



Air Force Weather Heritage Series

Lineage and Honors of the Operational Weather Squadrons



Anticipate & Exploit the Weather for Battle

Air Force Weather History Office — Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

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Lineage and Honors of the Operational Weather Squadrons

In the mid-1990s, Air Force Weather began a major re-engineering effort to better organize itself to meet the challenges of modern military support in the 21st century. Air Force Weather re-engineering including the activation of eight regional weather “hubs,” the operational weather squadrons, in 1999-2000. This brochure outlines the official lineage, assignments, stations, emblems, and honors of the operational weather squadrons.

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11th Operational Weather Squadron

Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska

Lineage

- Constituted as Air Corps Detachment, Weather, Alaska, on 15 Nov 1940
- Activated on 11 Jan 1941
- Redesignated 11th Air Corps Squadron, Weather (Regional Control) on 26 Feb 1942
- Redesignated 11th Weather Squadron on 6 Jan 1944
- Inactivated on 20 Apr 1952
- Activated on 20 Apr 1952
- Inactivated on 18 Nov 1957
- Activated on 18 Jun 1958
- Inactivated on 1 Jun 1992
- Redesignated 11th Operational Weather Squadron on 5 Feb 1999
- Activated on 19 Feb 1999

Assignments

- Ninth Service Command, 11 Jan 1941 – c. 1941
- Alaska Defense Force, c. 1941 – 26 Feb 1942
- Eleventh Air Force, 26 Feb 1942 – 22 Oct 1945
- AAF Weather Service, 22 Oct 1945 – 4 Dec 1945
- 7th Weather (later, 2107th Air Weather) Group, 4 Dec 1945 – 20 Apr 1952
- Air Weather Service, 20 Apr 1952 – 20 May 1952
- 8th Weather Group, 20 May 1952 – 18 Nov 1957
- 3d Weather Group, 18 Jun 1958 – 1 Jun 1959

- 4th Weather Wing, 1 Jun 1959 – 30 Jun 1972
- 3d Weather Wing, 30 Jun 1972 – 1 Oct 1989
- 1st Weather Wing, 1 Oct 1989 – 30 Sep 1991
- Pacific Air Forces, 30 Sep 1991 – 15 Apr 1992
- 343d Operations Group, 15 Apr 1992 – 1 Jun 1992
- 611th Air Operations Group, 19 Feb 1999 – Present

Stations

- Ladd Field, Alaska, 11 Jan 1941 – 2 May 1941
- Elmendorf Field (later Air Force Base), Alaska, 2 May 1941 – 20 Apr 1952
- Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, 20 Apr 1952 – 18 Nov 1957
- Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, 18 Jun 1958 – 1 Apr 1992
- Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, 1 Apr 1992 – 1 Jun 1992
- Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, 19 Feb 1999 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 13 Jun 1961



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 three mountain peaks represent the unit's support to the mission of the Alaskan Command, Alaskan NORAD Region and U.S. Army, Alaska. The Big Dipper constellation denotes the squadron's alignment with and support to the 11th Air Force. The anemometer symbolizes the commitment to excellence in weather forecast operations and the snow capped mountain peaks allude to the unit's home location and operating conditions.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None

Lineage and Honors of the Operational Weather Squadrons

- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for periods: 1 May 1966 – 30 Apr 1968; 1 Jun 1969 – 31 May 1971; 1 Jan 1975 – 1 Apr 1976; 1 Jul 1976 – 30 Jun 1978; 1 Jul 1990 – [1] Jun 1992.

15th Operational Weather Squadron

Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

Lineage

- Constituted 15th Weather Squadron on 10 Apr 1942
- Activated on 22 Apr 1942
- Inactivated on 8 Aug 1959
- Activated on 28 Feb 1961
- Organized on 8 Jul 1961
- Inactivated on 30 Sep 1991
- Activated on 1 Jun 1992
- Inactivated on 1 Aug 1994
- Redesignated 15th Operational Weather Squadron on 8 Jan 1999
- Activated on 15 Feb 1999

Assignments

- Sacramento Air Depot, 22 Apr 1942 – 16 Jun 1942
- Allied Air Forces in Australia, 16 Jul 1942 – c. 2 Sep 1942
- Fifth Air Force, c. 2 Sep 1942 – 25 Oct 1944
- FEAF Regional Control and Weather Group (Provisional), 25 Oct 1944 – 20 Sep 1945
- 1st Weather Group, 20 Sep 1945 – 1 Jun 1948
- 1st Weather (later, 2100th Air Weather) Group,* 1 Jun 1948 – 23 Oct 1949
- 2143d Air Weather Wing, 23 Oct 1949 – 8 Feb 1954

* No relationship to previous 1st Weather Group

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- 1st Weather Wing, 8 Feb 1954 – 18 Feb 1957
- 10th Weather Group, 18 Feb 1957 – 8 Aug 1959
- Military Air Transport Service, 28 Feb 1961 – 8 Jul 1961
- 8th Weather Group, 8 Jul 1961 – 8 Oct 1965
- 7th Weather Wing, 8 Oct 1965 – 30 Jun 1972
- 5th Weather Wing, 30 Jun 1972 – 1 Jan 1976
- 7th Weather Wing, 1 Jan 1976 – 30 Sep 1991
- 15th Operations Group, 1 Jun 1992 – 1 Aug 1994
- Air Mobility Command Tanker Airlift Control Center, 15 Feb 1999 – Present

Stations

- McClellan Field, California, 22 Apr 1942 – 16 Jun 1942
- Melbourne, Australia, 16 Jul 1942 – c. 8 Nov 1942
- Townsville, Australia, c. 8 Nov 1942 – 20 Oct 1945
- Nichols Field, Philippines, 20 Oct 1945 – 16 May 1946
- Fort William McKinley, Philippines, 16 May 1946 – 1 Jul 1947
- Kadena Army Air Base (later Kadena Air Force Base; Kadena Air Base), Okinawa, 1 Jul 1947 – 8 Aug 1959
- Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina, 8 Jul 1961 – 30 Aug 1963
- McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey, 30 Aug 1963 – 30 Jun 1972
- Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, 30 Jun 1972 – 1 Jan 1976
- Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 1 Jan 1976 – 1 Jun 1980
- McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey, 1 Jun 1980 – 30 Sep 1991
- Hickam Air Force Base, Hawai'i, 1 Jun 1992 – 1 Aug 1994
- Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, 15 Feb 1999 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 9 Oct 1943



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 gauntlet gripping a lightning bolt from a thunderstorm cloud represents the unit's ability to maintain a firm forecasting grip on rapidly changing weather and assessment to the wing. The two background colors represent the day and night global capability and mobility of the unit.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for periods: Mar 1956 – Oct 1956; 1 Jul 1972 – 30 Jun 1973; 1 Jul 1973 – 31 Dec 1974; 1 Jul 1977 – 30 Jun 1979; 1 Jun 1992 – 30 Jun 1993; 1 Oct 1993 – 1 Aug 1994; 1 Apr 2000 – 31 Mar 2001; 1 Apr 2001 – 31 Mar 2002.

17th Operational Weather Squadron

Hickam Air Force Base, Hawai'i

Lineage

- Constituted 17th Weather Squadron (Regional Control) on 31 Aug 1942
- Activated on 18 Sep 1942
- Disbanded on 10 Feb 1945
- Reconstituted and redesignated 17th Weather Squadron, on 24 Jul 1969
- Activated on 15 Jan 1970
- Inactivated on 30 Jun 1972
- Activated on 1 Apr 1980
- Inactivated on 30 Sep 1991
- Redesignated 17th Operational Weather Squadron on 12 Oct 2000
- Activated on 27 Oct 2000.

Assignments

- Army Air Forces, 18 Sep 1942 – 20 Jan 1943
- United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, 20 Jan 1943 – 1 Jul 1943
- Thirteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1943 – 20 Dec 1943
- United States Army Forces in the South Pacific Area, 20 Dec 1943 – 1 Aug 1944
- Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Area, 1 Aug 1944 – 4 Sep 1944
- 1st Provisional Weather Group, 4 Sep 1944 – 10 Feb 1945
- 7th Weather Wing, 15 Jan 1970 – 30 Jun 1972
- 7th Weather Wing, 1 Apr 1980 – 30 Sep 1991
- 502d Air Operations Group, 27 Oct 2000 – Present

Stations

- McClellan Field, California, 18 Sep 1942 – 26 Oct 1942
- Auckland, New Zealand, 22 Nov 1942 – 17 Jan 1943
- Noumea, New Caledonia, 20 Jan 1943 – 29 Nov 1944
- Hickam Field, Territory of Hawai'i, 29 Nov 1944 – 10 Feb 1945
- Travis Air Force Base, California, 15 Jan 1970 – 30 Jun 1972
- Travis Air Force Base, California, 1 Apr 1980 – 30 Sep 1991
- Hickam Air Force Base, Hawai'i, 27 Oct 2000 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 9 Jun 1982.



The four stars and the blue background represent the Southern Cross constellation and the midnight, as observed in the area where the squadron is stationed. The red lightning flash against the yellow sky denotes the sudden tropical storms common to the region. The white anemometer, the universal symbol of weather forecasting, depicts the squadron's function.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater.
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* None

20th Operational Weather Squadron

Yokota Air Base, Japan

Lineage

- Constituted 20th Weather Squadron and activated on 15 Apr 1943
- Disbanded on 31 Oct 1943
- Reconstituted on 4 Nov 1944
- Activated on 6 Dec 1944
- Inactivated on 18 Feb 1957
- Activated on 2 Mar 1964
- Organized on 8 Jun 1964
- Inactivated on 1 Sep 1976
- Activated on 1 Jan 1985
- Inactivated on 1 Jun 1992
- Redesignated 20th Operational Weather Squadron on 13 Jul 2000
- Activated on 1 Oct 2000

Assignments

- Ninth Air Force, 15 Apr – 31 Oct 1943
- Far East Air Forces Regional Control and Weather Group (Provisional), 6 Dec 1944 – 20 Sep 1945
- 1st Weather (later, 2100st Air Weather) Group, 20 Sep 1945 – 23 Oct 1949
- 2143d Air Weather Wing, 23 Oct 1949 – 8 Feb-1954
- 1st Weather Wing, 8 Feb 1954 – 18 Feb 1957
- 1st Weather Wing, 8 Jun 1964 – 1 Sep 1976
- 1st Weather Wing, 1 Jan 1985 – 30 Sep 1991

- Pacific Air Forces, 30 Sep 1991 – 15 Apr 1992
- 15th Operations Group, 15 Apr 1992 - 1 Jun 1992
- Fifth Air Force, 1 Oct 2000 – Present.

Stations

- Cairo, Egypt, 15 Apr – 31 Oct 1943
- Sorido Airdrome, Biak Island, Netherlands East Indies, 6 Dec 1944 – 9 May 1945
- Fort McKinley, Manila, Luzon, P.I., 9 May 1945 – 14 Aug 1945
- Nichols Field, Luzon, P. I., 14 Aug 1945 – 2 Nov 1945
- Tokyo, Japan, 2 Nov 1945 – 22 May 1946
- Yamato Building, Nagoya, Japan, 22 May 1946 – c. Aug 1954
- Sumitomo Building, Nagoya, Japan, c. Aug 1954 – c. Apr 1956
- Nagoya (later Moriyama) Air Station, Japan, c. Apr 1956 – 18 Feb 1957
- Fuchu Air Station, Japan, 8 Jun 1964 – 6 Oct 1974
- Yokota Air Base, Japan, 6 Oct 1974 – 1 Sep 1976
- Yokota Air Base, Japan, 1 Jan 1985 – 1 Apr 1992
- Hickam Air Force Base, Hawai'i, 1 Apr 1992 – 1 Jun 1992
- Yokota Air Base, Japan, 1 Oct 2000 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 9 Oct 1986



Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The weather satellite symbolizes the mission of the unit to provide support in the atmospheric sciences. The black and light blue background depicts night and day capability. The globe is from the emblem of the parent major command and further depicts global responsibilities. The two stars indicate the services, US Air Force and U.S. Army, that the unit supports by providing meteorological information.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* World War II European-African-Middle Eastern Theater; Korean Service
- *Campaign Streamers.* World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater, New Guinea 1943-1944
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for periods: Mar 1956-Oct 1956; 2 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1969; 1 Jul 1970-30 Jun 1972; 1 Jul 1972-30 Jun 1973; 1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976; 1 Jul 1986-30 Jun 1988.

25th Operational Weather Squadron

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona

Lineage

- Constituted 25th Weather Squadron on 28 Oct 1943
- Activated on 1 Nov 1943
- Disbanded on 7 Sep 1944
- Reconstituted on 18 May 1948
- Activated on 1 Jun 1948
- Inactivated on 30 Jun 1972
- Activated on 1 Jan 1975
- Inactivated on 30 Sep 1991
- Redesignated 25th Operational Weather Squadron on 5 Feb 1999
- Activated on 1 Apr 1999.

Assignments

- Army Air Forces Weather Wing, 1 Nov 1943 – 7 Sep 1944
- 104th Weather (later 2104th Air Weather) Group, 1 Jun 1948 – 24 Oct 1950
- 2059th Air Weather Wing, 24 Oct 1950 – 16 Sep 1951
- 2102d Air Weather Group, 16 Sep 1951 – 20 Apr 1952
- 2d Weather Group, 20 Apr 1952 – 8 Oct 1965
- 5th Weather Wing, 8 Oct 1965 – 30 Jun 1972
- 5th Weather Wing, 1 Jan 1975 – 30 Sep 1991
- 612th Air Operations Group, 1 Apr 1999 – Present

Stations

- Patterson Field, Ohio, 1 Nov 1943 – 4 Nov 1943
- Lynbrook, Long Island, New York, 4 Nov 1943 – 7 Sep 1944
- Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, 1 Jun 1948 – 10 Sep 1951
- Donaldson Air Force Base, South Carolina, 10 Sep 1951 – 18 Sep 1957
- Waco, Texas, 18 Sep 1957 – 23 May 1968
- Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, 23 May 1968 – 30 Jun 1972
- Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, 1 Jan 1975 – 30 Sep 1991
- Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 Apr 1999 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 26 Feb 1944



The weather warrior symbolizes, simultaneously, the friendly aspect of weather when properly understood and used, as well as its destructive potentialities when it is not understood or heeded.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* None
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards for periods: 1 Jul 1971 – 30 Jun 1972; 1 Apr 1978 – 31 Mar 1980; 1 Jul 1983 – 30 Jun 1985; 1 Jul 1988 – 30 Jun 1990; 1 May 1989 – 31 Jan 1990

26th Operational Weather Squadron

Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana

Lineage

- Constituted 26th Weather Squadron on 30 Sep 1943
- Activated on 10 Oct 1943
- Disbanded on 3 Jun 1944
- Reconstituted on 18 May 1948
- Activated on 1 Jun 1948
- Inactivated on 30 Jun 1972
- Activated on 1 Jan 1975
- Inactivated on 31 Jul 1991
- Redesignated 26th Operational Weather Squadron on 5 Feb 1999
- Activated on 1 Oct 1999

Assignments

- Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics (later, Army Air Forces Tactical Air Center), 10 Oct 1943 – 3 Jun 1944
- 104th Weather (later, 2104th Air Weather) Group, 1 Jun 1948 – 24 Oct 1950
- 2059th Air Weather Wing, 24 Oct 1950 – 16 Sep 1951
- 2101st Air Weather Group, 16 Sep 1951 – 20 Apr 1952
- 1st Weather Group, 20 Apr 1952 – 8 Oct 1956
- 3d Weather Wing, 8 Oct 1956 – 30 Jun 1972
- 3d Weather Wing, 1 Jan 1975 – 31 Jul 1991
- 608th Air Operations Group, 1 Oct 1999 – Present

Stations

Orlando Army Air Base, Florida, 10 Oct 1943 – 3 Jun 1944

Brookley Air Force Base, Alabama, 1 Jun 1948 – 10 Sep 1951

Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, 10 Sep 1951 – 30 Jun 1972

Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, 1 Jan 1975 – 31 Jul 1991

Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana, 1 Oct 1999 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 3 Nov 1965



The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission. Against the background of sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, the blue saltire bearing the arrow crossed by the lightning bolt commemorates the squadron's history and organization in September 1943. The fleur-de-lis and anemometer, emblematic of weather service, with the star compass signifies the unit's participation in the weather service global mission. The star compass also denotes the squadron's Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The placement of the stars two and six allude to the squadron's numerical designation. The emblem bears the Air Force colors gold and ultramarine blue.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* None
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards for periods: 1 Oct 1960 – 31 Jan 1963; 1 Jul 1976 – 30 Jun 1978.

28th Operational Weather Squadron

Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina

Lineage

- Constituted 28th Weather Squadron on 30 May 1945
- Activated on 5 Jun 1945
- Inactivated on 9 Nov 1945
- Activated on 1 Mar 1949
- Inactivated on 1 Jul 1971
- Activated on 1 Jul 1980
- Inactivated on 30 Sep 1991
- Redesignated 28th Operational Weather Squadron on 5 Feb 1999
- Activated on 17 Feb 1999

Assignments

- Army Air Forces Weather Wing (later, Service), 5 Jun-9 Nov 1945 – 1 Mar 1949
- 2105th Air Weather Group (later, 2058th Air Weather Wing), 1 Mar 1949 – 8 Feb 1954
- 2d Weather Wing, 8 Feb 1954 – 1 Jul 1971
- 2d Weather Wing, 1 Jul 1980 – 30 Sep 1991
- 609th Air Operations Group, 17 Feb 1999 - Present

Stations

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 5 Jun – 9 Nov 1945

Bushy Park, England, 1 Mar 1949 – 7 Jun 1949

South Ruislip, England, 7 Jun 1949 – 22 Mar 1951

Bushy Park, England, 22 Mar 1951 – 24 Oct 1962

RAF Northolt, England, 24 Oct 1962 – 1 Jul 1971

RAF Mildenhall, England, 1 Jul 1980 – 30 Sep 1991

Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, 17 Feb 1999 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 10 Apr 1959



The blue and black background colors indicate day and night and are symbolic of the around-the-clock mission of the unit. The three lightning flashes are symbolic of the commands the squadron supports. The cumulonimbus cloud is a weather symbol. It is commonly known as an "anvil top" cloud and this is again repeated in the iron anvil. The arm and the hammer indicate the drive of the unit. Taken together, the arm and hammer, the iron anvil, the cloud and the lightning symbolize the forcefulness of the squadron.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* None
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards for periods: 1 Jan 1968 – 31 Dec 1969; 1 Jul 1982 – 30 Jun 1984; 1 Jul 1990 – 30 Sep 1991.

USAFE Operational Weather Squadron

Sembach Air Base, Germany

Lineage

- Constituted as the USAFE Theater Weather Support Squadron
- Activated on 1 Dec 1997
- Redesignated USAFE Operational Weather Squadron on 17 Feb 1999

Assignments

- HQ USAFE, 1 December 1997 – Present

Stations

- Sembach Air Base, Germany, 1 December 1997 – Present

Emblem

- Approved on 20 August 1998.



Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The knight represents the unit's readiness and its dedication to support the warfighter and its role as a "keeper of peace". He leaps over a weather vane symbolizing a commander's ability to overcome adverse weather conditions due to accurate weather information provided by the Squadron. The horse signifies the unit's key mission of carrying tailored intelligence information to operational customers and the ability to complete the Air Force mission. The lance carried by the knight denotes the Squadron as the "tip" of weather forecasting services reaching into the theater to make a difference; the shield connotes the ability to safeguard those who may be in harm's way. The wind anemometer within the shield is a standard trademark for Air Force weather personnel and a key tool for the craft. The developing thunderstorm in the background symbolizes the weather hazards that may impede combat operations.

Honors

- *Service Streamers.* None
- *Campaign Streamers.* None
- *Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.* None
- *Decorations.* None