

22nd TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT TRAINING SQUADRON



LINEAGE

46th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 20 Nov 1940

Activated, 15 Jan 1941

Redesignated 22nd Antisubmarine Squadron (Heavy), 3 Mar 1943

Disbanded, 11 Nov 1943

22nd Tactical Air Support Squadron (Light) constituted, and activated, 26 Apr 1965

Organized, 8 May 1965

22nd Antisubmarine Squadron (Heavy) reconstituted and consolidated with the 22nd Tactical Air Support Squadron (Light), 19 Sep 1985

Inactivated, 22 Sep 1988

Redesignated 22nd Tactical Air Support Training Squadron, 1 Oct 1988

Activated, 14 Oct 1988

STATIONS

March Field, CA, 15 Jan 1941

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 18 May 1941

Muroc Bombing Range, CA, 10 Dec 1941

Hammer Field, CA, 26 Feb 1942

Alameda LNAS, CA, 9 May 1942

Hammer Field, CA, 3 Jul 1942

Cherry Point NAS, NC, 28 Aug 1942

Bluethenthal Field, NC, 9 Apr 1943

Dunkeswell, England (air echelon), 20 Aug 1943

Salt Lake City AAB, UT (ground echelon), 24 Sep-30 Oct 1943

Podington, England (air echelon), Nov-11 Nov 1943

Binh Thuy Airport, South Vietnam, 8 May 1965

Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 15 Jan 1970
Wheeler AFB, HI, 15 May 1971-22 Sep 1988
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 14 Oct 1988

DEPLOYED STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

41st Bombardment Group (Medium), 15 Jan 1941 (air echelon attached to Army Air Forces Antisubmarine Command, 13 Oct-20 Nov 1942, 25th Antisubmarine Wing, 20 Nov 1942-8 Mar 1943)
Army Air Forces Antisubmarine Command, 3 Mar 1943
25th Antisubmarine Wing, 8 Mar 1943
479th Antisubmarine Group (air echelon), 14 Aug-11 Nov 1943
18th Replacement Wing (ground echelon), 24 Sep-30 Oct 1943. Pacific Air Forces, 26 Apr 1965
2nd Air Division, 8 May 1965
505th Tactical Control Group, 8 Nov 1965
504th Tactical Air Support Group, 8 Dec 1966
5th Tactical Control Group, 15 May 1971
6486th Air Base Wing, 30 Sep 1971
15th Air Base Wing, 1 Nov 1971
326th Air Division, 4 Apr 1980-22 Sep 1988
602nd Tactical Air Control Wing, 14 Oct 1988

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1941-1942
A-29, 1942-1943
B-17, 1942-1943
B-25, 1943
B-34, 1943
B-24, 1943
O-1, 1965-1971
O-2, 1967-1971; 1971-1983
OV-10, 1983-1988

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

22 TASTS
OA-A10
770198
770222
760523

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

OA-10--yellow tail cap with three blue stars

UNIT COLORS

OA-10--NF

COMMANDERS

LTC Charles B Dougher, unkn-1 Feb 1942
1 Lt (later, Lt Col) Clifford J Heflin, 1 Feb 1942-11 Nov 1943
Unknown, 8 May-30 Dec 1965
LTC Harold H Sperber, 1965
LTC Thomas A Wacht, 1967
LTC David M Sharp, 1 Apr 1968
LTC (later, Col) Ulie H Jeffers Jr, 23 Nov 1968
Maj Barry O'Grady, 16 Jan 1969
LTC Wilmer F Cline, 2 Apr 1969
LTC Winfield M Stein, 15 Jan 1970
LTC Andrew G Martin Jr, 15 Oct 1970
None (not manned), 15 Jan-14 May 1971
LTC John L. Kane, 15 May 1971
L Col Frank K Sloan, 11 Jul 1972
LTC George M Weeks III, 1978
LTC Robert L. Tidwell, 31 Mar 1980
LTC Richard L Bartels, 2 Apr 1982
LTC Joseph C Hurst, 27 Jul 1983
LTC Norman R Baker, 3 Jul 1985
LTC Bruce H Senft, 1987-unkn

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Squadron participated in antisubmarine patrols in the American Theater, Jan 1942-Aug 1943, and in European Theater, Sep-Nov 1943. Antisubmarine patrol flights were conducted in the squadron's assigned areas, producing a situation map that was continuously updated with enemy and friendly forces, convoys, and other pertinent information. The antisubmarine patrols also produced an enemy dispersion chart showing the disposition of all known enemy submarines in the entire Atlantic area. The ground echelon disbanded on 30 Oct 1943, and the air echelon disbanded on 11 Nov 1943.

The 22d Tactical Air Support Squadron (Light) organized at Binh Thuy Airport, South Vietnam, on 8 May 1965. It provided aircrews in Vietnam to direct air strikes for tactical aircraft operating within the Tactical Air Control System (TACS). Visual reconnaissance, convoy escort, and other missions were conducted as directed by the Tactical Air Commander, and aircraft and maintenance were provided in support of these operations within IV Corps, Republic of Vietnam, as directed by Seventh Air Force. The squadron provided aircraft and personnel in support of the Theater Indoctrination School, and field and transient maintenance support of USAF aircraft at Binh Thuy Air Base. The 22nd operated the Cessna 0-1 Bird Dog aircraft, 1965-1971; and the Cessna 0-2 Skymaster, 1967-1971. Personnel and other resources of the 22d were absorbed by the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron on 15 Jan 1971, and the 22d was unmanned and non-operational until it transferred W/O/P/E to Wheeler AFB, Hawaii, on 15 May 1971.

At Wheeler the 22d, using the Cessna 0-2, organized, trained, and equipped assigned personnel to provide the Air Force Component Commander with a joint force, capable of operating and maintaining a tactical air support subsystem for ground forces requiring close air support, tactical air reconnaissance, and tactical airlift. The squadron also provided Direct Air Support Center and Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) personnel and equipment to support US Army units in Hawaii. During 1982, the 22d participated in a number of exercises and prepared plans for conversion to the OV-10. Converted to the OV-10 aircraft, Aug-Oct 1983. Supported U.S. Army on the ground with TACP's creating a network which provided the Army with immediate air support and, in the air, with OV-10 forward air control support. Participated in numerous exercises with US and allied army ground units throughout the Far East. Inactivated on 22 Dec 1988.

22nd TASS

The 22nd TASS averaged 1800 sorties per month from September thru December 1965. The standardization section of the 22 TASS designed ALO/FAC guidelines for performing missions in the most professional manner possible. The training program established and arranged to get all pertinent information to the field in the squadron FAC sheet. A portable MAP was also constructed with operating locations to familiarize newly assigned pilots with runway and airfield terrain. The 22nd TASS was the first all USAF unit in Binh Thuy area and is currently supporting 15 operational locations throughout the IV Corps, 7th, 9th, and 21st Divisions.

Flying Unit to Wheeler. In May, the 22 TASS moved without personnel or equipment from Bien Hoa to Wheeler Air Force Base, Hawaii. The first 3 O-2A aircraft arrived in Hawaii via C-5A airlift on 12 August. The 22d was the first active USAF flying unit to be stationed at Wheeler since its inactivation in 1949, although large numbers of US Army aircraft, mostly helicopters, were based at the field subsequent to its reopening during the Korean War. 1971

Squadron Inactivated. On 22 September, the 22 TASS inactivated and all of its twelve OV-10 aircraft returned to the continental United States. 1988

22nd Tactical Air Support Training Squadron

The 22nd TASTS was formed on October 14, 1988, at DM with OV-10 Broncos (having just inactivated at Wheeler AFB, Hawaii, three weeks earlier). The squadron began conversion to the OA-1 Os on June 15, 1988. On November 1, 1991, the squadron moved its assets to the 333rd FS and inactivated. The squadron tail cap color was yellow with three dark blue stars.

In May 1971 the 22nd Tactical Air Support Squadron was assigned to Wheeler from South Vietnam to replace the 604th Direct Air Support Squadron which was rotated to the mainland without men or equipment. The 22nd TASS was phased-in without personnel and equipment, thus absorbing the personnel and facilities previously assigned to the 604th.

The mission of the 22nd TASS is to provide a direct air support center and tactical air control parties capable of deploying anywhere in the Pacific Air Forces area of responsibility.

The following August, in support of the 22nd TASS, three Cessna O-2As arrived at Hickam Air Force Base via C-5A to be assembled by personnel of the 22nd TASS. On August 12, the three O-2As departed Hickam Air Force Base, landing at Wheeler Air Force Base. The arrival of these aircraft marked the return of operational flying at Wheeler for the first time since 1949.



Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

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

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.