

71 FLYING TRAINING WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

71 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing established, 10 Aug 1948

Activated, 18 Aug 1948

Inactivated, 25 Oct 1948

Redesignated 71 Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, Fighter, 4 Nov 1954

Activated, 24 Jan 1955

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1957

Redesignated 71 Surveillance Wing (Ballistic Missile Early Warning System), and activated, 6 Dec 1961

Organized, 1 Jan 1962

Redesignated 71 Missile Warning Wing, 1 Jan 1967

Inactivated, 30 Apr 1971

Redesignated 71 Flying Training Wing, 14 Apr 1972

Activated, 1 Nov 1972

STATIONS

Kadena, Okinawa, 18 Aug-25 Oct 1948

Larson AFB, WA, 24 Jan 1955-1 Jul 1957

Ent AFB, CO, 1 Jan 1962

McGuire AFB, NJ, 21 Jul 1969-30 Apr 1971

Vance AFB, OK, 1 Nov 1972

ASSIGNMENTS

1 Air Division, 18 Aug-25 Oct 1948

Fifteenth Air Force, 24 Jan 1955-1 Jul 1957

Air Defense Command, 6 Dec 1961

9 Aerospace Defense Division, 1 Jan 1962
Fourteenth Aerospace Force, 1 Jul 1968-30 Apr 1971
Air Training Command, 1 Nov 1972
Nineteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1993

ATTACHMENTS

32 Composite Wing, 24 Aug-25 Oct 1948

WEAPON SYSTEMS

RB-17, 1948
RB-29, 1948
RF-84, 1955-1957
RBF-84, 1955-1956
T-41, 1972-1973
T-37, 1972
T-38, 1972
T-1, 1994
T-6, 2004

COMMANDERS

Col Edwin M. Day, 18-24 Aug 1948
None (not manned), 25 Aug-25 Oct 1948
None (not manned), 24 Jan-11 Feb 1955
Col Charles F. McKenna III, 12 Feb 1955
Col Charles A. Gayle, 26 Mar-1 Jul 1957
None (not manned), 6-31 Dec 1961
Col Robert L. Harriger, c. 1962
Col Edwin Bishop Jr., c. 1965
Col Russell G. Ogan, 15 Jul 1968
Col William A. Larsen, 1 Jul 1969
Col Lincoln D. Faurer, 31 Dec 1970-30 Apr 1971
Col John P. Rollston, 1 Nov 1972
Col Schuyler Bissell, 24 Sep 1973
Col George T. Kertesz, 15 Jul 1974
Col James P. Smothermon, 10 Apr 1975
Col Thomas J. Magner, 17 Aug 1976
Col David J. Pennington, 1 Aug 1978
Col Wilson C. Cooney, 9 Apr 1979
Col Giles D. Harlow Jr., 11 Jun 1980
Col Donald A. Rigg, 16 Mar 1982
Col Ellwood P. Hinman III, 2 Mar 1984
Col William L. Thompson, 22 May 1986
Col Ronald G. Shamblin, 16 Jun 1987
Col Lloyd W. Newton, 2 May 1989

Col Donald F. Craigie, 22 May 1990
Col Samuel J. Bole, 7 Aug 1992
Col James N. Soligan, 22 Feb 1994
Col Edward R. Ellis, 28 Jul 1995
Col Daniel J. Murmaugh, 21 Feb 1997
Col Curtis M. Bedke, 15 Oct 1998
Col Douglas L. Raaburg, 16 Mar 2000
Col Alfred J. Stewart, 19 Apr 2002
Col Michael W. Callan, 29 Aug 2003
Col Bryan J. Benson, 2 Feb 2005
Col Richard A. Klumpp Jr., 15 Sep 2006
Col Mark C. Nowland, 11 Jul 2008

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1962-15 Jul 1964

1 Jun 1968- 31 May 1970

1 Jan-31 Dec 1975

1 Jan 1977-30 Apr 1978

1 May 1982-30 Apr 1984

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1997

1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003

1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2005

Bestowed Honors

Authorized to display honors earned by the 71 Tactical Reconnaissance Group prior to 18 Aug 1948

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Air Offensive, Japan

China Defensive

New Guinea

Bismarck Archipelago

Western Pacific
Leyte; Luzon
China Offensive

Decorations

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

EMBLEM



Gules, in fess a stylized aircraft palewise Argent between two piles issuant from base of the like, each bearing a stylized aircraft palewise Azure, a chief arched of the last, all within a diminished bordure Or. The emblem is symbolic of the wing and its mission, past, present, and future. The design contains the national colors of red, white, and blue and the Air Force colors of blue and yellow. **SIGNIFICANCE:** 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 stylized aircraft symbolize the pilot training mission and the aircraft flown by the Wing. The pointed arrowheads represent piercing dedication by unit personnel in future endeavors. The band of blue across the top of the design provides a canopy for the shield as the sky provides a canopy for the earth. Red and white across the lower part of the shield symbolize courage and stamina, required by unit personnel in both war and peace. (Emblem approved, 12 Sep 1994; replacing emblems approved, 2 Jan 1973 and 22 Apr 1963)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

With its tactical group detached, the wing had but a single reconnaissance squadron attached from 18-24 Aug 1948 to perform photographic reconnaissance. When it lost the attached squadron, the Wing was not operational, 25 Aug-25 Oct 1948.

The wing performed strategic reconnaissance and tested a technique for launching small RBF-

84 aircraft from GRB-36 bombers, to extend the range of photographic reconnaissance and fighter escort beginning in Jan 1955. Those tests ended in 1956, but the wing continued strategic reconnaissance until 1957.

From 1962 the 71 operated and maintained the ballistic missile early warning system (BMEWS), including sites in Alaska, Greenland, and England. It also operated the sea-launched ballistic missile detection and warning system, supported the USAF "Spacetrack" system, and monitored the "over-the-horizon" radar system, 1969-1971.

After a period of inactivation, the 71 Strategic Reconnaissance Wing was redesignated the 71 Surveillance Wing, Ballistic Missile Early Warning System and activated on 6 December 1961. On 1 Jan 1962, it was organized and assigned to the 9th Aerospace Defense Division, Ent AFB, Colorado. The wing operated and maintained the ballistic missile early warning system, including sites in Alaska, England, and Greenland. Then on 1 January 1967, HQ USAF redesignated the wing as the 71 Missile Warning Wing. In 1968 it moved to McGuire AFB, New Jersey. There the wing operated the sea-launched ballistic missile detection and warning system, supported the USAF space-track system, and monitored the over-the-horizon radar system until the wing inactivated on 30 April 1971.

The wing replaced and absorbed resources of the 3575th Pilot Training Wing in Nov 1972, assuming control of Vance AFB, OK, and the undergraduate pilot training for USAF, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, and allied countries. In addition, it supported Accelerated Co-Pilot Enrichment (ACE) program at numerous operating locations 1978-1991. The wing provided initial flight training, and follow-on training for fighter, bomber and airlift/tanker aircraft.

Although undergraduate pilot training remained essentially the same, Vance entered into a series of changes over the next few years. In 1977, Vance had the Accelerated Copilot Enrichment (ACE) Program fully operational. This program provided flying and decision-making opportunities to Strategic Air Command (SAC) copilots to prepare them to assume aircraft commander responsibilities.

Vance began operated the Fixed-Wing Qualification Program training helicopter pilots for duty in fixed wing aircraft, continuing the program until 2007.

USAF Unit 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.