

50 FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

The advanced phase of undergraduate pilot training is conducted by the 50th Flying Training Squadron. This phase consists of 110 hours of flight instruction in the Northrop T-38C. Training includes advanced aircraft handling, tactical navigation, fluid maneuvering and an increased emphasis in two and four-ship formation. At the completion of training, the graduate is awarded the aeronautical rating of pilot.

LINEAGE

50 Pursuit Squadron (Fighter) constituted, 20 Nov 1940
Activated, 15 Jan 1941
Redesignated 50 Fighter Squadron (Twin-Engine), 15 May 1942
Redesignated 50 Fighter Squadron, Two-Engine, 28 Feb 1944
Disbanded, 9 Aug 1944
Reconstituted and redesignated 50 Fighter Squadron (All-Weather), 23 May 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 12 Jun 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated, 50 Flying Training Squadron, 22 Mar 1972
Activated, 1 Jun 1972

STATIONS

Hamilton Field, CA, 15 Jan 1941
March Field, CA, 10 Jun 1941
Oakland, CA, 8 Feb 1942

Hamilton Field, CA, 9 May–16 Jul 1942
Atcham, England, 18 Aug 1942 (operated in Iceland, 18 Aug–14 Nov 1942)
Iceland, 14 Nov 1942
Nuthampstead, England, Feb 1944
Cheddington, England, 15 Mar 1944
Watton, England, 12 Apr–9 Aug 1944
Offutt Field (later, AFB), NE, 12 Jun 1947–27 Jun 1949
Columbus AFB, MS, 1 Jun 1972

ASSIGNMENTS

14 Pursuit (later, 14th Fighter) Group, 15 Jan 1941
342 Composite Group, 14 Nov 1942
Eighth Air Force, Feb–9 Aug 1944
Second Air Force, 12 Jun 1947
381 Bombardment Group, 30 Sep 1947–27 Jun 1949
14 Flying Training Wing, 1 Jun 1972
14 Operations Group, 15 Dec 1991

ATTACHMENTS

8 [later, 802] Reconnaissance Group [Prov], Mar–9 Aug 1944

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-40, 1941–1942
P-38, 1942–1944
AT-6, 1947–1949
T-38, 1972

COMMANDERS

2nd Lt Gilbert T. Mullins, 15 Jan 1941
Maj Frank B. James, 30 Apr 1941
1st Lt Hugh H. Bozarth, 18 Jun 1942
Capt George O. Doherty, 1 Aug 1942
Lt Col Woodrow W. Korges, 1942
Maj Harry E. Caldwell, May 1943
Maj George O. Doherty, Jan 1944-1944
Unkn, 1947-1949
Lt Col Palmer, Jul 1972
Lt Col Richard J. Stricker, Jan 1973
Lt Col Richard E. Smith, Jan 1975
Lt Col William R. O'rourke, Jul 1976
Lt Col Chester W. Griffin, Jan 1978
Lt Col Gurney D. White, 30 Jun 1979
Lt Col David W. Saunders, 30 Jun 1980
Lt Col Paul O. Dokken, 17 Jun 1981

Lt Col Jimmie C. Davis, 14 Jul 1982
Lt Col Simon G. Price, 17 Nov 1983
Lt Col David R. Lloyd, 17 Sep 1984
Lt Col Clarence E. Uptegraph Jr., 8 Apr 1985
Lt Col Michael P. Welsh, 5 May 1987
Lt Col Danny R. Fowler, 9 Dec 1988
Lt Col Wilfred D. Merkel, 3 Jul 1990
Lt Col Richard W. Peterson, 18 Sep 1992
Lt Col Lawrence Stutzriem, 3 Aug 1993
Lt Col Michael N. Beard, 28 Jun 1995
Lt Col James A. Jimenez, 16 Aug 1997
Lt Col George Daniels, 1 Jul 1999
Lt Col Benjamin Cleveland, 15 Jun 2001
Lt Col Dan Clark, 20 May 2003
Lt Col Frank J. Rossi, 12 Jul 2004
Lt Col Nathaniel Wilds
Lt Col Paul Anderson
Lt Col Nicole J. Jansen

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1974–31 Dec 1974

1 Apr 1985–31 Mar 1987

1 Jul 1992–30 Jun 1994

1 Jul 1997–30 Jun 1999

1 Jul 1999–30 Jun 2001

1 Jul 2001–30 Jun 2002

1 Jul 2002–30 Jun 2004

1 Jul 2004–30 Jun 2006

EMBLEM



50 Pursuit Squadron





Azure, a cloud Argent supporting a rattlesnake coiled Or marked Sable, mouth, tongue and eye Gules, winged of the like, garnished of the second; from its open mouth four flight symbols ascending bendwise in bend each per chevron Red and Yellow; all within a diminished bordure of the third. (Approved, 1 Apr 1942)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Patrols on the west coast, Feb–Jun 1942. Air defense of Iceland, Aug 1942–Feb 1944. Not operational, Feb–Aug 1944.

Undergraduate pilot training, 1 Jun 1972.



50 Flying Training Squadron operations, Columbus AFB. MS



50 Flying Training Squadron T-38



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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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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.

Unit yearbook. *10th Pursuit Wing and 45th Air Base. USAAC Hamilton Field, CA. 1941*

Unit yearbook. *March Field Air Base, CA, 1941.* Army and Navy Publishing Co. Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1941.