

NEVADA TEST AND TRAINING RANGE



MISSION

The NTTR maintains the densest threat simulator environment in the world. Comprised of 2.9 million acres and almost 16,000 square miles of air space. In addition to communications jamming equipment, the simulated threats include a wide range of SAMs, AAA, GCI, and passive detection systems. These assets provide year round training to U.S. and allied air crews in Red Flag weapons school exercises in addition to electronic combat. Unmanned bombing ranges are also used. Each range consists of tactical type targets representing airfields, surface to air missile (SAM) sites, truck convoys, munitions and fuel storage sites, and artillery companies. The Nevada Test Site, operated by the Department of Energy borders the NTTR.

The NTTR provides instrumentation for Green Flag West at the National Training Center (NTC) and Leach Lake Tactics Range (LLTR). The NTTR also supports the Department of Defense (DOD) advanced composite force training, tactics development, and electronic combat testing as well as DOD and Department of Energy (DOE) testing, research, and development. The NTTR hosts numerous Red Flag and U.S. Air Force Weapons School exercises each year, as well as various test and tactics development missions. The NTTR coordinates operational and support matters with major commands, other services, DOE and Department of Interior, as well as other federal, state, and local government agencies. The NTTR acts as the single point of contact for range customers.

The NTTR is composed of eight directorates, Director of Operations (DO), Mission Support (MS), Program Management (PM), Plans and Programs (XP), Financial Management (FM), Wing Safety (SE), , Range Support (RS), and Security (SD).

The mission of the Director of Operations Directorate is to provide day-to-day control of the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR). The DO directly supports Air Force, Joint and multi-national test and training activities. The DO operates two ACC bombing ranges, the NTTR and

Leach Lake Tactics Range (LLTR). The DO also prioritizes all range activities and is the single point of contact for scheduling range users. The DO provides ground control intercept operations, and flight following safety de-confliction. The DO is also the liaison for coordinating airspace issues with other military and federal agencies.

The mission of the Mission Support Directorate is to provide base operating support on the NTTR with contingents at several geographically separated locations, including TTR, ISAFAF, Point Bravo, Tolicha Peak Electronic Combat Range (TPECR) and Range 63A. The NTTR supports a physical plant with one and 700 facilities, a 1,000 vehicle fleet and three supply warehouses. The group executes an approximate \$26M budget to deliver range civil engineering, security, dining, custodial, lodging, logistics, fuels, and transportation services. The MS also serves as Chief Quality Assurance Evaluator (QAE) for the Range Support Services Contract, the second largest support contract ever awarded by the US Air Force.

The Financial Management Directorate (FM) is responsible for submitting financial plans and tracking annual budget execution, as well as providing input and data to higher headquarters for Future Years Defense Planning through the Program Objective Memorandum process. In addition, the directorate manages business initiatives in support of the Major Range Test Facility Base (MRTFB).

The Program Management Directorate (PM) is tasked to acquire and manage contract support of range operations, maintenance, instrumentation, communications, and computer systems services. It directs contract changes and evaluates contractor performance.

The Plans and Programs Directorate (XP) focuses on range requirements, entry project management, information security, and environmental management. XP advocates for long-term range requirements to higher headquarters. This directorate is responsible for interaction of new systems being developed and implemented into the NTTR. XP is also the first stop for NTTR customers to determine future range operations and support requirements for tests and training events. In addition, the directorate oversees environmental management, agreements, land use, and range environmental contractors on the NTTR and Leach Lake Training Range, and is the liaison to the Bureau of Land Management, the Department of the Interior, and other state and federal agencies.

Range Support Directorate has functional responsibility for approximately 277 contract manpower equivalent (CME) personnel. The RS is responsible for simulated threat Command and Control operations and range instrumentation and feedback systems. The RS Directorate assists customers and coordinates support activities

The Security Directorate is responsible for NTTR Security and access to the NTTR. The Security coordinates with external agencies on security programs.

LINEAGE

98 Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy established, 24 Oct 1947

Organized, 10 Nov 1947
Discontinued, 12 Jul 1948

98 Bombardment Wing, Medium established, 28 May 1948
Activated, 12 Jul 1948
Redesignated 98 Strategic Aerospace Wing, 1 Feb 1964
Discontinued, and inactivated, 25 Jun 1966
Redesignated 98 Strategic Wing, activated and organized, 25 Jun 1966
Inactivated, 31 Dec 1976

98 Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy and 98 Bombardment Wing, Medium, consolidated, 1 Oct 1984

Redesignated 98 Range Wing, 21 Sep 2001
Activated, 29 Oct 2001
Redesignated Nevada Test and Training Range, 21 Jun 2011

STATIONS

Spokane AAFld (later, Spokane AFB; Fairchild AFB), WA, 10 Nov 1947-15 Aug 1953
Yokota AB, Japan, 15 Aug 1953-25 Jul 1954
Lincoln AFB, NE, 25 Jul 1954-25 Jun 1966
Torrejon AB, Spain, 25 Jun 1966-31 Dec 1976
Nellis AFB, NV, 29 Oct 2001

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Lakenheath RAF, England, 12 Nov 1955-28 Jan 1956

ASSIGNMENTS

Fifteenth Air Force, 10 Nov 1947
Second Air Force, 16 May 1950
Fifteenth Air Force, 28 Jul 1950
57 Air Division, 16 Apr 1951
Fifteenth Air Force, 25 Nov 1953
818 Air (later, 818 Strategic Aerospace) Division, 11 Oct 1954
810 Strategic Aerospace Division, 25 Mar 1965-25 Jun 1966
Strategic Air Command, 25 Jun 1966-31 Dec 1976
USAF Air Warfare Center, 29 Oct 2001

ATTACHMENTS

92 Bombardment Wing, 17 Nov 1947-15 Apr 1950
92 Bombardment Wing, 16 May 1950-31 Mar 1951
FEAF Bomber Command, Provisional, 1 Apr 1951-17 Jun 1954
Rear echelon attached to 92nd Air Base Group, 1 Apr 1951- 25 Jul 1952
Twentieth Air Force, 18 Jun-25 Jul 1954

7 Air Division, 11 Nov 1955-29 Jan 1956

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-29, 1950, 1951-1954

KC-97, 1954-1963

B-47, 1954-1965

Atlas, 1964-1965

KC-135 (attached), 1966-1976

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Joseph D. White, 10 Nov 1947 (additional duty)

Col Albert J. Shower, 17 Nov 1947 (additional duty)

Col James E. Briggs, 12 Apr 1948 (additional duty)

Lt Col James E. Johnson, 18 Aug 1948 (additional duty)

Brig Gen James E. Briggs, 17 Sep 1948 (additional duty)

Col Clifford H. Rees, 17 Mar 1949 (additional duty)

Col Richard H. Carmichael, 16 May 1950 (additional duty)

Col Kermit D. Stevens, 31 Jul 1950 (additional duty)

Col Conrad F. Necrason, 29 Aug 1950 (additional duty)

Col Clifford H. Rees, 26 Sep 1950 (additional duty)

Col Conrad F. Necrason, 30 Oct 1950 (additional duty)

Col Clifford H. Rees, 1 Nov 1950 (additional duty)

Col Conrad F. Necrason, 6 Jan 1951 (additional duty)

Col David Wade, 1 Apr 1951

Col Edwin F. Harding Jr., 15 Sep 1951

Col Lewis A. Curtis, Nov 1951

Col Winton R. Close, May 1952

Col Charles B. Westover, 26 Oct 1952

Col Edgar S. Davis, 17 Jun 1953

Col George L. Robinson, 6 Jul 1953

Col Joseph C. Reddoch Jr., 3 Apr 1954

Lt Col Frank J. Puerta, 22 Jul 1954

Lt Col Harry C. Smith, 25 Jul 1954

Col Ervin Wursten, 1 Aug 1954

Col Don W. Bailey, 16 Aug 1954

Col Ervin Wursten, 4 Sep 1954

Col William F. Coleman, 10 Nov 1954

Col Wilson R. Wood, 14 Nov 1956

Col William C. Garland, c. 3 Dec 1958

Col James T. Gribble Jr., 5 Jul 1961

Col Lee V. Wiseman, 30 Nov 1963

Col Edwin H. Garrison, 20 Aug 1964

Col Clifford J. Moore Jr., 10 Aug 1965

Col Alvin R. Fortney, 14 Jan-25 Jun 1966

Col Louis M. Sowers, 25 Jun 1966
Col Bill H. Martin, 20 Jan 1968
Col Donald L. Stallsmith, 17 Aug 1970
Col Donald L. Keplinger, 23 Apr 1973
Col Gordon J. Krautkrammer, 16 Jul 1976
Col Donald M. Griffin, 16 Aug-31 Dec 1976
Col Wilhelm Percival, 29 Oct 2001
Col Allen E. Wickman, 5 Aug 2003
Col Christopher E. Haave, 6 Jul 2005
Col Mark E. Koechle; 20 July 2007
Col John P. Montgomery, 7 July 2009
Col Kenneth Thompson, 21 Jun 2011

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Korea
First UN Counteroffensive
CCF Spring Offensive
UN Summer-Fall Offensive
Second Korean Winter
Korea Summer-Fall, 1952
Third Korean Winter
Korea Summer-Fall, 1953

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation (Korea)
1 Dec 1952-30 Apr 1953

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1964-1 Jun 1965
1 Jan 1970-31 Mar 1971
1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

[1 Apr 1951]-27 Jul 1953

Bestowed Honors

Authorized to display honors earned by the 98 Bombardment Group prior to 24 Oct 1947

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Egypt-Libya

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Southern France

North Apennines

Po Valley

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Central Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

North Africa and Sicily, Aug 1942-17 Aug 1943

Ploesti, Rumania, 1 Aug 1943

EMBLEM





Azure, a bend indented between a dexter mailed hand coupé at the wrist bendwise, grasping a drop bomb and an olive wreath, all Or, all within a diminished bordure of the last. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "98 Range Wing" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. 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 olive wreath is a symbol of peace, and the mailed hand shows preparedness, separated by an indented bend representing the speed at which the organization will adapt itself to either.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

From Nov 1947 to Jul 1948 and Jul 1948 to Jul 1954, wing headquarters was often manned as a "paper" unit with most of its components attached to other establishments for long periods. The wing's tactical group was operational, but under control of other organizations from Nov 1947 to Apr 1950 and again from Aug 1950 through Mar 1951. On 1 April 1951, wing headquarters deployed to Japan to assume control over combat operations of three tactical squadrons. Combat missions included interdiction of enemy communications and support of United Nations ground forces. Last combat mission flown 25 Jul 1953. Dropped propaganda leaflets on day of truce two days later.

Remained in Japan in combat-ready status for another year. Meanwhile, wing components not deployed in Japan moved to a reopened base in Nebraska to supervise construction in preparation for movement there of deployed wing components. In July 1954, wing components concentrated at Lincoln AFB, NE. Air refueling operations were already underway by then.

During next decade, participated in Strategic Air Command's worldwide bombardment training and air refueling commitments. Deployed at Lakenheath RAF Station, England, 11 Nov 1955-29 Jan 1956. From Jan 1964 to Apr 1965, the wing also controlled an Atlas intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) squadron. Replaced the 3970 Strategic Wing in Spain on 25 Jun 1966. For the next decade, the wing had no tactical components assigned, but it used attached KC-135 tankers and crews furnished by other Strategic Air Command wings to provide air refueling

support to meet operational commitments of various commands in the eastern Atlantic, most of Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East.

In Oct 2001, the wing began operating the range facilities of the USAF Air Warfare Center at Nellis AFB, NV. The 98 Range Wing (RANW) was activated at Nellis Oct. 29, 2001. The 98 RANW provides command and control of the Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR). The commander coordinates, prioritizes and is the approval authority for activities involving other governmental agencies, departments and commercial activities on the NTTR. The 98 RANW integrates and provides support for test and training programs that have a direct effect on the war-fighting capabilities of the combat air forces

Nellis Wing Prepares for Transition: Officials at Nellis AFB, Nev., next week will redesignate the 98 Range Wing as the Nevada Test and Training Range, a direct reporting unit to the US Air Force Warfare Center, also at Nellis. The Air Force activated the wing in 2001 to maintain and oversee the Nevada Test and Training Range complex. Its role will remain the same after the name change. The 2.9 million acres of land and 12,000 square miles of airspace comprising the range complex represent a "crown jewel of the Air Force," said Col. John Montgomery, outgoing 98 RANW commander. He added, "preserving, protecting, and modernizing that airspace is a national imperative." The range incorporates roughly 1,200 targets, realistic threat air defense systems, and air aggressors to present aircrews with a challenging aerial training environment. 2011

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.