

FOURTEENTH AIR FORCE (AIR FORCE STRATEGIC)



MISSION

The mission of the Fourteenth Air Force is to control and exploit space for global and theater operations. The organization is comprised of a headquarters staff, an Air and Space Operations Center, and five subordinate wings that conduct a full range of space operations. Day-to-day, the 14th Air Force provides space capabilities that ensure global presence, vigilance and reach for the nation.

The Fourteenth Air Force personnel provide the following space capabilities: Command and Control of Space Forces - Plan, task, direct and synchronize space operations to support global and theater missions. Provide surveillance, tracking and intelligence of more than 15,000 man-made objects ranging from active and inactive satellites to vehicle fragments, using a variety of sensors such as phased-array radars and optical surveillance systems.

Conduct defensive and offensive counterspace operations, and space environment assessments. Surveillance, Warning, and Battlefield Characterization Provide global and theater ballistic missile warning (strategic and tactical) and tracking capabilities to the U.S. and Allied nations through the employment of satellite sensors and phased array radars. Satellite and Network Operations - Command and control more than 100 satellites that provide weather, communications, navigation, and missile-warning capabilities and operate a global network of satellite control centers and stations supporting a variety of defense and civil users.

Space Launch and Range Operations - Provide assured access to space and conduct launch operations from Western and Eastern U.S. launch sites to support military, civil and commercial users. Additionally, the 14th AF operates ranges to test and evaluate space, air, and missile systems.

LINEAGE

Fourteenth Air Force established, 5 Mar 1943

Activated, 10 Mar 1943
Inactivated, 16 Jan 1946
Activated, 24 May 1946
Inactivated, 1 Sep 1960
Activated, 20 Jan 1966
Organized, 1 Apr 1966
Redesignated Fourteenth Aerospace Force, 1 Jul 1968
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1976
Redesignated Fourteenth Air Force (Reserve), and activated, 8 Oct 1976
Redesignated Fourteenth Air Force, 1 Dec 1985
Inactivated, 1 Jul 1993
Activated, 1 Jul 1993
Redesignated Fourteenth Air Force (Air Forces Strategic-Space), 24 May 2007
Redesignated Fourteenth Air Force (Air Forces Strategic), 4 Apr 2008

STATIONS

Kunming, China, 10 Mar 1943
Peishiyi, China, 7 Aug-15 Dec 1945
Ft Lawton, WA, 5-6 Jan 1946
Orlando AB, FL, 24 May 1946
Robins AFB, GA, 29 Oct 1949
Gunter AFB, AL
Colorado Springs, CO, 1 Jul 1968
Dobbins AFB (later, ARB), GA, 8 Oct 1976
Vandenberg AFB, CA, 1 Jul 1993

ASSIGNMENTS

U.S. Army Forces, China-Burma-India Theater
U.S. Forces, China Theater, about 24 Oct 1944
Air Defense Command, 24 May 1946
Continental Air Command, 1 Dec 1948
Air (later, Aerospace) Defense Command, 20 Jan 1966
Air Force Reserve, 8 Oct 1976
Air Force Space Command, 1 Jul 1993

COMMANDERS

MG Claire L. Chennault, 10 Mar 1943
BG Edgar E. Glenn, 22 Apr 1943 (acting)
MG Claire L. Chennault, 4 Jun 1943
MG Charles B. Stone III, 1 Aug 1945
Col Floyd J. Doran, 1 Dec 1945-1946
MG Leo A. Walton, 24 May 1946
BG Ralph F. Stearley, 27 Jul 1948
BG Ralph A. Snavelly, 18 Oct 1948 (acting)

MG Ralph F. Stearley, 20 Nov 1948
BG Joseph H. Davidson, 2 Feb 1950 (acting)
MG Ralph F. Stearley, 14 Mar 1950
MG Charles E. Thomas Jr., 17 Jul 1950
Col Cortland S. Johnson, 15 April 1951 (acting)
MG Charles E. Thomas Jr., (by 23) May 1951
Col Edgar E. Glenn, 3 Apr 1952 (acting)
MG Charles E. Thomas Jr., (8 May) 1952
Col Marden M. Munn, 15 Aug 1953 (acting)
MG Charles E. Thomas Jr., 22 Sep 1953
MG George G. Finch, 1 Feb 1955
MG John W. Persons Jr., 1 Aug 1957
Col James R. Williams, 24 Apr 1959 (acting)
MG John W. Persons Jr., 23 May 1959
Col James R. Williams, 1 Aug 1959 (acting)
MG Chester E. McCarty, 9 Oct 1959
Col Harry S. Bishop, 17 Feb 1960 (acting)
MG Chester E. McCarty, 16 Mar-1 Sep 1960
MG James B. Tipton, 1 Apr 1966
BG Thomas H. Beeson, 22 Oct 1966
MG Walter B. Putnam, 1 Nov 1966
MG Oris B. Johnson, 1 Jul 1968
Col Russell G. Ogan, 25 Jul 1969 (acting)
MG Michael J. Ingelido, 4 Aug 1969
MG Otis C. Moore, 28 Aug 1972
MG James Paschall, 15 Apr 1974
Col Thomas M. Crawford Jr., 1 Aug 1975 (acting)
BG Bruce K. Brown, 13 Aug 1975
Col Thomas M. Crawford, Jr., 15 Jun-1 Oct 1976
MG Edwin R. Johnson, 8 Oct 1976
MG Edward Dillon, 1 Nov 1976
BG Donald M. Jenkins (acting), 24 Apr 1979
MG James E. McAdoo, 15 May 1979
MG Alan G. Sharp, 1 Jan 1983
MG James E. McAdoo, 1 Dec 1986
BG Dale E. Baumler, 3 Mar 1988
BG Wallace W. Whaley, 31 Jan-1 Jul 1993
Col Owen E. Jensen, 1 Jul 1993 (acting)
MG Parick P. Caruana, 16 Sep 1993
MG William E. Jones, 22 Jul 1994
MG David L. Vesely, 28 Jun 1995
MG Gerald F. Perryman, Jr., 10 Mar 1997
MG Robert C. Hinson, 6 May 1999
MG William R. Looney III, 6 Jun 2000

MG Michael A. Hamel, 3 May 2002
LTG William L. Shelton, 18 May 2005
LTG Larry D. James, 9 Dec 2008
LTG Susan Helms
LTG John Raymond, 2013
LTG David Buck, 2015

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Campaign Streamers

India-Burma

China Defensive

China Offensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Oct 1974-1 Oct 1976

1 Jun 1986-31 May 1988

1 Jul 1989-30 Jun 1991

1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1995

1 Sep 1996-31 Aug 1998

1 Sep 1998-31 Aug 2000

1 Sep 2000-1 Sep 2001

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award

1 Oct 2001-30 Sep 2003

EMBLEM



On a blue disc, a winged Bengal tiger golden orange with black and white markings, below and partially covering a white star charged with a red disc. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, and the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The tiger represents the unit's heritage in China as the American Volunteer Group during World War II. The wings on the tiger reflect the unit's flight capabilities in peace and war. The star pierced red symbolized the devotion and sacrifice by all previous personnel of the unit. (Approved, 6 Aug 1943; revised, 16 Aug 1994)

The Fourteenth Air Force insignia was approved Aug. 6, 1943, as a result of a personal request from General Claire L. Chennault. The design was created by Sgt. Howard Arnegard, a member of the 14th Air Force, who modeled it after an original Flying Tiger drawing created by Mr. Henry Porter, an artist at Walt Disney studios. The insignia is a blue disc with a winged Bengal Tiger partially covering a white star charged with a red disc. The Bengal Tiger reflects the good luck charm of the Chinese people. The blue disc represents an airman's skies, and the white star charged with a red disc is the traditional symbol the United States has displayed on all its

aircraft.

MOTTO

Born in battle, nurtured in peace

OPERATIONS

Preceding the establishment of the 14th Air Force, there was a slow build-up of American air strength in China. In 1937, Claire L. Chennault, a retired officer in the United States Army Air Corps, accepted the gigantic task of reorganizing the Chinese Air Force. In 1941, President Roosevelt signed a secret executive order which permitted Chennault to organize assistance. A group of volunteers (approximately 100 pilots and 150 support personnel) formed the American Volunteer Group. The AVG was trained by Chennault in Burma on innovative combat tactics. Later, one hundred crated P-40s were shipped to China. To enhance esprit de corps, aircraft noses were painted to symbolize the grinning mouth, flashing teeth and the evil eye of the tiger shark. Subsequently, journalists used the tagline "Flying Tigers" which rapidly caught on worldwide.

The China Air Task Force continued as the "Flying Tigers" under the command of Brigadier General Chennault. After the China Air Task Force was discontinued, the 14th Air Force (14 AF) was established by the special order of President Roosevelt on 10 March 1943.

President Roosevelt established Fourteenth Air Force by special order on 10 March 1943. Claire Chennault, who had formed the American Volunteer Group of "Flying Tiger" fame received a promotion to Major General and assumed command. The new organization, conducted highly effective fighter and bomber operations over Japanese occupied Chinese territory, and the eastern third of mainland China and Formosa. Fourteenth Air Force also supported the airlift of cargo over the Himalayas from India flying the "The Hump" for Chinese forces and B-29 operations at forward operating bases in China during Operation MATTERHORN, Oct 1944 to Mar 1945.

After World War II, 14 AF moved to Orlando Army Air Base, Florida, to administer Air Defense Command functions in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Puerto Rico, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. They supervised the air defense training of active duty units, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units. Continental Air Command later expanded the mission of 14 AF to include the equipping and combat preparation of units. Continental Air Command later expanded its mission to include the equipping and combat preparation of these units. With the advent of the Korean War, the Fourteenth participated in the mobilization of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units and individuals from its headquarters at Robins AFB, GA. Coordination of active duty training schedules with the gaining major air commands responsible for assisting and advising Continental Air Command in the training of Air Force Reserve units. Supervision of training and the accomplishment of required inspection of all units of the Air National Guard in the continental United States and Puerto Rico. Coordination of field training schedules determined by the National Guard Bureau for units of the Air National Guard. Plan for and coordinate the

efforts of all Air Force, units and activities in domestic emergencies constitute a single Air Force contact to provide information and liaison with Army commanders, Naval District commanders, Sea Frontier commanders, and heads of civilian agencies. Plan for the use of, and coordinate the effort of, the Civil Air Patrol in search and rescue and domestic emergency operations. Furnish support required by CAP units to carry out missions for the Air Force to the extent authorized in current directives. Supervision, control and administration of the Military Affiliate Radio System Program

The 14th Air Force inactivated in 1960 and reactivated a few years later as part of Air Defense Command at Gunther AFB, Alabama. The reactivated 14 AF supported the North American Aerospace Defense Command Southern Region's air defense mission. Later, they provided for Aerospace Defense Command training, testing and evaluation missions.

In Apr 1966, the Air Force again activated the Fourteenth Air Force as part of Air Defense Command at Gunter AFB, AL, to support the North American Aerospace Defense Command Southern Region's air defense mission. Later, it provided for Aerospace Defense Command training, testing and evaluation missions.

On 1 Jul 1968, Fourteenth Air Force was redesignated Fourteenth Aerospace Force and moved to Colorado Springs, CO. It assumed responsibility for detecting foreign missile launches, tracking missiles and satellites in space, providing space vehicle launch services, maintaining a satellite data base of all man-made objects in space and performing anti-satellite actions. It also equipped, trained, administered and provided personnel to operate and maintain space surveillance, space defense and missile warning systems until 1 Oct 1976 when it again inactivated.

In 1976, the 14th Aerospace Force was redesignated the 14 AF (Reserve) at Dobbins AFB, Georgia, where it managed airlift forces for Military Air Command and participated in such missions as Operation JUST CAUSE. In order to facilitate a change in mission, reassignment, and move to Vandenberg AFB, CA, the AF inactivated the Fourteenth at Dobbins AFB, GA, on 1 July 1993 and on the same day activated it in California.

Fourteenth Air Force manages Air Force Reserve airlift resources primarily in the eastern United States. Among these resources are over 24,000 of the nation's Air Force Reservists, 81 authorized aircraft, and six Air Force Reserve bases. The 18 flying squadrons and 163 support units in Fourteenth Air Force are stationed at 27 different locations throughout 16 states--from New York on the north to Florida on the south, and from Massachusetts on the east to Arkansas on the west.

Fourteenth Air Force is one of three numbered air forces under the peace-time command of Headquarters Air Force Reserve at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. In the event of mobilization, Fourteenth Air Force and many of its subordinate units would come under the operational control of the Military Airlift Command's 21st Air Force, headquartered at McGuire AFB, N.J. Reserve aircrews in Fourteenth Air Force fly the following aircraft: C-5A, C-9, C-130E/H and

C-141B. Fourteenth units regularly fly Air Force missions in the United States, Europe, the Middle East, and Central and South America.

The peacetime mission of Fourteenth is to recruit and train reservists, maintain subordinate units at the highest level of combat readiness, and as a by-product of training, coordinate daily support of the active force mission.

The wartime mission is to provide combat-ready airlift and support units to the Military Airlift Command and to augment MAC's personnel requirements in the U. S. and overseas.

Although Fourteenth's primary mission is strategic and tactical airlift, the 907th Tactical Airlift Group, a detached group of the 94th Tactical Airlift Wing, flies aerial spray missions for pest control. The group uses the C-130 Hercules, equipped with special spray modules and is the only unit in the Department of Defense with this capability.

On 1 July 1993, 14 AF returned to its former space role and became a Numbered Air Force for Air Force Space Command, responsible for performing space operations. In 1997, 14 AF established the Space Operations Center at Vandenberg AFB in California for the 24-hour command and control of all space operations resources. In 2002,

Assigned to Air Force Space Command, its responsibilities involved space operations. In 1997, it established the Space Operations Center at Vandenberg AFB in California for the 24-hour command and control of all space operations resources, and in 2002, became the Air Force's space operations component of the United States Strategic Command. As the Air Force's only Numbered Air Force for space and its concurrent United States Strategic Command mission of Joint Space Operations, the Fourteenth's mission included space launches from the east and west coasts, satellite command and control, missile warning, space surveillance and command and control of assigned and attached joint space forces. Its overall mission included control and exploitation of space for global and theater operations, to ensure warfighters the best space capabilities available.

14 AF became the Air Force space operational component of United States Strategic Command. In 2005, 14 AF officially opened up its newly renovated operations center. The new command and control capabilities of the Joint Space Operations Center ensured unity of effort for all space capabilities supporting joint military operations around the globe.

USAF Unit Histories

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Sources

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The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit Yearbook. *Fourteenth Air Force Headquarters, Flying Tigers, 1959.*