

AIR ARMAMENT CENTER



MISSION

The Air Armament Center is one of three product centers in the Air Force Materiel Command. Serving as the focal point for all Air Force armament, the center is responsible for the development, acquisition, testing, and deployment of all air-delivered weapons. AAC applies advanced technology, engineering and programming efficiencies across the entire superior combat capability to the war fighter.

The center plans, directs and conducts test and evaluation of U.S. and allied air armament, navigation and guidance systems, and command and control systems and supports the largest single base mobility commitment in the Air Force. AAC accomplishes its mission through three components - the 46th Test Wing, 96th Air Base Wing, and the Armament Systems Directorate. AAC is the focal point for the acquisition of the world's most superior armament products. The center engages in scientific research, system management, production, operational performance, business management, requirements definition, customer and engineering support, technology planning, materiel identification, and field support activities.

Some of the major programs managed by the center include the Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile, High-speed Anti-Radiation Missile, HARM Targeting System, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, Joint Direct Attack Munition, Miniature Air Launched Decoy, Sensor Fuzed Weapon and the Small Diameter Bomb.

The center accomplishes its sustainment mission through offices located at two Air Logistics Centers, including Air Superiority Missiles and Weapons at Robins Air Force Base, Warner Robins, Ga., and Air-to-Surface Munitions at Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah.

The Air Force program executive officer for weapons and the commander of the Air Armament Center, Air Force Materiel Command, headquartered at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., is responsible for development, acquisition, testing, deployment and sustainment of all air-delivered weapons. Additionally, AAC plans, directs and conducts test and evaluation of U.S. and allied air armament, navigation and guidance systems, and Command and Control (C2) systems. The center supports the largest single base mobility commitment for Air Force Materiel Command and the second largest in the Air Force.

The Armament Directorate is a joint U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy organization responsible for cradle-to-grave management of air dominance weapon system programs equipping warfighters with strike weapons to fight and win decisively. The directorate is responsible for enhancing worldwide Air Force combat capability, effectiveness, aircrew survivability, and readiness through joint development, procurement, deployment and sustainment. This mission is executed by air combat test and training systems, expeditionary support equipment, munitions handling equipment and armament subsystems, Explosive Ordnance Disposal support equipment, and realistic Electronic Warfare threat simulators.

The directorate designs, develops, produces, fields, and sustains a family of air-to-ground and air-to-air munitions, enhancing warfighter capabilities (both U.S. and allies) in defeating a spectrum of enemy targets. These high priority multi-billion dollar systems offer Direct Attack, Area Attack, and Long Range attack capabilities designed to complement and rapidly adapt to operational mission requirements. The wing consists of over 900 highly qualified personnel trained in the development, test, acquisition, fielding, and operational support of systems such as the Joint Direct Attack Munition (JDAM), Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM), Small Diameter Bomb (SDB), Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (AMRAAM), Miniature Air Launched Decoy (MALD) and a host of other specialized programs.

LINEAGE

Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics established, 27 Oct 1942

Redesignated AAF Tactical Center, 16 Oct 1943

Redesignated AAF Center, 1 Jun 1945

Redesignated AAF Proving Ground Command, 8 Mar 1946

Redesignated Air Proving Ground Command, 10 Jul 1946

Redesignated Air Proving Ground, 20 Jan 1948

Redesignated Air Proving Ground Command, 20 Dec 1951

redesignated Air Proving Ground Center, 1 Dec 1957

Redesignated Armament Development and Test Center, 1 Aug 1968

Redesignated Armament Division, 1 Oct 1979

Redesignated Munitions Systems Division, 15 Mar 1989

Redesignated Air Force Development Test Center, 11 Jul 1990

Redesignated Air Armament Center, 1 Oct 1998

STATIONS

Orlando, FL, 27 Oct 1942

Eglin AFB, FL, Jun 1946

ASSIGNMENTS

Army Air Forces, 27 Oct 1942
United States Air Force, 18 Sep 1947
Air Materiel Command, 20 Jan 1948
United States Air Force, 1 Jun 1948
Air Force Systems Command, 1 Dec 1957
Air Force Materiel Command, 1 Jul 1992

COMMANDERS

Maj Gen Carl A. Brandt, Oct 1946
Maj Gen William E. Kepner, Aug 1948
Maj Gen Bryant L. Boatner, Jul 1950
Maj Gen Patrick W. Timberlake, Jul 1952
Maj Gen Robert W. Burns, Aug 1955
Maj Gen R. H. Warren, #1961
MG Jewell C. Maxwell, #1971
Maj Gen Michael C. Kostelnik, #1997
Maj Gen Robert W. Chedister, #2005
Maj Gen Jeffrey R. Riemer, #2006
Maj Gen David W. Eidsaune, #2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

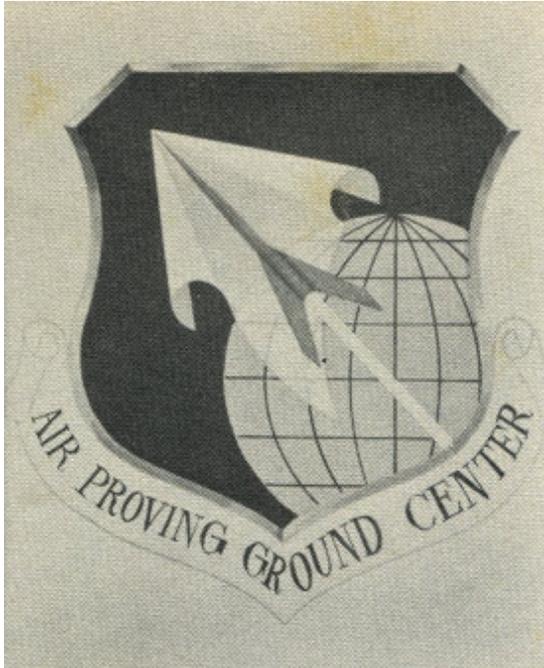
Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards
1 Jan 1998-31 Dec 1999
1 Jan 2001-30 Apr 2002
1 Jan 2002-31 Dec 2002
1 Jan-31 Dec 2003
1 Aug 2006-31 May 2008

EMBLEM

Approved, 26 Jan 1994



APGC emblem designed by Tom Bond



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The AAF Proving Ground Command, responsible for testing aircraft weapon systems and munitions, was established in 1942 at Orlando, Florida, and moved in 1946 to Eglin Field,

Florida. It replaced another AAF Proving Ground Command that was discontinued and disbanded.

Air Proving Ground Command was responsible for improving operational suitability. The command would further make recommendations on the establishment of military characteristics and requirements for operational systems and materiel. The Air University would supervise and operate the Air War College, the Air Command and Staff School, and other schools and courses as called for.

The first actual testing of aircraft began in 1939. In the following year the War Department acquired the 340,000 acres of the nearby Choctawhatchee National Forest for inclusion in the Eglin base. The construction of ranges began. Some sixty land and water areas were laid-out and equipped to yield accurate and objective findings about the increasingly complex materiel and tactics tested above and upon them. The greater area gave Eglin the physical capacity for increased responsibilities

Activation at Eglin of the Air Corps Proving Ground in June 1941 formally established the proving function. The assignment of the 23rd Composite Group in the following month, with forty-six aircraft for test flying, provided the manpower and equipment. Col. Frank O'D. Hunter commanded the 23rd. A year later the proving ground achieved command status under Brig. Gen. Grandison Gardner as the Air Forces Proving Ground Command (AAFPGC). Its proving function was "To make such tests, special studies, and investigations as are directed by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces" and, within the limits of facilities and priorities, as might be requested by the Air Force Materiel Command.

During World War II the Proving Ground, with increased man power (more than 1,000 officers, more than 10,000 soldiers, and over 4,000 civilians at the close of the war) tested every kind of equipment the Air Force used, from guns, cameras, radios, bombs, and bullets, to complete aircraft. Throughout the war the command maintained small base units, in effect special testing detachments, in six states and Alaska, principally at the proving grounds of other arms and services.

To this was added the renewal of atomic testing; not this time as a partner in task forces, but with primary responsibility for the operational suitability testing of atomic weapons and associated equipment. The Command created a special agency, its Detachment No. 1 stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base, to discharge the new responsibility.

Effective December 1, 1957, the Air Proving Ground Command absorbed the Air Force Armament Center and its mission, was assigned to the Air Research and Development Command and was renamed the Air Proving Ground Center. This new organization will carry out the mission of the Air Proving Ground Command and that of the Air Force Armament Center in a more efficient and economical manner.

Reviews, evaluates, and makes recommendations on the materiel and equipment used by the

Army Air Forces, the results of tests of new developments and the action to be followed in future developments.

Develops and recommends the doctrines and techniques to be used in the training and employment of the Army Air Forces. Advises the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, on all general policies affecting personnel, training, equipment, and organization. Plans and supervises the development and testing, under simulated combat conditions, of new and different tactics and techniques of aerial warfare, including air defense; reviews and evaluates such tests, and makes recommendation based thereon. Prepares, or collaborates in the preparation, and recommends revisions to Headquarters, Army Air Forces, of all Field Service Regulations and War Department Field Manuals affecting the Army Air Forces, and such other War Department publications as contain Air Forces tactical doctrine. Collects, evaluates, and disseminates information pertaining to Army Air Forces activities in Arctic, desert, and tropic regions.

The Air Armament Center (AAC) is the U.S.A.F.'s organization for all deployment, acquisition, testing, deployment, and sustainment of air-delivered weapons. AAC plans, directs and conducts test and evaluation of U.S. and allied air armament, navigation/guidance systems and Command and Control (C2) systems. It operates at two Air Force installations, providing host support to Eglin and Kirtland AFB, and supports the largest single-base mobility commitment in the Air Force. AAC accomplishes its mission through four components: The Armament Product Directorate (Eglin), 46th Test Wing (Eglin), 96th Air Base Wing (Eglin) and 377th Air Base Wing (Kirtland AFB, NM). The Air Armament Center serves as the focal point for all Air Force armaments. It applies advanced technology, engineering and programming efficiencies across the entire product life cycle to provide superior combat capability to the warfighter. AAC has 1,415 military officers; 7,392 enlisted; 3,683 civilians; 2,957 contractors; and 575 nonappropriated funds personnel.

The Air Forces Proving Ground Command is established under the jurisdiction of the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, with headquarters at Eglin Field, Florida.

The functions of the Air Forces Proving Ground Command are:

To make such tests, special studies, and investigations as are directed by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, and, within the limits of available facilities and priorities, as may be requested by the Commanding General, Air Force Materiel Command.

Furnish such services, facilities, and assistance to the Air Corps Flying Training Command necessary to carry out the gunnery training conducted in the Proving Ground area insofar as possible without unduly interfering with the carrying out of the Air Forces Proving Ground Command mission.

Furnish such services, facilities and assistance to the Air Force Materiel Command as are necessary to complete engineering and development tests for which other suitable areas and

facilities are not provided the Materiel Command, insofar as is possible without unduly interfering with the carrying out of the Air Forces Proving Ground Command mission.

There will be organized and operated by the Commanding General, Air Forces Proving Ground Command, at Eglin Field, Florida, an Information center for the purpose of collecting, recording, coordinating, and disseminating all pertinent data concerning the Arctic, desert, and tropic areas that may be of value to the Army Air Forces personnel now serving or contemplating duty in these regions.

Information will be gathered by the Center from all available sources. This will include reports from personnel in and returning from posts in the regions concerned, books and scientific publications, reports, and the results of experiments by all the different agencies and commissions, both Federal and private, which have been engaged in exploration and experimentation in these regions.

The Information Center will be concerned with all phases of Air Force activities in Arctic, desert, and tropic areas. This will include in its general scope such items as the operation of all Army Air Forces equipment, shelter, food, medicine, and clothing, and selection and care of personnel.

The Information Center will gather geographical, climatological, and all other available scientific information pertinent to prospective operations by the Army Air Forces in Arctic, desert, and tropic regions and to the locations of air ferrying routes.

The Information Center will be prepared to familiarize Army Air Forces personnel with the regions to which they may be assigned as to the climate, effect of climate on physiology, flora, and fauna; the natives, a rudimentary knowledge of their language, their conception of life, and their methods of adapting themselves to difficult environments. Special attention will be given to developing the best procedures to be used in case of forced landings and to emergency kits for the maintenance of personnel in the case of forced landings.

The Information Center will be prepared to make recommendations regarding tables of organization and tables of basic allowances.

The Information Center will not perform tests of any nature but will make suggestions regarding research to the proper agencies.

The Information Center will furnish, such information as may be available to the interested divisions, directorates, and commands of the Army Air Forces. It will also collect all possible information on air operations under the unusual weather conditions of the Arctic, desert, and tropics and will prepare this information for publication and dissemination to the service in appropriate forms, such as Technical Manuals, Technical Orders, and Training Manuals. The manuscripts for these publications will be submitted to the Director of War Organization and

Movement for approval and publication. The Information Center will also undertake such other studies as may be directed to it by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

The Information Center will maintain close liaison with the Cold Weather Testing Detachment and the Army Air Forces activities at the Desert Training Center in regard to the exchange of information pertinent to their activities.

Attention is invited to the attached A.A.F. Regulation No. 20-14 establishing the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, the attached copy of a directive from this Directorate to the Commandant, A.A.F. School of Applied Tactics outlining the functions to be accomplished by the School of Applied Tactics, the attached copy of Headquarters Office Instructions outlining the liaison with the A.A.F. School of Applied Tactics, and the attached copy of the Director of Military Requirements Office Memorandum establishing the procedure for handling reports from A.A.F. School of Applied Tactics.

Fundamentally, the purpose of the Proving Ground Command is to test the suitability of individual items of equipment to meet military requirements. The requirements and the tactical use to be made of equipment is determined by the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics or this Headquarters. It is desired that the Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command maintain constant and close direct liaison with the Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics in order that maximum benefit may be derived from both activities with minimum duplication effort. All projects at the Proving Ground Command which affect the development of tactics, and the suitability of equipment to meet military requirements, will be closely coordinated with the School of Applied Tactics.

Except upon the specific request of the School of Applied Tactics, the Proving Ground Command will restrict its activities to those outlined in previous directives. When advisable, facilities of the Proving Ground Command and the School of Applied Tactics will be used concurrently and jointly in accomplishing projects carried on by the two organizations.

Frequent conference and visits with the Commandant of the School of Applied Tactics will be made to insure that functions outlined in previous directives to the Proving Ground Command and the functions outlined in the attached directives to the Commandant of the School of Applied Tactics are being complied with to the maximum extent and with the minimum duplication of effort.

It is desired that copies of all final reports and copies of Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command semimonthly progress reports be forwarded direct to the Commandant, Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics.

A reorganization within the Headquarters, Army Air Forces has recently been effected which necessitates a reissue of instructions relating to the duties and responsibilities of the Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command. All directives and instructions previously issued to the Air

Forces Proving Ground Command in conflict with this directive are hereby superseded and cancelled.

In accordance with policies, plans, and programs established by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, the Army Air Forces Proving Ground Command:

Conducts tests, special studies, and investigations of Army Air Forces equipment as a basis of establishing military requirements.

Conducts tests and special studies designed to develop improved operational techniques.

Furnishes such services, facilities, and assistance to the Materiel and Air Service Commands as is necessary to complete engineering and development tests.

Maintains an Information Center for the purpose of collecting, recording, coordinating, and preparing for publication pertinent data bearing upon specialized operating conditions which might be encountered by air force units in arctic, desert and tropic areas.

The primary mission of the Proving Ground Command is to test the operational suitability of individual types of airplanes and equipment to meet military requirements.

The Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, on the other hand, is charged with testing operationally the tactical suitability of airplanes and other major items of equipment in combat units. This includes comparative performance tests and the development of tactics best suited to the type airplane and equipment. To prevent duplication of effort and to insure that maximum efficiency is obtained from both installations, you will maintain close liaison with the Commandant, Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics, consonant with the proper discharge of your responsibilities.

Administrative procedure will be in conformity with basic principles indicated in attached chart from, "U.S. Army Air Forces Organization and Functions." It will be noted that special emphasis has been placed on the decentralization to the various Commands of all purely operating functions.

Questions of major policy and problems concerning division of responsibility between the respective commands and matters of similar nature will be referred to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

It is the expressed directive of the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, that decentralization of all operating functions to the Commands will be effected to the maximum possible extent; therefore, all Proving Ground Command operating functions now exercised by this Headquarters will be transferred as rapidly as possible to your Command.

It is the responsibility of all commanding generals to affect continuous liaison with other commands and air forces in order to accomplish their mission with a minimum of delay. Judicious short-cuts of procedure for this purpose will be encouraged.

One of the primary purposes of the reorganization of the Army Air Forces is to impose greater responsibility on the commands and air forces. This Headquarters will tell you WHAT to do but NOT HOW to do it. You will be held responsible for performance of the responsibilities listed in paragraph 2 above and will govern yourself accordingly.

There is hereby established the Proving Ground Command, an exempted activity, under the Commanding General, Army Air Forces. Supervision over the Commanding General, Proving Ground Command will be exercised for the Commanding General, Army Air Forces by the Army Air Forces Board. The Commanding General, Proving Ground Command, will be appointed by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

The Commanding General, Proving Ground Command is responsible for:
Conducting tests, special studies, and investigations of AAF aircraft and equipment in accordance with directives of the Army Air Forces Board, as a basis for determining operational suitability of individual aircraft and items of equipment as to type, developing improved operational techniques, and completing engineering and development tests for the Materiel and Air Service Commands

Maintaining an Information Center for the purpose of collecting, recording, coordinating, and preparing for publication pertinent data bearing upon specialized operating conditions which might be encountered by air force units in arctic, desert, and tropic areas.

The Commanding General, Proving Ground Command is authorized to secure such personnel as are necessary to the performance of his assigned mission, subject to the approval of the Army Air Forces Board and the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

Location. The Headquarters, Proving Ground Command is hereby established at Eglin Field, Florida, with such satellite fields, units, and installations at such places as may be determined by the Commanding General, Proving Ground Command and approved by the Army Air Forces Board and the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

Activation at Eglin of the Air Corps Proving Ground in June 1941 formally established the proving function. The assignment of the 23rd Composite Group in the following month, with forty-six aircraft for test flying, provided the manpower and equipment. Col. Frank Hunter commanded the 23rd. A year later the proving ground achieved command status under Brig. Gen. Grandison Gardner as the Air Forces Proving Ground Command (AAFPGC). Its proving function was "To make such tests, special studies, and investigations as are directed by the Commanding General, Army Air Forces . . ." and, within the limits of facilities and priorities, as might be requested by the Air Force Materiel Command. The new command immediately

began and in the next two years completed the construction of ten auxiliary fields, several of them fully equipped bases.

From the first, these were divided as to use. The command retained several, but lent others to Army and Navy and to other air commands for special purposes and varying periods. Toward the end of 1944 Eglin Field became a permanent AAF installation and adopted a plan to extend its boundaries to agree with the natural features of the area. The total size of the base, when it was completed and including the bay, ran to more than half a million acres. During World War II the Proving Ground, with increased man power (more than 1,000 officers, more than 10,000 soldiers, and over 4,000 civilians at the close of the war) tested every kind of equipment the Air Force used, from guns, cameras, radios, bombs, and bullets, to complete aircraft.

Throughout the war the command maintained small base units, in effect special testing detachments, in six states and Alaska, principally at the proving grounds of other arms and services. Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle brought his picked crews to Eglin in March 1942 to train them for the raid on Tokyo, which they carried out shortly afterward. Toward the end of the war the Proving Ground, in operation CROSSBOW, undertook a rush assignment to find the best way of destroying German V-1 launching sites on the European coast and mainland. Constructing full-scale models and dropping live bombs on them, the Proving Ground arrived at a solution (low altitude attack by fighter bombers) which, while little used against V-1 sites, was remarkably successful against similar targets.

With the coming of peace, the Proving Ground recalled its far-flung test detachments and entered a period of consolidation and curtailment out of which it emerged with a smaller but better integrated working force. It was able now and for the first time to make full use of the Climatic Hangar, begun in 1944, a gigantic refrigerator or oven at need. Its capabilities ranged from -66 to + 165 degrees Fahrenheit, and in one chamber altitudes of a hundred thousand feet can be simulated. An invaluable research tool, the new hangar enabled the command successfully to solve a myriad of problems that global flight had raised, upon the answers to which operations under tropic or Arctic conditions still depended.

At this juncture new air weapons emerged, which required operational suitability testing: Atomic weapons, and guided missiles. The Command met the challenge. Its First Experimental Guided Missiles Group, established at Eglin in 1946, explored the problems of pilotless flight. They devised tables of organization and equipment, and evolved operating techniques from the raw stuff of first-hand experience. One phase of guided missiles work. drone operations. Overlapped both new commitments. Drones, pilotless fighters and bombers, were extensively used in early Atomic Energy Commission tests to take photograph & and to collect specimens of air too hot to be handled otherwise. The command participated in two AEC Pacific atoll operations, SANDSTONE and GREENHOUSE. Except for occasionally helping other agencies, the Command's atomic testing was temporarily phased out when its guided missiles organization, then the 550th Wing, left its jurisdiction. Activity in the guided missiles program continued, however, principally through the agency of its 3205th Drone Group Detachment at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico and at Point Mugu, California.

The Korean conflict had immediate impact upon the Command. Pilots and crews and, after them, project officers and administrators were dispatched overseas. The Command set up liaison offices in FEAF, and in USAFE. The first, so that the command could do tests to order - a la carte, as it were-and the second to glean bits of knowledge gained in the limited operation in Europe. The mission of the command was expanded. Heretofore it had tested "under simulated combat conditions." This was changed to allow testing in combat. Accordingly APGC project teams, actually small task forces, demonstrated on active fronts the equipment and tactics perfected and in some cases developed here at Eglin.

The cessation of combat in Korea witnessed the recall of the project teams, and the closing of the liaison office in FEAF and USAFE; but two non-testing responsibilities remained and a new testing function was added which more than made up for this decreased workload. The Command's outstanding fire power demonstrations for the Joint Civilian Orientation Conferences and West Point Cadets were to be continued as well as the responsibility for the planning and supervision of all official air power demonstrations staged in the continental United States. To this was added the renewal of atomic testing; not this time as a partner in task forces, but with primary responsibility for the operational suitability testing of atomic weapons and associated equipment.

The Command created a special agency. it's Detachment No. 1 stationed at Kirtland Air Force Base, to discharge the new responsibility. This unit, together with the 3225th Drone Squadron, across the desert at Holloman, and the 3235th Drone Squadron doing guided missiles work at Point Mugu, California, handle the command's major commitments away from home. Specialized test-teams service off-base projects, those purely APGC and those which the command may be supporting, or doing in conjunction with other commands. More flexible and more economical than detachments, they are dispatched at need to Alaska, Goose Bay, the Caribbean, or elsewhere.

Currently, as in the past, Eglin's ten auxiliary bases and more than sixty ranges are shared by tenants. The Air Force Armament Center, with headquarters on Eglin Main is the largest and has the exclusive use of several of the more elaborately instrumented ranges. The Continental Air Command was a recent user of Wagner Field, Auxiliary No. 1. The Tactical Air Command now occupies Pierce. or Auxiliary No.2. and expects soon to operate from Hurlburt, Auxiliary Field No. 9, the largest and best equipped of the satellites. The Strategic Air Command, the Armament Center, and the Command are doing joint tests at Biancur Field, Auxiliary No.6. The Army's Rangers occupied Epler Field. Auxiliary No. 7 for several years, and the Navy, which used Dillon Field, Auxiliary No. 10, for about ten year renewed its lease. Except for the Navy. the command furnishes logistical support to its many tenants including in most instances even their funding.

Faced with an expanded mission and recognizing the need for increased economy and efficiency, Major General Patrick W. Timberlake, a former Commander, effected a reorganization of the command in July 1963. This reorganization embodied clearer distinctions

between command and base responsibilities, and the establishment of the Air Force Operational Test Center. The Center is responsible for the field, or physical phase of testing. Its creation restored a condition of parity and balance as between the command's staff sections. Its purity of mission has done much to simplify the simultaneous pursuit of about two hundred test projects. The Command's physical plant: headquarters buildings.

In March 1957, construction began on a BOMARC missile site on nearby Santa Rosa Island. This site will be used for the employment and suitability testing of ground-to-air missiles as well as a training site for the Air Defense Command men and teams who will use the BOMARC. The existing support facilities and the fully instrumental water ranges made Eglin the natural choice for testing these missiles in an operational environment. Effective December 1, 1957, the Air Proving Ground Command absorbed the Air Force Armament Center and its mission. was assigned to the Air Research and Development Command and was renamed the Air Proving Ground Center. This new organization will carry out the mission of the Air Proving Ground Command and that of the Air Force Armament Center in a more efficient and economical manner.

Missilemen of the first USAF BOMARC training unit at Hurlbut Field saw their first production line missile unloaded from a giant C-124 Globemaster transport on July 10. The new IM-99 BOMARC Area Defense missile came from the Seattle, Wash., plant of Boeing Airplane Co. It will be used to test equipment, shops, and operational procedures developed for handling the BOMARC from reception, through assembly and launching. Upon completion of tests by Boeing experts and an AF test group from APGC, the BOMARC will be turned over to Hurlbut missilemen for operational use. An ADC unit. the 4751st Air Defense Missile Wg will develop and conduct the first BOMARC Air Force training program. Initial training of missilemen for the new unit will be conducted by Boeing. Qualified members of the 4751st will then train technicians to man interceptor missile sites. the first four to be located in Maine, Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey. With the rapid development of missiles, the BOMARC site and the recently announced Eglin Gulf Test range are benchmarks of the Air Proving Ground Center's significant and developing mission.

Armament Development and Test Center (ADTC), Eglin AFB, Fla. This center provides an operational test environment for aircraft and nonballistic missiles, provides support to the Tactical Air Warfare Center, and is responsible for development and operation of the Gulf Test Range.



Air Armament Center, Eglin AFB, FL

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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

Unit yearbook. *Air Proving Ground Center, Air Research and Development Command, Eglin AFB, 1958*. Army and Navy Publishing Company Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1958.