt Col Seth W. Cook 22 Aug 1922

#### 3rd Attack Group

Lt Col Seth W. Cook 25 Jan 1923

Maj Lewis H. Brereton 5 Feb 1923

Maj Harvey B.S. Burwell 25 Jun 1924

Capt Joseph H. Davidson Feb 1926

Maj Frank D. Lackland 26 Jun 1926

Maj John H. Jouett 15 Aug 1928

Maj Davenport Johnson 27 Feb 1930

Lt Col Horace M. Hickam 18 Jun 1932

Lt Col Earl L. Naiden 5 Nov 1934

Col J.A. Rader Jul 1937

Maj O.S. Ferson Aug 1938

Col John C. McDonnell Sep 1938

#### 3 Bombardment Group (Light)

Col John C. McDonnell 15 Sep 1939

Lt Col R.G. Breen Nov 1940

Lt Col Paul L. Williams Dec 1940

Lt Col Phillips Melville 18 Aug 1941

1st Lt Robert F. Strickland 19 Jan 1942

Col John H. Davies 2 Apr 1942



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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### **3 Bombardment Group (Dive)**

Col John H. Davies	28 Sep 1942
Lt Col Robert F. Strickland	26 Oct 1942
Maj Donald P. Hall	28 Apr 1943

### **3 Bombardment Group (Light)**

Maj Donald P. Hall	25 May 1943
Lt Col James A. Downs	20 Oct 1943
Col John P. Henebry	7 Nov 1943

### **3 Bombardment Group, Light**

Col John P. Henebry	14 Feb 1944
Lt Col Richard H. Ellis	27 Jun 1944
Col John P. Henebry	30 Oct 1944
Col Richard H. Ellis	28 Dec 1944
Col Charles W. Howe	1 May 1945
Lt Col James E. Sweeney	7 Dec 1945
Maj L.B. Weigold	Feb 1946
Col Edward H. Underhill	23 Apr 1946
Lt Col John P. Crocker	3 Jan 1947
Col Edward H. Underhill	28 Mar 1947

### **3rd Bombardment Wing, Light**

Col James R. Gunn	18 Aug 1948
Col Gerry L. Mason	16 Jun 1949
Lt Col Wilmer A. Hardesty	17 Jun 1949
Col Robert W. Witty	24 Jun 1949
Col Lawrence C. Coddington	1 Apr 1950
Col Thomas B. Hall	c. Jun 1950
Col Strother B. Hardwick, Jr.	c. July 1950
Col Virgil L. Zoller	14 Aug 1950
Col Donald L. Clark	23 Aug 1950
Col Virgil L. Zoller	1 Dece 1950
Col Nils O. Ohman	24 Jul 1951
Col Marshall R. Gray	4 Mar 1952
Col Eugene B. LeBailly	14 Aug 1952
Col Roger E. Phelan	12 Aug 1953
Col William H. Matthews	2 Feb 1954
Col Edwin A. Doss	22 Feb 1954
Col William B. Reed	2 Apr 1954



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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Col Homer C. Munsan	1 Aug 1954
Col Howard F. Bronson	6 Augt 1954
Col Cecil P. Lessig	10 Sep 1954
Col Anthony V. Grossetta	1 Mar 1955
Col Edward R. Casey	3 May 1955
Col Rufus H. Holloway	9 Jun 1955
Col George Y. Yumper	16 Aug 1955

### **3rd Bombardment Wing, Tactical**

Col George Y. Yumper	1 Oct 1955
Col Clarence L. Elder	10 Jun 1958
Col James B. Tipton	10 Jul 1958
Col Robert J. Ahern	22 Jun 1959
Col Leo Hawel, Jr.	22 Jun 1961
Col Carl R. Norton	28 Jun 1962
Col Francis E. Timlin	1 Aug 1962
Col Charles S. Overstreet	3 Sep 1963 (Additional Duty)

### **3rd Tactical Fighter Wing**

Unknown	9 Jan-18 Feb 1964
Col Phillip Brooks	19 Feb 1964
Col Waring W. Wilson	28 May 1965
Col Robert A. Ackerly	19 Jul 1965
Col Richard C. Catledge	1 Nov 1966
Col George W. McLaughlin	30 Sep 1967
Col Homer K. Hansen	5 May 1968
Col Howard M. Lane	1 Apr 1969
Col William E. Charleson	11 Apr 1970
Not Manned	1 Nov 1970-14 Mar 1971
Col Abner M. Aust, Jr.	15 Mar 1971
Col Charles A. Watry	17 Nov 1971
Col Paul A. Kauttu	5 Oct 1972
Col Harry W. Schurr	19 Nov 1973
Col George L. Schulstad	16 Sep 1974
Col Lacy W. Breckenridge	14 Mar 1975
Col Alfred M. Miller, Jr.	25 Mar 1975
Col James R. Brown	13 Oct 1976
Col Thomas S. Swalm	1 Aug 1978
Col Martin H. Mahrt	20 Feb 1979
Col Thomas G. McInerney	31 Mar 1979



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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Brig Gen John A. Corder	6 Feb 1981
Col Willard R. MacFarlane	5 Aug 1983
Col Charles F. Luigs	25 May 1985
Col Ronald W. Iverson	27 Mar 1986
Col Frank D. Garza	25 Feb 1988
Col Jeffrey R. Grime	26 Jan 1990
Col Bruce M. Freeman	7 Aug 1991

### 3rd Wing

Col Rodney P. Kelly	19 Dec 1991
Brig Gen Thomas R. Case	23 Jul 1993
Brig Gen Hugh C. Cameron	27 Mar 1995
Brig Gen William J. Lake	4 Nov 1996
Brig Gen Jonathan S. Gration	8 Jun 1998
Brig Gen Douglas M. Fraser	20 Jan 2000
Brig Gen Robertus C.N. Remkes	5 Apr 2002
Brig Gen Michael A. Snodgrass	26 Jan 2004
Brig Gen Herbert H. Carlisle	20 May 2005
Brig Gen Thomas L. Tinsley	11 May 2007
Col Richard Walberg	27 Jul 2008 (Acting)
Brig Gen Thomas Bergeson	18 Aug 2008
Col John K. McMullen	16 Jun 2010
Col Dirk D. Smith	26 Aug 2011

### List of Command Chiefs

CMSgt William G. Johnson	20 Sep 1973
CMSgt James L. Anderson, Jr.	1 Oct 1979
CMSgt Thomas F.C. Carrender	1 Jul 1985
CMSgt William F. Nelson	1 Oct 1989
CMSgt John J. Eldridge	19 Dec 1991
CMSgt Earl C. Strang	1 Jul 1992
CMSgt Jerry D. LeBeau	27 Jul 1993
CMSgt Richard Foster	23 Sep 1996
CMSgt Timothy Dickens	27 Nov 1998
CMSgt Leo Semmler	1 Oct 2001
CMSgt Ramsay Pryce (Interim)	27 Feb 2003
CMSgt Robert Tapanna	26 Jun 2003
CMSgt Benjamin R. Van Vleet (Interim)	25 Nov 2005
CMSgt Timothy P. Carroll	3 Jan 2006





## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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CMSgt Gerard Cappello	27 May 2008
CMSgt Dean Mclean (Interim)	21 Jul 2009
CMSgt Tom Baker	23 Aug 2009
CMSgt Steven L Bohannon	7 Dec 2010

**Lineage.** Established as 3rd Bombardment Wing, Light on 10 Aug 1948; Activated on 18 Aug 1948. Redesignated 3rd Bombardment Wing, Tactical on 1 Oct 1955; 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing on 8 Jan 1964; 3rd Wing on 19 Dec 1991.

### Assignments

314 Air Division, 18 Aug 1948  
Fifth Air Force, 1 Mar 1950  
41 Air Division, 1 Mar 1955  
Fifth Air Force, 1 Feb 1957  
41 Air Division, 10 Nov 1958  
Twelfth Air Force, 8 Jan 1964 (attached to 4481 Air Division, Provisional, 8 Jan-30 Jun 1964)  
834 Air Division, 1 Jul 1964  
2 Air Division, 8 Nov 1965  
Seventh Air Force, 1 Apr 1966  
Fifth Air Force, 15 Mar 1971  
314 Air Division, 15 Mar 1971  
Thirteenth Air Force, 16 Sep 1974  
Eleventh Air Force, 19 Dec 1991-

**Stations.** Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Aug 1948; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Apr 1950; Yokota AB, Japan, 14 Aug 1950; Iwakuni AB, Japan, 1 Dec 1950; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 22 Aug 1951; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Oct 1954; Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Nov 1960-8 Jan 1964; England AFB, LA, 8 Jan 1964-Nov 1965; Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 8 Nov 1965; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 15 Mar 1971; Clark AB, Philippines, 16 Sep 1974-19 Dec 1991; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991-

### Operational Components

#### *Groups:*

3rd Bombardment (later, 3 Operations): 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957 (detached 20 Jul-30 Nov 1950); 19 Dec 1991



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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### *Squadrons:*

- 1st Air Commando (later, 1 Special Operations): attached 21 Nov 1965-8 Mar 1966; assigned 15 Jan 1981-1 Mar 1983
- 1st Test: 16 Sep 1974-1 Jan 1980 (detached 15 Mar 1979-1 Jan 1980)
- 3rd Tactical Electronic Warfare Training: 15 May 1976-1 Jan 1980
- 3rd Tactical Fighter: 15 Dec 1975-19 Dec 1991 (detached 15-16 Dec 1975)
- 7th Airborne Command and Control: 31 Mar-14 Aug 1975 (detached)
- 8th Bombardment (later, 8 Attack): attached 13 Aug 1956-24 Oct 1957, assigned 25 Oct 1957-8 Jan 1964 (detached 1 Sep 1963-8 Jan 1964); assigned 15 Nov 1969-30 Sep 1970
- 8th Tactical Reconnaissance: attached 18 Apr 1949-1 Apr 1950
- 10th Fighter: 8 Apr 1966-17 Apr 1967
- 13th Bombardment: attached 13 Aug 1956-24 Oct 1957, assigned 25 Oct 1957-8 Jan 1964 (detached 1 Sep 1963-8 Jan 1964)
- 20th Operations: 16 Sep 1974-31 Mar 1975
- 25th Tactical Fighter: 18-19 Dec 1975
- 26th Tactical Fighter (later, 26 Tactical Fighter Training; 26 Tactical Fighter Training Aggressor; 26 Aggressor): 16 Sep 1974-1 Oct 1988
- 35th Tactical Fighter: 15 Mar 1971-16 Sep 1974 (detached 1 Apr-12 Oct 1972)
- 36th Tactical Fighter: 15 May 1971-16 Sep 1974
- 40th Fighter-Interceptor: attached 1 Dec 1961-31 May 1962
- 44th Tactical Fighter: attached 3 Apr-2 Jun 1972 and 28 Jul-8 Sep 1972
- 67th Tactical Fighter: attached 2 Jun-28 Jul 1972 and 8 Sep-16 Oct 1972
- 68th Tactical Fighter: 16 Sep 1974-30 Sep 1975
- 80th Tactical Fighter: 15 Mar 1971-16 Sep 1974
- 90th Bombardment (later, 90 Tactical Fighter; 90 Attack; 90 Tactical Fighter): attached 13 Aug 1956-24 Oct 1957, assigned 25 Oct 1957-8 Jan 1964 (detached 1 Sep 1963-8 Jan 1964); assigned 9 Jun 1964-19 Nov 1965 (detached 3 Feb-10 May 1965 and 3 Aug-19 Nov 1965); assigned 3 Feb 1966-31 Oct 1970; assigned 16 Sep 1974-29 May 1991
- 307th Tactical Fighter: attached 21 Nov-6 Dec 1965
- 308th Tactical Fighter: 2 Dec 1965-25 Dec 1966 (detached 15 Nov-25 Dec 1966)
- 310th Attack: 15-30 Nov 1969
- 311th Attack: 15 Nov-15 Dec 1969
- 416th Tactical Fighter: 16 Jun 1964-8 Nov 1965 (detached 14 Mar-21 Jul 1965); 16 Nov 1965-15 Apr 1967 (detached 16 Nov 1965-15 Jun 1966)
- 421st Air Refueling: attached 21 Nov 1960-1 Jun 1962
- 429th Tactical Fighter: attached c. 21 Nov-14 Dec 1965
- 510th Tactical Fighter: 16 Mar 1964-15 Nov 1969 (detached 5 May-c. 20 Aug 1965)



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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531st Tactical Fighter: 16 Jun 1964-19 Nov 1965 (detached 2 Nov 1964-18 Mar 1965); 7 Dec 1965-31 Jul 1970

602nd Fighter: attached 21 Nov 1965-8 Mar 1966

604th Air Commando (later, 604 Special Operations): attached 15 Nov 1967-1 Mar 1970, assigned 1 Mar-30 Sep 1970

731st Bombardment: attached 1 Dec 1950-25 Jun 1951

6091st Reconnaissance: attached 21 Nov 1960-c. 5 Jun 1962.

**Aircraft.** B-26, 1948-1950, 1950-1956; RF-61, 1949; RF-80, 1949-1950; C-47, 1951; B-57, 1956-1963; RB-50, 1960-1961; KB-50, 1960-1962; C-130, 1961-1962; F-102, 1961-1962; F-100, 1964-1970; F-5, 1965-1967; A-1, 1965-1966; U-10, 1965-1966; C/AC/HC-47, 1965-1966; A-37, 1967-1970; F-4, 1971-1974, 1974-1991; T-33, 1974-1987; C-9, 1974-1975; CH-3, 1974-1975; T-38, 1976-1980; F-5, 1977-1988; MC-130, 1980-1983; UH-1, 1991; F-15, 1991-2010; C-12, 1992-; C-130, 1992-2007, 2011-; E-3, 1993-; C-17, 2007-; F-22, 2007-.

### **Honors.**

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

Korea: UN Defensive; CCF Intervention; First UN Counteroffensive; CCF Spring Offensive; UN Summer-Fall Offensive; Second Korean Winter; Korea, Summer-Fall 1952; Third Korean Winter; Korea, Summer 1953

Vietnam: Vietnam Defensive; Vietnam Air; Vietnam Air Offensive; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III; Vietnam Air/Ground; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV; TET 69/Counteroffensive; Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969; Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1970; Sanctuary Counteroffensive; Southwest Monsoon

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia; Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.*

None

*Decorations.*

Presidential Unit Citations (Vietnam): 8 Jun 1966-16 Apr 1967; 6 Mar 1968-31 Jul 1969



## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat “V” Device: 31 Jan-5 Mar 1968; 1 Aug 1969-20 Jan 1970; 21 Jan-31 Oct 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jun 1958-30 Jun 1960; 1 Jul 1960-31 Mar 1962; 1 May 1964-16 Jul 1965; 1 Jul 1972-31 Dec 1973; 1 May 1980-30 Apr 1982; 22 Mar-1 Apr 1986; 1 Jan 1989-1 Jun 1990; 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: 27 Jun-31 Jul 1950

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Crosses with Palm: 25 Nov 1965-19 May 1969; 1 Apr 1966-31 Oct 1970; 1 May-30 Sep 1970

**Bestowed Honors.** Authorized to display honors earned by the 3rd Bombardment Group prior to 18 Aug 1948

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II:

American Campaign: Antisubmarine

Asiatic Pacific Campaign: East Indies; Air Offensive, Japan; Papua; New Guinea; Bismarck Archipelago; Western Pacific; Leyte; Luzon; Southern Philippines

*Decorations.*

Distinguished Unit Citations: Papua, 23 Jul 1942-23 Jan 1943; New Guinea, 17 Aug 1943 Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

**Emblem.** Originally approved 17 Jan 1922. Approved on 22 Dec 1952.

**Description.** Party per bend vert and sable in chief a cactus (prickly pear) or, a bend azure fimbriated of the third, all within a bordure argent charged with nineteen crosses patee of the second.

**Significance.** The shield is divided diagonally into the original colors of the Air Service, green and black. Over the dividing line is a band of the Air Force’s present colors, ultramarine blue and golden yellow representative of the Rio Grande River dividing the US and Mexico. On the green field is a yellow cactus commemorating the group’s first patrols along the Mexican border.





## 3rd Wing Lineage and Honors

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Around the shield is a white border with black German crosses equal to the number of aerial victories credited to the group's original squadrons during the great war.

**Motto.** *Non Solum Armis* – Not by Arms Alone





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 3rd Operations Group

**Lineage.** Organized as Army Surveillance Group on 1 Jul 1919. Redesignated 1st Surveillance Group on 15 Aug 1919; 3rd Group (Attack) on 15 Sep 1921; 3rd Attack Group on 25 Jan 1923; 3rd Bombardment Group (Light) on 15 Sep 1939; 3rd Bombardment Group (Dive) on 28 Sep 1942; 3rd Bombardment Group (Light) on 25 May 1943; 3rd Bombardment Group, Light on 14 Feb 1944; 3rd Bombardment Group, Tactical on 1 Oct 1955. Inactivated on 25 Oct 1957. Redesignated 3rd Tactical Fighter Group on 31 Jul 1985; 3rd Operations Group on 1 Dec 1991. Activated on 19 Dec 1991.

#### Assignments.

Unkn, 1 Jul 1919-1929 (attached to 1st Wing [Provisional], 1 Jul 1922-unkn)  
3rd Attack Wing, c. 8 May 1929-unkn  
3rd Wing, 1 Mar 1935  
17th Bombardment Wing, 16 Jan 1941  
III Air Support Command, 1 Sep 1941  
III Bomber Command, 8 Dec 1941  
III Air Support Command, 2 Jan 1942  
United States Army Forces in Australia, Feb 1942  
Allied Air Forces, Southwest Pacific Area, 18 Apr 1942  
V Bomber Command, 5 Sep 1942  
314th Composite Wing, 31 May 1946  
3rd Bombardment Wing, 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957 (attached to Fifth Air Force, 20 Jul-25 Aug 1950)  
6133rd Bombardment [later, 6133 Tactical Support] Wing, 25 Aug-30 Nov 1950)  
3rd Wing, 19 Dec 1991-

**Stations.** Kelly Field, TX, 1 Jul 1919; Ft Bliss, TX, 12 Nov 1919; Kelly Field, TX, 2 Jul 1921; Ft Crockett, TX, 1 Jul 1926; Barksdale Field, LA, 28 Feb 1935; Savannah, GA, 6 Oct 1940-19 Jan 1942; Brisbane, Australia, 25 Feb 1942; Charters Towers, Australia, 10 Mar 1942; Port Moresby, New Guinea, 28 Jan 1943; Dobodura, New Guinea, 20 May 1943; Nadzab, New Guinea, 3 Feb 1944; Hollandia, New Guinea, 12 May 1944; Dulag, Leyte, 16 Nov 1944; San Jose, Mindoro, c. 30



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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Dec 1944; Okinawa, 6 Aug 1945; Atsugi, Japan, c. 8 Sep 1945; Yokota AB, Japan, 1 Sep 1946; Johnson AB, Japan c. 15 Mar 1950; Iwakuni AB, Japan, , 1 Jul 1950; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 22 Aug 1951; Johnson AB, Japan, c. 5 Oct 1954-25 Oct 1957; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991-

### **Operational Components.**

#### *Groups:*

71st Reconnaissance: attached 31 Oct 1947-18 Aug 1948

#### *Squadrons:*

6th Night Fighter: attached 7 Sep 1946-31 Jan 1947

8th Aero (later 8th Squadron; 8th Attack; 8th Bombardment): 1 Jul 1919-25 Oct 1957 (detached 13 Aug 1956-25 Oct 1957)

9th Reconnaissance, Very Long Range, Photographic: attached 25 Sep 1946-22 Apr 1947

10th Reconnaissance (Light) (later, 89 Bombardment): 15 Jan 1941-10 Apr 1946 (not operational c. 1 Jan-10 Apr 1946)

12th Aero (later, 12th Squadron): attached 13 Oct 1919-23 Mar 1920, assigned 24 Mar 1920-27 Jun 1921

12th Fighter: 28 Apr 2000-30 Sep 2007

19th Fighter: 1 Jan 1994-1 Oct 1010

26th (later 26th Attack): 15 Sep 1921-27 Jun 1924

43rd Fighter: 19 Dec 1991-1 Jan 1994

51st Attack: Jan 1935-1 Sep 1936

54th Fighter: 19 Dec 1991-28 Apr 2000

82nd Reconnaissance: attached 1 Feb-c. 31 Oct 1947

90th Aero (later, 90th Attack; 90th Bombardment; 90th Fighter): 1 Jul 1919-1 Oct 1949; 25 Jun 1951-25 Oct 1957 (not operational 1 Feb-3 Apr 1946; detached 13 Aug 1956-25 Oct 1957); 19 Dec 1991-

96th Aero: attached 12 Nov 1919-10 Jan 1921

104th Aero (later, 13th Squadron; 13th Attack;

13th Bombardment): 1 Jul 1919-27 Jun 1924; 1 Nov 1929-25 Oct 1957 (not operational 1 Jan-27 Mar 1946; detached 13 Aug 1956-25 Oct 1957)

517th Airlift: 1 Apr 1992-

525th Fighter Squadron: 30 Sep 2007-

731st Bombardment: attached Nov 1950-25 Jun 1951

962nd Airborne Warning and Control (later, 962nd Airborne Air Control): 1 May 1993-



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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**Aircraft.** DH-4, 1919-1926, 1926-1932; JN-6, 1919-1921; JNS-1, 1919-1921; C-1, 1919-1921; GAX (GA-1), 1921-1923; XB-1A, 1921-1923; O-2, 1921-1928; O-1, 1927; O-6, 1928-unkn; A-3, 1928-1934; A-8, 1932-1936; O-19, 1932-1936; A-12, 1933-1936; A-17, 1936-1940; (In addition, the Group flew the XO-6 and Y-8 in the late 1920s, and JN-4, A-9, A-10, Lockheed Hudson, O-24, PT-26, and BT-14 prior to World War II); A (later, B)-18, 1937-1941; B-12, 1939-1941; A-20, 1941-1945; A-24, 1941, 1942; B-25, 1942-1944, 1945; B-24, 1944-1946; A (later, B)-26, 1945-1956; F-2, 1946-1947; P-51/F-6, 1946-1947; F-7, 1946-1947; F-9, 1946-1947; F-13, 1946-1947; B-17, 1946-1947; P-61, 1946-1947; RB-17, 1947-1948; RB-29, 1947-1948; RF-51, 1947-1948; RF-61, 1947-1948; RF-80, 1947-1948; RF-61, 1949; B-57, 1956; F-4, 1991; F-15, 1991-2010; F-22, 2007-; C-130, 1992 – 2007, 2011-; C-12, 1992-; C-17, 2007-; E-3, 1993-

### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: Antisubmarine, American Theater; East Indies; Air Offensive, Japan; Papua; New Guinea; Bismarck Archipelago; Western Pacific; Leyte; Luzon; Southern Philippines

Korea: UN Defensive; UN Offensive; CCF Intervention; First UN Counteroffensive; CCF Spring Offensive; UN Summer-Fall Offensive; Second Korean Winter; Korea, Summer-Fall 1952; Third Korean Winter; Korea, Summer 1953

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Distinguished Unit Citations: Papua, 23 Jul 1942-23 Jan 1943; New Guinea, 17 Aug 1943; Korea, 27 Jun-31 Jul 1950; Korea, 22 Apr-8 Jul 1951; Korea, 1 May-27 Jul 1953.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: 27 Jun-31 Jul 1950





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 3rd Operations Support Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 3rd Airdrome Squadron on 7 Nov 1942. Activated on 2 Dec 1942; Inactivated on 20 May 1946. Activated on 15 Jan 1947; Inactivated on 20 Aug 1948. Disbanded on 8 Oct 1948. Reconstituted, and Redesignated 3rd Operations Support Squadron on 6 Dec 1991. Activated on 19 Dec 1991.

#### Assignments.

Air Service Command, 2 Dec 1942  
Third Air Force, 28 Dec 1942  
III Bomber Command, 3 Jan 1943  
V Air Force Service Command, *c.* 4 Jun 1943 (attached to 81 Air Depot Group, *c.* 4 Jun-*c.* 8 Oct 1943)  
2 Air Task Force, *c.* 8 Nov 1943-unkn  
308 Bombardment Wing, *c.* 10 Dec 1944-unkn  
309 Bombardment Wing, by Apr-31 Oct 1944  
46 Service Group, 16 Nov 1944-15 Feb 1945  
59 Service Group, 15 Feb-Mar 1945  
7 Air Service Group, Mar-Jul 1945  
63 Air Service Group, 23 Jul 1945-unkn)  
Fifth Air Force, 12 Apr – 20 May 1946  
308 Bombardment Wing, 15 Jan 1947  
475 Fighter Group, 22 Mar 1947 – 20 Aug 1948  
3 Operations Group, 19 Dec 1991 –

**Stations.** Lockbourne AAB, OH, 2 Dec 1942; Myrtle Beach, SC, 14 Jan 1943; Hunter Fld, GA, 2 Mar-27 Apr 1943; Brisbane, Australia, 4 Jun 1943; Oro Bay, New Guinea, 19 Oct 1943; Lae, New Guinea, 8 Nov 1943; Saidor, New Guinea, 9 Jan 1944; San Pablo, Leyte, 16 Nov 1944; Tanauan, Leyte, 10 Dec 1944; Floriblanca, Luzon, 28 Mar 1945; Ie Shima, Ryukyus, 23 Jul 1945; Atsugi, Japan, 28 Aug 1945-20 May 1946; Kimpo, South Korea, 15 Jan 1947-20 Aug 1948; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 29 May 1991 –



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: New Guinea, 1943-1944; Leyte, 1944-1945; Luzon, 1944-1945

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

**Emblem.** Emblem Package Submitted July 1992, Disapproved at PACAF.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 90th Fighter Squadron

**Lineage.** Organized as 90th Aero Squadron on 20 Aug 1917. Redesignated 90th Squadron (Surveillance) on 13 Aug 1919; 90th Squadron (Attack) on 15 Sep 1921; 90th Attack Squadron on 25 Jan 1923; 90th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 15 Sep 1939; 90th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 28 Sep 1942; 90th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 25 May 1943; 90th Bombardment Squadron, Light, on 29 Apr 1944. Inactivated on 1 Oct 1949. Redesignated 90th Bombardment Squadron, Light, Night Intruder, on 7 Jun 1951 and Activated on 25 Jun 1951. Redesignated 90th Bombardment Squadron, Tactical, on 1 Oct 1955; 90th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 8 Jun 1964; 90th Attack Squadron on 12 Dec 1969; 90th Special Operations Squadron on 31 Oct 1970; 90th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 8 Jul 1973; 90th Fighter Squadron on 26 Sep 1991.

#### Assignments.

Unkn, 20 Aug-Nov 1917  
I Air Depot, c. 20 Nov 1917  
I Corps Observation Group, 19 Apr 1918  
IV Corps Observation Group, 13 Jun 1918  
III Corps Observation Group, 21 Sep 1918  
I Corps Observation Group, 30 Nov-Dec 1918  
unkn, Dec 1918-1 Jul 1919  
Army Surveillance (later 1 Surveillance; 3rd Attack; 3rd Bombardment) Group, 1 Jul 1919-1 Oct 1949  
3rd Bombardment Group, 25 Jun 1951 (attached to 3rd Bombardment Wing, 13 Aug 1956-24 Oct 1957)  
3rd Bombardment Wing, 25 Oct 1957 (attached to 41st Air Division, 1 Sep 1963-7 Jan 1964)  
41st Air Division, 8 Jan 1964  
Tactical Air Command, 8 Jun 1964  
3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, 9 Jun 1964 (attached to 405th Fighter Wing, 7 Feb-10 May 1965; 39 Air Division, 8 Aug 1965)  
834 Air Division, 19 Nov 1965 (remained attached to 39 Air Division to 5 Dec 1965; attached to 401 Tactical Fighter Wing, c. 5 Dec 1965 – c. 7 Feb 1966)



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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3 Tactical Fighter Wing, c. 8 Feb 1966  
14 Special Operations Wing, 31 Oct 1970  
483 Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Sep 1971  
18 Tactical Fighter Wing, 15 Apr 1972  
405 Fighter Wing, 15 Dec 1972  
3 Tactical Fighter Wing, 16 Sep 1974  
21 Tactical Fighter Wing, 29 May 1991  
21 Operations Group, 26 Sep 1991  
3 Operations Group, 19 Dec 1991

**Stations.** Kelly Field, TX, 20 Aug 1917; Garden City, NY, 5-27 Oct 1917; Colombey-les-Belles, France, 20 Nov 1917; Amanty, France, 19 Apr 1918; Ourches, France, 13 Jun 1918; Souilly, France, 20 Sep 1918; Bethelainville, France, 29 Oct 1918; Belrain, France, 15 Jan 1919; Colombey-les-Belles, France, 18 Jan 1919; Libourne, France, 25 Jan 1919; St. Denis-de-Piles, France, 29 Jan 1919; Libourne, France, 2 Feb 1919; Bordeaux, France, 10-19 Apr 1919; Hazelhurst Field, NY, 5 May 1919; Kelly Field, TX, c. May 1919 (Flight A operated from Eagle Pass, TX, 27 Aug 1919; Flight B operated from Kelly Field No. 2, TX, 30 Sep-29 Nov 1919); Sanderson, TX, 29 Nov 1919 (Flight A operated from Eagle Pass, TX, to 12 Jun 1920 and from Del Rio, TX, 12 Jun 1920-30 Jun 1921); Kelly Field, TX, 2 Jul 1921; Ft Crockett, TX, 1 Jul 1926 (detachment operated from Ft Huachuca, AZ, 7 Apr-12 May 1929); Barksdale Field, LA, 27 Feb 1935 (deployed at Bakersfield, CA, 3-23 May 1937); Savannah, GA, 9 Oct 1940-19 Jan 1942; Brisbane, Australia, 25 Feb 1942; Charters Towers, Australia, 8 Mar 1942; Port Moresby, New Guinea, 28 Jan 1943; Dobodura, New Guinea, 21 May 1943; Nadzab, New Guinea, 5 Feb 1944; Hollandia, New Guinea, c. 7 May 1944; Dulag, Leyte, 16 Nov 1944; San Jose, Mindoro, 30 Dec 1944; Sobe, Okinawa, 6 Aug 1945; Atsugi, Japan, c. 8 Sep 1945; Yokota AB, Japan, 10 Oct 1946-1 Oct 1949; Iwakuni AB, Japan, 25 Jun 1951; Kunsan AB, South Korea, c. 20 Aug 1951 (deployed at Pusan AB, South Korea, 25 Apr-17 May 1952); Johnson AB, Japan, 5 Oct 1954 (deployed at Itazuke AB, Japan, 18 Jan-2 Feb 1957); Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Nov 1960-9 Jun 1964; England AFB, LA, 9 Jun 1964-8 Feb 1966 (deployed at Clark AB, Philippines, 7 Feb-10 May 1965; Misawa AB, Japan, 3 Aug-5 Dec 1965); Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 12 Feb 1966 (deployed at Phan Rang AB, South Vietnam, 9-14 Apr 1967); Nha Trang AB, South Vietnam, 31 Oct 1970; Kadena AB, Okinawa (later, Japan), 15 Apr 1972; Clark AB, Philippines, 15 Dec 1972; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 29 May 1991.

**Aircraft.** In addition to Sopwith 1 and Salmson 2, briefly included Spad XI and Breguet 14 during 1918-1919; DH-4, 1919-c. 1925; GAX (GA-1), 1921-1922; O-2, 1921-1926, 1926-1928; In addition to DH-4, 1926-1932, and A-3, 1928-1934, included O-1, XO-6, A-8, and Y-8 in the 1920s and early 1930s; A-12, 1933-1936; A-17, 1936-1939; A-18, (later, B-18), 1939-1941; B-12, 1939-1940; A-20, 1941, 1943-1945; A-24, 1941, 1942; B-25, 1942-1944, 1945; A-26, (later B-26), 1945-1946, 1946-1949; B-24, 1944-1946; B-26, 1951-1956; B-57, 1956-1964; F-100, 1964-1969;



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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A-37, 1969-1970; C-123, 1970-1972; C-130, 1970-1972; F-4, 1973-1991; F-15, 1991-2007; F-22, 2007-

### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War I: Lorraine; St Mihiel; Meuse-Argonne

World War II: Antisubmarine, American Theater; East Indies; Air Offensive, Japan; Papua; New Guinea; Bismarck Archipelago; Western Pacific; Leyte; Luzon; Southern Philippines

Korea: CCF Spring Offensive; UN Summer-Fall Offensive; Second Korean Winter; Korea Summer-Fall, 1952; Third Korean Winter; Korea, Summer 1953

Vietnam: Vietnam Air; Vietnam Air Offensive; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III; Vietnam Air/Ground; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV; Tet 69/ Counteroffensive; Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969; Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1970; Sanctuary Counteroffensive; Southwest Monsoon; Commando Hunt V; Commando Hunt VI; Commando Hunt VII; Vietnam Ceasefire

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Distinguished Unit Citations: Papua, 23 Jul 1942 – 23 Jan 1943; Bismarck Sea, 3-4 Mar 1943; New Guinea, 17 Aug 1943; Korea, [25 Jun]-9 Jul 1951; Korea, 1 May-27 Jul 1953

Presidential Unit Citations: Southeast Asia, 8 Jun 1966-16 Apr 1967; Southeast Asia, 6 Mar 1968-31 Jul 1969, Southeast Asia 16 Nov 1970-30 Apr 1972

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards With Combat "V" Device: 31 Jan-5 Mar 1968; Aug 1969-20 Jan 1970; 21 Jan-30 Sep 1970; 1 Nov 1970-30 Jun 1971; 1 Sep-31 Dec 1971





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jun 1958-30 Jun 1960; 1 Jul 1960-31 Mar 1962; [9 Jun] 1964-16 Jul 1965; 3 Apr-31 May 1975; 1 Jul 1979-30 Jun 1981; 1 Jul 1981-30 Apr 1982; 22 Mar-1 Apr 1986; 1 Jan 1989-1 Jun 1990; 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Crosses with Palm: [8 Feb 1966]-19 May 1969; 1 Apr 1966-15 Apr 1972; 1 May-30 Sep 1970

**Emblem.** Originally approved on 14 Feb 1924. Approved 23 Feb 1999.

**Description.** Azure, a pair of dice in fess arraswise the dexter showing 4, 1, 5 and the sinister showing 3, 1, 2, Gules fimbriated Argent dots of the like, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "PAIR-O-DICE" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "90TH FIGHTER SQ" in Blue letters.

**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 pair of cocked dice, tilted to show corresponding faces of "natural sevens," are symbolic of the squadron personnel's petition for luck aloft. The digit "seven" is also representative of the number of victories scored in France during World War I.





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 517th Airlift Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 17th Transport Squadron on 20 Nov 1940; Activated on 11 Dec 1940. Re-designated 17th Troop Carrier Squadron on 4 Jul 1942; Inactivated on 31 Jul 1945. Activated on 19 May 1947; Inactivated on 10 Sep 1948. Redesignated 17th Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, on 3 Jul 1952 and Activated on 14 Jul 1952. Inactivated on 21 Jul 1954. Activated on 24 Oct 1960; Organized on 8 Feb 1961; Redesignated 17th Troop Carrier Squadron on 8 Dec 1965; 17th Tactical Airlift Squadron on 1 Sep 1967; 517th Airlift Squadron on 1 Apr 1992.

#### Assignments.

64th Transport (later Troop Carrier) Group, 11 Dec 1940-31 Jul 1945  
64th Troop Carrier Group, 19 May 1947-10 Sep 1948  
64th Troop Carrier Group, 14 Jul 1952-21 Jul 1954  
Tactical Air Command, 24 Oct 1960  
64th Troop Carrier Wing, 8 Feb 1961  
516th Troop Carrier Wing, 1 Jan 1963  
5040th Air Base Wing, 15 Jun 1964  
21st Composite Wing, 8 Jul 1966  
Twenty-second Air Force, 31 Mar 1975  
616th Military Airlift Group, 1 Nov 1975  
3rd Operations Group, 1 Apr 1992

**Stations.** McClellan Field, CA, 11 Jul 1940; Hamilton Field, CA, 11 Jul 1941; Westover Field, MA, 13 Jun-31 Jul 1942; Ramsbury, England, 18 Aug 1942; Greenham Common Airdrome, England, 26 Sep 1942; Blida, Algeria, 27 Nov 1942 (air echelon operated from Nouvion, Algeria, 6-27 Jun 1943 and Kairouan, Tunisia, 27 Jun-26 Jul 1943); Kairouan, Tunisia, 29 Jun 1943; El Djem, Tunisia, 26 Jul 1943; Milo/Trapani Airdrome, Sicily, 1 Sep 1943; Comiso, Sicily, 4 Sep 1943 (air echelon operated from Lalmia, India, 7 Apr-9 Jun 1944); Ciampino, Italy, 8 Jul 1944 (operated from Istres, France, 8 Sep-11 Nov 1944); Rosignano Airfield, Italy, 10 Jan-23 May 1945; Waller Field, Trinidad, 4 Jun-31 Jul 1945; Langley Field, VA, 19 May 1947-10 Sep 1948; Donaldson AFB, SC, 14 Jul 1952-21 Jul 1954; Dyess AFB, TX, 8 Feb 1961; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 15 Jun 1964.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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**Aircraft.** C-47, 1941-1945; None, 1947-1948; C-82, 1952-1953; C-119, 1953-1954; C-130, 1961- 2007; C-124, 1970-1971; C-12, 1992-; C-17, 2007-.

### **Honors.**

*Service Streamers.* World War II American Theatre

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: Algeria-French Morocco; Tunisia; Sicily; Naples-Foggia; Rome-Arno; Southern France; North Apennines; Po Valley; India-Burma

Vietnam: Vietnam Air Offensive; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Distinguished Unit Citation: CBI Theater, 7 Apr -15 Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device: 2 May 1967-1 Jan 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jul 1962-15 Jun 1964; 16 Jun 1964-31 May 1966; 8 Jul 1966-1 May 1967; 2 Jan-31 Dec 1968; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1969; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1970; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1971; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1972; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1974; 1 Jan-30 Mar 1975; 1 Jan-31 Dec 1979; 1 Jun 1986-31 May 1987; 1 Jun 1987-31 May 1989; 1 Jan 1994 – 31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996 – 30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000 – 31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002 – 30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003 – 30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005 – 1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 1 Sep 1966 – 1 Jan 1968

**Emblem.** Originally approved on 29 Mar 1962. Revised and Approved 16 Feb 1999.

**Description.** Argent, a stylized eagle (firebird) Volant traversed wings to chief Gules. All within a diminished bordure of the Second. Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "FIREBIRDS" in Red letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "517TH AIRLIFT SQ" in Red letters.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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**Significance.** The eagle in flight symbolizes the mythical firebird renowned for its strength and reflects the Squadron's strength, speed and tenacity with which the unit performs its mission. The unit's versatility with equipment and flexibility.





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 525th Fighter Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted as 309th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 13 Jan 1942, Activated on 10 February 1942. Redesignated 309th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 3 Sep 1942; 525th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 23 Aug 1943; 525th Fighter Squadron on 30 May 1944. Inactivated on 31 Mar 1946. Activated on 20 Aug 1946 and Redesignated 525th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 20 Jan 1950. Redesignated 525th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron on 9 Aug 1954; 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 1 Oct 1969. Inactivated on 31 Mar 1992. Activated as 525th Fighter Squadron on 30 Sep 2007.

#### Assignments.

86th Bombardment (later 86th Fighter-Bomber; 86th Fighter) Group, 10 Feb 1942-31 Mar 1946

86th Fighter (later 86th Composite; 86th Fighter; 86th Fighter-Bomber; 86th Fighter-Interceptor) Group, 20 Aug 1946 (attached to 86th Fighter-Interceptor Wing 22 May 1947 to 7 Oct 1955 and 10 Aug 1956 to 7 Mar 1958)

86th Fighter-Interceptor Wing (later 86th Air Division [Defense], 8 Mar 1958

36th Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Nov 1968-31 Mar 1992

3rd Operations Group, 30 Sep 2007

**Stations.** Will Rogers Field, OK, 10 Feb 1942; Hunter Field, GA, 15 Jun 1942; Key Field, MS, 7 Aug 1942-19 Mar 1943; La Senia, Algeria, 12 May 1943; Mediouna, French Morocco, 15 May 1943; Marnia, French Morocco, 3 Jun 1943; Tafaraoui, Algeria, 11 Jun 1943; Gela, Sicily, 20 Jul 1943; Barcelona, Sicily, 27 Jul 1943; Sele Airfield, Italy, 23 Sep 1943; Serretella Airfield, Italy, 14 Oct 1943; Pomigliano, Italy, 19 Nov 1943; Marcianise, Italy, 30 Apr 1944; Ciampino, Italy, c. 11 Jun 1944; Orbetello, Italy, c. 18 Jun 1944; Poretta, Corsica, c. 12 Jun 1944; Grosseto, Italy, c. 18 Sep 1944; Pisa, Italy, c. 1 Nov 1944; Tantonville, France, c. 23 Feb 1945; Braunschardt, Germany, 18 Apr 1945; Schweinfurt, Germany, c. 23 Oct 1945-15 Feb 1946; Bolling Field, DC, 15 Feb 1946-31 Mar 1946; Nordholz, Germany, 20 Aug 1946; Lechfeld, Germany, c. 13 Nov 1946; Bad Kissingen, Germany, 5 Mar 1946; Neubiberg AB, Germany, 12 Jun 1946; Landstuhl AB, Germany, 20 Nov 1952; Bitburg AB, Germany, 12 Feb 1957-31 Mar 1992; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 30 Sep 2007.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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**Aircraft.** A-20, 1942; A-31, 1942; A-36, 1942-1944; P-40, 1944; P-47, 1944-1946; 1946-1950; F-84, 1950-1953; F-86, 1953-1959; F-102, 1959-1969; F-4, 1969-1977; F-15, 1977-1992; F-22, 2007-

### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* American Theater

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: Sicily; Naples-Foggia; Rome-Arno; North Appenines; Southern France; Rheinland; Central Europe; European-African-Middle Eastern Theater

Southwest Asia: Defense of Saudi Arabia; Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

*Decorations.*

Distinguished Unit Citations: Italy, 25 May 1944; Germany, 20 Apr 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 31 Oct 1955-31 Oct 1958; 1 Jan 1962-31 Dec 1963; 1 Jul 1964-30 Jun 1965; 1 Nov-31 Dec 1968; 1 Dec 1973-30 Apr 1975; 1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1977; 1 Jul 1977-30 Jun 1979; 1 Jul 1986-30 Jun 1988; 1 Jul 1988-30 Jun 1990; 1 Sep 1990-31 Jul 1991; [30 Sep 2007]-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

**Emblem.** Approved on 29 Sep 1955. Updated 1 May 2009.

**Description.** On a white disc, edged in Air Force reflex blue, the full face of a caricatured bulldog, in shades of light brown and tan, detail and outlines black, eyeballs, and patch on his head white, iris black, pupils green, wearing a blue collar, spiked white. Two teeth, one white, one Air Force yellow. White scroll with Air Force reflex blue edge and script, reading "525thFighter Sq", for unit designation.

**Significance.** The bulldog is a fighter. The dog's expression, with broken Air Force yellow







## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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low tooth, white patch on head, and spiked collar, symbolizes an experienced, battle-hardened FIGHTER, without specifically showing aircraft, wings, flame, jets or armament, giving the emblem a long range suitability to a tactical fighter outfit. The eyes are green, maintaining a link to the squadron's original Bulldog patch approved by the CSAF for the 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron in 1955. The scroll and unit designation are Air Force blue, symbolizing the sky, the theater in which this bulldog fights. The collar is Air Force blue, and is the squadron's color.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 537 Airlift Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 537th Fighter Squadron on 24 Sep 1943. Activated on 1 Oct 1943; Disbanded on 10 Apr 1944. Reconstituted, and Redesignated as 537th Troop Carrier Squadron (Medium), on 26 May 1952. Activated in the Reserve on 15 Jun 1952; Inactivated on 1 Feb 1953. Redesignated 537th Troop Carrier Squadron, and activated, on 12 Oct 1966. Organized on 1 Jan 1967. Redesignated 537th Tactical Airlift Squadron on 1 Aug 1967. Inactivated on 31 Aug 1971. Redesignated 537 Airlift Squadron on 30 Mar 2011. Activated on 29 Apr 2011.

#### Assignments.

87th Fighter Group, 1 Oct 1943-10 Apr 1944  
87th Troop Carrier Group, 15 Jun 1952-1 Feb 1953  
Pacific Air Forces, 12 Oct 1966  
483th Troop Carrier (later, 483 Tactical Airlift) Wing, 1 Jan 1967-31 Aug 1971  
3rd Operations Group, 29 Apr 2011

**Stations.** Richmond AAB, VA, 1 Oct 1943; Millville AAFld, NJ, 7 Jan-10 Apr 1944; Atterbury AFB, IN, 15 Jun 1952-1 Feb 1953; Phu Cat Airfield, Vietnam, 1 Jan 1967-31 Aug 1971; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 29 Apr 2011.

**Aircraft.** P-47, 1943-1944; Unkn, 1952-1953; C-7A, 1967-1971, C-130, 29 Apr 2011.

#### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None.

*Campaign Streamers.*

Vietnam: Vietnam Air Offensive; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III; Vietnam Air/Ground; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV; TET 69/Counteroffensive; Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969; Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970; Sanctuary Counteroffensive; Southwest Monsoon; Commando Hunt V; Commando Hunt VI.

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### *Decorations.*

Presidential Unit Citations (Vietnam): 21 Jan-12 May 1968; 1 Apr-30 Jun 1970.

Navy Presidential Unit Citation: Vietnam, 20 Jan-31 Mar 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device: 1 Jan-30 Apr 1967; 1 May 1967-30 Apr 1968; 1 Jul 1970-28 Aug 1971.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 1 Jan 1967-31 Jul 1971; 1 Aug 1967-31 Aug 1971.

**Emblem.** Approved on 26 Mar 1968.

**Significance.** The emblem is symbolic of the Squadron. The blue background alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, and yellow to the sun and excellence of personnel in assigned duties. The lance and shield are traditional military symbols and the propeller on the shield represents the 537th as a flying unit. The horse's head is the emblem of the 1st Cavalry Division, whose support is the primary mission of the Squadron.

**Motto.** GESTA NON VERBA-Deeds Not Words

**Description.** On a light blue disc bordered yellow a lance pale wise to dexter divided vertically white and black garnished red on the dexter side; in sinister a black horse's head cooped above an escutcheon divided per pale white and black charged with a three bladed white propeller detailed black. Attached above the disc a blank white scroll edged yellow. Attached below the disc a white scroll edged yellow and inscribed "Gestalt Non Verba" in black letters.





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 862nd Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 14 Sep 1943. Activated on 1 Nov 1943; Redesignated 862nd Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on 21 Feb 1944. Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945. Consolidated (19 Sep 1985) with the 962nd Airborne Early Warning and Control Squadron, which was constituted on 30 Mar 1955. Activated on 8 Jul 1955; Inactivated on 31 Dec 1969. Redesignated 962nd Airborne Warning and Control Support Squadron on 31 Jul 1979; 962nd Airborne Warning and Control Squadron on 19 Sep 1985. Activated on 1 Jul 1986. Redesignated 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron on 1 Aug 1994.

#### Assignments.

493rd Bombardment Group, 1 Nov 1943–28 Aug 1945 (attached to 3 Air Division, 17 Feb–7 May 1945)  
551st Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing, 8 Jul 1955–31 Dec 1969  
28th Air Division, 1 Jul 1986  
552nd Operations Group, 29 May 1992  
3rd Operations Group, 1 May 1993

**Stations.** McCook AAFld, NE, 1 Nov 1943–1 Jan 1944; Elveden Hall, England, 1 Jan 1944; Debach, England, 17 Apr 1944; Wormingford, England, 17 Feb 1945; Debach, England, 18 May–6 Aug 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, c. 13–28 Aug 1945; Otis AFB, MA, 8 Jul 1955–31 Dec 1969; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 1 Jul 1986.

**Aircraft.** B–24, 1944; B–17, 1944–1945; P–51, 1945; C/RC/EC–121, 1955–1969; E–3, 1986

#### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### *Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jul 1957-31 Oct 1958; [1 Jul 1986]-31 Mar 1987; 1 Apr 1987-31 Mar 1989; 1 Dec 1989-1 Dec 1991; 1 Apr-30 Sep 1992; 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

**Emblem.** Approved on 23 Oct 1995.

**Description.** Vert, an eagle issuant from sinister chief volant Proper and grasping in its sinister foot a lightning flash bendwise sinister, all within a diminished bordure Sable. Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border inscribed “962 AACS” in Black letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed “EYES OF THE EAGLE” in Black letters.

**Significance.** The eagle is symbolic of the United States of America and denotes strength. It carries in its talon the lightning bolt, the icon for communications and radar.







# Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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## 3rd Maintenance Group

**Lineage.** Established 3rd Maintenance and Supply Group, 10 Aug 1948; Activated on 18 Aug 1948. Inactivated on 25 Oct 1957; Disestablished on 27 Sep 1984. Reestablished, and redesignated 3 Logistics Group, 1 Dec 1991; Activated on 19 Dec 1991; Redesignated 3rd Maintenance Group, 2002.

### Assignments.

3rd Bombardment Wing, 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957  
3 Wing, 19 Dec 1991

**Stations.** Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Aug 1948; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Apr 1950; Yokota AB, Japan, 14 Aug 1950; Iwakuni AB, Japan, 1 Dec 1950; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 13 Aug 1951; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Oct 1954-25 Oct 1957; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991.

### Assigned Units.

#### *Squadrons.*

3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron: 30 Sep 2002-  
3rd Component Repair Squadron (later 3rd Component Maintenance): 1 Oct 1993-3 Jun 2011  
3rd Logistics Support Squadron (later 3rd Maintenance Operations): 19 Dec 1991-  
3rd Maintenance Squadron, Bombardment Light (later 3rd Maintenance, 3rd Field Maintenance, 3rd Maintenance, 3rd Equipment Maintenance, 3rd Maintenance): 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957; 19 Dec 1991-  
3rd Motor Vehicle Squadron, Bombardment, Light (later 3rd Motor Vehicle, 3rd Transportation): 25 Feb 1949-25 Oct 1957; 19 Dec 1991-30 Sep 2002  
3rd Supply Squadron: 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957; 19 Dec 1991-2 Aug 2001  
703 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron: 10 Jan 2003-  
500th Contracting Squadron (later 3rd Contracting): 19 Dec 1991-30 Sep 2002



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

Korea: UN Summer-Fall Offensive; Second Korean Winter; Korea, Summer-Fall 1952; Third Korean Winter; Korea, Summer 1953

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995, 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998, 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001, 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003, 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006, 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation: 27 Jun-31 Jul 1950

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





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 3rd Maintenance Operations Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 9th Airdome Squadron on 7 Nov 1942; Activated on 26 Nov 1942; Inactivated on 5 Dec 1945. Redesignated 3rd Base Complement Squadron on 7 Oct 1946; Activated on 1 Nov 1946. Inactivated on 28 Jul 1948; Disbanded on 8 Oct 1948. Reconstituted, and redesignated 3rd Logistics Support Squadron on 1 Dec 1991. Activated on 19 Dec 1991. Redesignated 3rd Maintenance Operations Squadron on 30 Sep 2002; Activated on 30 Sep 2002.

#### Assignments.

Air Service Command, 26 Nov 1942  
Third Air Force, 28 Dec 1942  
Eighth Air Force, *c.* 6 Jun 1942  
VIII Air Support Command, 8 Jun 1943  
Ninth Air Force, 15 Oct 1943  
IX Fighter Command, 18 Oct 1943  
IX Troop Carrier Command, 2 Nov 1943  
IX Fighter Command, 6 Nov 1943  
IX Air Service Command, 7 Nov 1943  
IX Fighter Command, 20 Nov 1943  
IX Air Support (later, IX Tactical Air) Command, 1 Feb 1944  
XXIX Tactical Air Command (Provisional), 15 Sep 1944  
IX Fighter Command, 1 Dec 1944 (attached to XXIX Tactical Air Command (Provisional), 1 Dec 1944- 13 Jun 1945)  
IX Air Force Service Command, 14 Jun- 5 Dec 1945  
Caribbean Air Command, 1 Nov 1946-28 Jul 1948  
3rd Logistics Group, 19 Dec 1991  
3rd Maintenance Group, 30 Sep 2002.

**Stations.** Baer Field, IN, 26 Nov 1942; Walterboro Army Air Field, SC, *c.* 19 Jan 1943; Hunter Field, GA, 16 Feb- 18 May 1943; Membury, England, 8 Jun 1943; Aldermaston, England, 12 Jul 1943; Welford, England, 8 Sep 1943; Boxted, England, 8 Nov 1943; Raydon, England, 18 Nov 1943; Keevil, England, 4 Dec 1943; Homsley South, England, 23 Feb 1944; Beaulieu, England,



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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18 Mar 1944; St Pierre du Mont, France, 9 Jun 1944; Chippelle, France, 22 Jun 1944; Meautis, France, 2 Aug 1944; Gorrion, France, 19 Aug 1944; Meautis, France, 25 Aug 1944; Juvincourt, France, 18 Sep 1944; Le Culot, Belgium, 20 Oct 1944; Ophoven, Belgium, 27 Jan 1944; Venlo, Netherlands, 10 Mar 1945; Lippstadt, Germany, 12 Apr 1945; Volkenrod, Germany, 30 Apr 1945; Sandweiler, Luxemborg, 16 Jun 1945; Nuremberg, Germany, 15 Aug 1945; Erlangen, Germany, 1 Sep-5 Dec 1945; Albrook Field (later, AFB), Canal Zone, 1 Nov 1946-28 Jul 1948; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991.

### **Honors.**

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

World War II: Normandy 1944; Northern France 1944; Rhineland 1944-1945; Ardennes-Alsace 1944-1945; Central Europe 1945

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996- 30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000- 31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006, 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008, 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009

*Foreign Decorations*

Citations in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army: 6 Jun-30 Sep 1944; 1 Oct-17 Dec 1944; 18 Dec 1944-15 Jan 1945

Belgian Fourragere

**Emblem.** Approved 24 Jun 2010

**Description.** On a disc Azure, above in sinister base a demi-globe Vert, gridlined Sable, an eagle volant Proper, emitting from its sinister claw three arced arrows descending over the globe to dexter base, centre base and sinister base Or, in chief seven mullets forming the Big Dipper of the Ursa Minor constellation and Polaris, all within a narrow border Yellow.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “3D MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS SQ” in Yellow letters.

**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 stars in the sky represent the most recognized constellation used for navigation. The eagle, the national symbol, depicts air power and the unit’s ability for rapid forward deployment through the air to all points on the globe. The globe symbolizes the unit’s ability for world-wide global reach and mobility. The motto, “DEDICATED TO EXCELLENCE” describes the core function of US Air Force combat capability, i.e., professional warriors dedicated to the profession of arms.







# Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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## 3rd Munitions Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 3rd Aviation Field Depot Squadron on 2 Nov 1950. Activated on 16 Nov 1950; Redesignated 3rd Aviation Depot Squadron on 8 Nov 1954; 3rd Munitions Maintenance Squadron on 1 Jul 1960. Inactivated on 30 Sep 1972. Activated on 1 Dec 1973. Inactivated on 1 Jun 1977. Activated and redesignated 3rd Munitions Squadron on 27 July 2011.

### ASSIGNMENTS.

USAF Special Reporting Agency (later, 1090th USAF Special Reporting Wing), 16 Nov 1950

Fifteenth Air Force, 27 May 1951

3rd Air Division, 16 Jul 1954 (attached to 3960th Air Base Wing, 1 Apr-1 Oct 1955; 3960th Air Base Wing [later, 3960th Air Base Group; 3960th Combat Support Group], 16 Jan 1956-*ca.* 1 Oct 1959; 3960th Combat Support Group, 1 Apr 1960-1 Apr 1961)

3960th Combat Support Group (later, 3960th Strategic Wing), 1 Apr 1961

3rd Air Division, 1 Aug 1964

3960th Strategic Wing, 15 Apr 1965

43rd Strategic Wing, 1 Apr 1970-30 Sep 1972 (attached to Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Wing, Provisional, 303, 15 Jun-30 Sep 1972)

3rd Tactical Fighter Wing (later 3rd Wing), 1 Dec 1973-1 Jun 1977, 27 Jul 2011..

**Components.** Detachment 1, 3rd Aviation Depot (later, Munitions Maintenance) Squadron, 1 Oct 1959-25 Mar 1961 (detached 1 Oct 1959-25 Mar 1961).

**Stations.** Sandia Base, New Mexico, 16 Nov 1950-2 May 1951; Anderson AFB, Guam, Marianas Islands, 23 May 1951-30 Sep 1972; Kunsan AB South Korea, 1 Dec 1973-16 Sep 1974; Clark AB, Philippines, 16 Sep 1974-1 June 1977; Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK, 27 Jul 2011.

### Honors.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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*Service Streamers.* Korean Theater (Korean War)

*Campaign Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device: 2 Mar 1969-31 Mar 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award: 18 Jun 1965-1 Mar 1966; 2 Mar 1966-1 Mar 1968; 2 Mar 1968-1 Mar 1969; 1 Dec-31 Dec 1973

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 1 Apr 1966-30 Sep 1972

**EMBLEM.** Approved on 11 Mar 1959.

**Description.** On a disc, the upper half Air Force Blue, the lower half light blue edged white, within a narrow Air Force blue border, a red lightening flash fimbriated light blue in chief, dark blue in base, between three white stars arched in chief and an Air Force golden yellow olive branch in the base, outlined Air Force blue.

**Motto.** On a white scroll edged and inscribed Air Force blue: ALERT, READY.

**Significance.** Our emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its primary mission and indicates a deterrent force for peace. The divided background of light and dark blue represents the unit's twenty-four hour capability. The three stars are for the squadron and indicate its numerical designation, the lightening streak symbolizes the devices with which the squadron works, and the olive branch represents the peace which is the ultimate goal. The motto indicates willingness and preparedness to execute the assigned mission.





# Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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## 3rd Maintenance Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 3rd Maintenance Squadron, Bombardment, Light, on 10 Aug 1948. Activated on 18 Aug 1948; Redesignated 3rd Maintenance Squadron on 1 Mar 1950; 3rd Field Maintenance Squadron on 8 Nov 1954. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 8 Jan 1964. Activated on 8 Jan 1964; Organized on 9 Jan 1964. Redesignated 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron on 1 Jun 1977; 3rd Maintenance Squadron on 19 Dec 1991; 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron on 1 Oct 1993; 3rd Maintenance Squadron 3 Jun 2011.

### Assignments.

3rd Maintenance and Supply Group, 18 Aug 1948  
3rd Bombardment Wing, 25 Oct 1957-8 Jan 1964  
3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, 9 Jan 1964-19 Dec 1991  
3rd Logistics Group, 19 Dec 1991  
3rd Maintenance Group, 30 Sep 2002

**Stations.** Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Aug 1948; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Apr 1950; Yokota AB, Japan, 4 Aug 1950; Iwakuni AB, Japan, 1 Dec 1950; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 11 Aug 1951; Johnson AB, Japan, 1 Oct 1954; Yokota AB, Japan, 18 Nov 1960-8 Jan 1964; England AFB, LA, 9 Jan 1964-8 Nov 1965; Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 8 Nov 1965; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 15 Mar 1971; Clark AB, Philippines, 16 Sep 1974-19 Dec 1991; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991.

### Honors.

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

Korea: UN Summer-Fall Offensive 1951; Second Korean Winter 1951-1952;  
Korea, Summer-Fall 1952; Third Korean Winter 1952-1953; Korea,  
Summer 1953.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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Vietnam: Vietnam Defensive 1965-1966; Vietnam Air 1966; Vietnam Air Offensive 1966-1967; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II 1967-1968; Vietnam Air/Ground 1968; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III 1968; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV 1968-1969; TET 69/Counteroffensive 1969; Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969; Vietnam Winter/Spring 1969-1970; Sanctuary Counteroffensive 1970; Southwest Monsoon 1970

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Presidential Unit Citations (Vietnam): 8 Jun 1966-16 Apr 1967; 6 Mar 1968-31 Jul 1969

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat 'V' Device: 31 Jan-5 Mar 1968; 1 Aug 1969-20 Jan 1970; 21 Jan-31 Oct 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jun 1958-30 Jun 1960; 1 Jul 1960-31 Mar 1962; 1 May 1964-16 Jun 1965; 1 Jul 1972-31 Dec 1973; 3 Apr-31 May 1975; 1 May 1980-30 Apr 1982; 22 Mar- 1 Apr 1986; 1 Jan 1989-1 Jun 1990; 1 Jan 1994-31 Dec 1995; 1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998; 1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001; 1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 25 Nov 1965-19 May 1969; 1 Apr 1966-[31 Oct 1970]; 1 May-30 Sep 1970

**Emblem.** Approved on 17 Jan 1978.

**Description.** A disc edged with a narrow blue border, the upper portion divided vertically into two halves, dark blue to dexter and light blue to sinister; on the dark blue portion a white moon above three red flight symbols in a diagonal ascent each trailing three light blue trails; on the light blue issuing from sinister a yellow rayed sun surmounted by two white missiles in saltire, detailed dark blue; overall issuing from base a stylized mountain surmounted by a screwdriver and wrench in saltire beneath a gear, all white detailed dark blue. Attached above the disc, a blue scroll edged with a narrow yellow border and inscribed "MOBILE – ALERT – READY" in yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a blue scroll edged with a narrow yellow border and inscribed "3RD EQUIP MAINT SQ" in yellow letters.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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**Significance.** Our emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its primary mission and indicates a deterrent force for peace. The divided background of light and dark blue with corresponding moon and sun represents the unit's 24 hour capability. The three symbols of flight represent the numerical designation of the wing and the three maintenance squadrons under the wing. The crossed missiles represent the primary objective of the squadron and the wing. The lower foreground of Mt. Arayat symbolizes the maintenance effort of the squadron. The motto indicates willingness and preparedness to execute the assigned mission.





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Lineage.** Constituted 3rd Organizational Maintenance Squadron, and activated on 7 Aug 1962. Organized 8 Sep 1962. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 8 Jan 1964; Activated on 8 Jan 1964. Organized on 9 Jan 1964; Discontinued, and inactivated, on 18 Jun 1966. Activated on 15 Mar 1971. Redesignated 3rd Aircraft Generation Squadron on 1 Jun 1977. Inactivated on 19 Dec 1991. Redesignated 3rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on 2 Jul 2002; Activated on 30 Sep 2002

#### **Assignments:**

3rd Bombardment Wing, 8 Sep 1962-8 Jan 1964 (attached to 41 Air Division, 1 Sep 1963-8 Jan 1964)  
3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, 9 Jan 1964-18 Jun 1966; 15 Mar 1971-19 Dec 1991  
3rd Maintenance Group, 30 Sep 2002

**Stations.** Yokota AB, Japan, 8 Sep 1962-8 Jan 1964; England AFB, LA, 9 Jan 1964-8 Nov 1965; Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 8 Nov 1965-18 Jun 1966; Kunsan AB, South Korea, 15 Mar 1971; Clark AB, Philippines, 16 Sep 1974-19 Dec 1991; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 30 Sep 2002.

#### **Honors.**

*Service Streamers.* None

*Campaign Streamers.*

Vietnam: Vietnam Defensive 1965-1966; Vietnam Air 1966

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Presidential Unit Citation: Vietnam, 8-[18 Jun 1966]





## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 May 1964-16 Jun 1965; 1 Jul 1972-31 Dec 1973; 3 Apr-31 May 1975; 1 May 1980-30 Apr 1982; 22 Mar-1 Apr 1986; 1 Jan 1989-1 Jun 1990; 30 Sep 2002-30 Sep 2003; 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005; 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006, 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008; 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 1 Apr – 18 Jun 1966

**Emblem.** Approved on 19 Sep 2003.

**Description.** On a disc Azure, issuing from base a sphere Vert, grid lined of the field surmounted by an American Bald Eagle displayed with head lowered to dexter Proper and grasping in dexter claw a missile bendwise nose upward Argent, an in sinister claw an aerial bomb bendwise sinister nose upward, all below seven mullets arranged as the “Big Dipper” constellation and one large mullet “North Star” Or, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “WARRIORS” in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “3 AMXS” in Yellow letters.



**Significance.** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operation. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The stars in the sky represent the State of Alaska. The eagle, our national symbol, depicts air power. The missile and bomb in the clasp of the eagle represent our weapons to deploy. The globe is our ability to react to any place in the world. The motto ‘Warriors’ describes the core function to the US Air Force combat capability that is: professional warriors of arms.



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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### 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

**Lineage.** Activated May 1944 as 3rd Engineering Squadron. Inactivated Jan 1946; Disbanded 8 Oct 1948. Reconstituted, and redesignated 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on 17 Dec 2002. Activated 10 Jan 2003.

#### **Assignments.**

65th Service Group, May 1944  
3rd Maintenance Group, 10 Jan 2003

**Stations.** Tinker Field, OK, May 1944; Isley Field, Saipan, Sep 1944; Elmendorf AFB, AK, 10 Jan 2003

#### **Honors.**

*Service Streamers.* Western Pacific Theatre

*Campaign Streamers.* None

*Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

*Decorations.*

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: [10 Jan 2003-30 Sep 2003, 1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005, 1 Oct 2005-1 Nov 2006, 2 Nov 2006-1 Nov 2008, 2 Nov 2008-1 Nov 2009.

**Emblem:** Approved 3 Nov 2003

**Description.** On a disc Or, a bend sinister Azure, overall a horse forcene Sable bridled of the second, caparisoned of the like, crenellated of the first, thereon a knight in armor Proper, plumed Yellow, the dexter hand grasping a lance palewise Argent (Silver Gray) while bearing on sinister arm a shield blazoned: "Or, a four-bladed propeller in saltire Gules", all within a narrow border Black. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "HEAVY METAL" in



## Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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Black letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "703 AMXS" in Black letters.

**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 on horseback represents bravery and strength, as well as, the 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the troops who deploy to support and defend the United States of America. The propeller on the shield stands for the unit's history, dating back to World War II.





# Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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# Subordinate Units Lineage and Honors

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