

1 OPERATIONS GROUP



MISSION

The 1 Operations Group directs the training and employment of two F-22 air dominance squadrons, two fighter training squadrons, and an operations support squadron. The group's flying squadrons fly F-22 air superiority fighter aircraft and T-38s. The group is responsible for 300 people, \$3 billion in resources, and more than 18,000 flight hours annually. In addition to carrying out local training requirements, the group deploys personnel and equipment on a regular basis to support operations worldwide.

The 1 OG organizations are:

The 1 OSS is responsible for all facets of airfield operations, or ops, air traffic control, weather, aircrew life support and training, intelligence analysis and support, weapons and tactics training, 1 FW battle staff operations, airspace scheduling, range ops and wing flying hour program for three fighter squadrons.

The 27 FS is the oldest fighter squadron in the Air Force. As one of three fighter squadrons of the 1 FW, the 27 FS is tasked to provide air superiority for United States or allied forces by engaging and destroying enemy forces, equipment, defenses or installations for global deployment. The unit is equipped with the F-22 Raptor, the new air-dominance fighter.

The 94 FS is the second oldest fighter squadron in America's history. The 94 FS is tasked to provide air superiority for the United States or allied forces by engaging and destroying enemy forces, equipment, defenses or installations for global deployment as part of the 1 FW.

The 71st Fighter Squadron, also known as the Ironmen, is one of four flying squadrons assigned to the 1st Operations Group, 1st Fighter Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. The squadron

is responsible for providing formal air dominance training for F-22 pilots and preparing them for assignments in the combat Air Force.

The 7th Fighter Training Squadron, known as the Screamin' Demons, is one of four flying squadrons assigned to the 1st Operations Group, 1st Fighter Wing, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. The squadron's mission is to provide professional T-38 adversary air support to enhance F-22 combat capability.

LINEAGE

1 Pursuit Group, organized, 5 May 1918
Demobilized, 24 Dec 1918

1 Pursuit Group organized, 22 Aug 1919
Redesignated 1 Group (Pursuit), 9 Mar 1921
Redesignated 1 Pursuit Group, 25 Jan 1923

1 Pursuit Group (from 1918) reconstituted and 1 Pursuit Group (from 1923) consolidated,
1924.

Redesignated 1 Pursuit Group, Air Corps, 8 Aug 1926
Redesignated 1 Pursuit Group, 1 Sep 1936
Redesignated 1 Pursuit Group (Interceptor), 6 Dec 1939
Redesignated 1 Pursuit Group (Fighter), 12 Mar 1941
Redesignated 1 Fighter Group, 15 May 1942
Inactivated, 16 Oct 1945
Activated, 3 Jul 1946
Redesignated 1 Fighter-Interceptor Group, 16 Apr 1950
Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952
Redesignated 1 Fighter Group (Air Defense), 20 Jun 1955
Activated, 18 Aug 1955
Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Feb 1961
Redesignated 1 Tactical Fighter Group, 31 Jul 1985
Redesignated 1 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1991
Activated, 1 Oct 1991

STATIONS

Toul, France, 5 May 1918
Touquin, France, 28 Jun 1918
Saints, France, 9 Jul 1918
Rembercourt, France, 1 Sep 1918
Colombey-les-Belles, France, 9-24 Dec 1918
Selfridge Field, MI, 22 Aug 1919
Kelly Field, TX, 31 Aug 1919
Ellington Field, TX, 1 Jul 1921

Selfridge Field, MI, 1 Jul 1922
San Diego NAS, CA, 9 Dec 1941
Los Angeles, CA, 1 Feb-May 1942
Goxhill, England, 10 Jun 1942
Ibsley, England, 24 Aug 1942
Tafaraoui, Algeria, 13 Nov 1942
Nouvion, Algeria, 20 Nov 1942
Biskra, Algeria, 14 Dec 1942
Chateaudun-du-Rhumel, Algeria, Feb 1943
Mateur, Tunisia, 29 Jun 1943
Sardinia, 31 Oct 1943
Gioia del Colle, Italy, 8 Dec 1943
Salsola Airfield, Italy, 8 Jan 1944
Vincenzo Airfield, Italy, 8 Jan 1945
Salsola Airfield, Italy, 21 Feb 1945
Lesina, Italy, Mar-16 Oct 1945
March Field (later, AFB), CA, 3 Jul 1946
George AFB, CA, 18 Jul 1950
Griffiss AFB, NY, 15 Aug 1950
George AFB, CA, 4 Jun 1951
Norton AFB, CA, 1 Dec 1951-6 Feb 1952
Selfridge AFB, MI, 18 Aug 1955-1 Feb 1961
Langley AFB, VA, 1 Oct 1991

ASSIGNMENTS

Allied Expeditionary Forces, 5 May 1918
1 Pursuit Wing, 1 Army, 30 Aug-24 Dec 1918
Unkn, 22 Aug 1919-1935
2 Wing, 1 Mar 1935
6 Pursuit Wing, 16 Jan 1941
I Bomber Command, 5 Sep 1941
Fourth Air Force, 9 Dec 1941
IV Interceptor Command, Jan 1942
VIII Fighter Command, 10 Jun 1942
6 Fighter Wing, 16 Aug 1942
XII Fighter Command, 14 Sep 1942
XII Bomber Command, 24 Dec 1942
5 Bombardment Wing, May 1943
2686 Medium Bombardment Wing (Provisional), 25 Jun 1943
42 Bombardment Wing, 24 Aug 1943
XII Bomber Command, 1 Sep 1943
42 Bombardment Wing, 1 Nov 1943
5 Bombardment Wing, Jan 1944
306 Bombardment Wing, 27 Mar 1944

305 Fighter Wing (Provisional), Sep 1944
305 Bombardment Wing, Jun-Oct 1945
Twelfth Air Force, 3 Jul 1946
1 Fighter (later, 1 Fighter-Interceptor) Wing, 15 Aug 1947-6 Feb 1952
4708 Air Defense Wing, 18 Aug 1955
30 Air Division, 8 Jul 1956
1 Fighter Wing, 18 Oct 1956-1 Feb 1961
1 Fighter Wing, 1 Oct 1991

ATTACHMENTS

IV Interceptor Command, 22 Dec 1941-Jan 1942
Eastern Air Defense Force, 15 Aug 1950-3 Jun 1951

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Nieuport Model 28
Spad
Sopwith Camel, 1918
Thomas-Morse Scout
SE-5
Spad
Nieuport
DeHavilland
MB-3
P-1
PW-8
P-6
PT-3
P-16
PB-2
P-35
P-36
P-41
P-43
P-38, 1941-1945
F-80
F-86, 1946-1952
F-86, 1955-1960
F-102, 1958-1960
F-106, 1960-1961
F-15, 1991
EC-135, 1991-1992
HH-3, 1993-1994
HC-130, 1993-1995
C-21, 1993-1997

HH-60, 1994-1995

COMMANDERS

Maj Bert M. Atkinson, 5 May 1918
Maj Harold E. Hartney, 21 Aug-24 Dec 1918
Lt Col Davenport Johnson, 9 Jun 19-28 Aug 1919
Maj Reed M. Chambers 28 Aug 1919
Cpt Arthur R. Brooks, 3 May 1920
Maj Carl A. Spaatz, 18 Feb 1921
1lt Roy B. Mosher, Jul 1921-18 Aug 1921
Cpt William E. Farthing, 27 Aug 1921
Maj Carl A. Spatz, 21 Nov 1921
Maj Thomas G. Lanphier, 6 Oct 1924
Maj Ralph Royce, 25 Aug 1928
Lt Col Charles H. Danforth, 1930
Maj Gerald E. Brower, 15 May 1930
Maj Adlai H. Gilkeson, 18 Jul 1932
Maj George H. Brett, 27 Oct 1932
Lt Col Frank M. Andrews, 11 Jul 1933
Maj Ralph Royce, 4 Oct 1934
Maj Edwin J. House, 30 Apr 1937
Col Henry B. Clagett, 1938
Lt Col Lawrence P. Hickey, 7 Jul 1938
Maj John O. Zahn, 1 May 1942
Col John N. Stone, 9 Jul 1942
Col Ralph S. Garman, 7 Dec 1942
Maj Joseph S. Peddie, 8 Sep 1943
Col Robert B. Richard, 19 Sep 1943
Col Arthur C. Agan Jr., 15 Nov 1944
Lt Col Milton H. Ashkins, 31 Mar 1945
Lt Col Charles W. Thaxton, 11 Apr 1945
Col Milton H. Ashkins, 28 Apr 1945-Unkn
Col Bruce K. Holloway, 3 Jul 1946
Col Gilbert L. Meyers, 20 Aug 1946
Col Frank S. Perego, Jan 1948
Lt Col Jack T. Bradley, Jul 1950
Col Dolf E. Muehleisen, Jun 1951
Col Walker M. Mahurin, 1951
Cpt Robert B. Bell, Jan-Feb 1952
Col Norman S. Orwat, 1955
Col John D. W. Haesler, Mar 1958
Col Edward S. Popek, 1 Jul 1960
Col Wallace B. Frank, Sep 1960-1 Feb 1961
Col Robert A. Corson, 1 Oct 1991

Col Michael M. Dunn, 20 Jul 1992
Col John P. Marty, 3 Jun 1993
Col Daniel P. Leaf, 26 May 1994
Col William K. Davis, 30 Jun 1995
Col Felix Dupre, 27 Oct 1995 (Additional Duty)
Lt Col Stephen R. Brown, 25 Mar 1996 (Temporary)
Col Irving L. Halter Jr., 28 Jun 1996
Col Herbert J. Carlisle, 12 Jun 1998
Col John Day, Mar 2000 (Temporary)
Col Stanley Kresge, 12 May 2000
Lt Col Tod D. Wolters, 17 May 2002

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War I
Champagne-Marne
Aisne-Marne
Oise-Aisne
St Mihiel
Meuse-Argonne
Lorraine Defensive Sector
Champagne Defensive Sector

World War II
Air Offensive, Europe
Algeria-French Morocco
Tunisia; Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Anzio
Rome-Arno
Normandy
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Italy, 25 Aug 1943

Italy, 30 Aug 1943

Ploesti, Rumania, 18 May 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 May 1992-30 Apr 1994

1 Jun 1995-31 May 1997

1 Jun 1998-31 May 2000

1 Jun 2000-31 May 2001

EMBLEM



Vert, five bendlets enhanced sable fimbriated or, as many crosses patee in bend debased three and two of the second fimbriated argent. The emblem was designed with the unit's history in mind. The green and black colors represented the colors of the Army Air Service, the five stripes signified the original five flying squadrons, and the five crosses symbolized the five major World War I campaigns credited to the Group. (In 1957, the emblem was revised, as the crest was removed, and the motto placed in a scroll beneath the shield. Approved for 1 Group, 10 Feb 1924)



1 Fighter Group, Air Defense emblem



MOTTO

MUT VINCERE AUT MORI-Conquer or Die

OPERATIONS

On 16 Jan 1918, Brigadier General Benjamin D. Foulois, Chief of Air Service, American expeditionary Force, ordered Major Bert M. Atkinson to organize this band of American aviators into the 1 Pursuit and Organization Center. This entity would inherit five aero squadrons: the 94th, 95th, 147th, 185th, and the Air Force's oldest fighter squadron--the 27th. On 5 May 1918 the American Expeditionary Force evolved the 1 Pursuit and Organization Center at Gencourt, France, into the first American group-level fighter organization, the 1 Pursuit Group. Major Bert Atkinson remained commander but his title became, Commander, 1 Pursuit Group.

During their combat in Europe, the pilots of the 1 Pursuit Group primarily flew Spads and Nieuport 28s. From May until the November 11th armistice, the Group recorded 1,413 aerial engagements, accumulating 202 confirmed kills on enemy aircraft, and 73 confirmed balloon victories. For its participation, the 1 received seven campaign credits. Protected friendly observation balloons and planes, and strafed enemy ground forces. Engaged in counter-air patrols in which the group's pilots destroyed numerous enemy aircraft and observation balloons.

With the exception of the period covering Aug 1919 to Jul 1921 when the group moved to Kelly and Ellington Fields in Texas, the Group was based at Selfridge where it remained until tensions in Europe erupted into World War II. The Group honed their fighter tactics that became valuable experiences for the aerial engagements of the Second World War during these inter-war years. The Group also participated in activities ranging from air races and testing new aircraft, to delivering the mail under orders from President Franklin Roosevelt.

Reconstituted in 1924, the group trained, participated in exercises and maneuvers, put on demonstrations, took part in National Air Races, tested equipment, and experimented with tactics, using a variety of aircraft during the period 1919-1941. The only pursuit group in the Army's Air Corps for several years, it later furnished cadres for new units.

In 1942, military strategists decided that Hitler's Germany posed a greater threat than Japan, and placed first priority with the war in Europe. As a result, the newly designated 1 Fighter Group deployed to England in what was to be called the Bolero operation. During the summer of 1942, the 1 flew once again, training and occasional fighter sweeps over the skies of France. The Group received the call to move again, this time to North Africa. By 13 Nov 1942, the Group completed the move to Algeria, where they provided aerial support against German occupied territories.

On 29 Nov 1942, the 94th Fighter Squadron flew the Group's first combat sorties of World War II, strafing a German airfield and recording several aerial victories as the year came to a close, the Group's morale sagged. Few replacement parts and virtually no replacement aircraft were available; and although the Group recorded some kills, the tally against the enemy was even at best. For nearly a year, the Group moved throughout Algeria and Tunisia, flying bomber escort and providing air coverage for the ground campaign.

The 1 Fighter Group received its third Distinguished Unit Citation for action on 18 May 1944. That day's target was the oil fields at Ploesti, Romania. The fighters were scheduled to escort 700 bombers; bad weather caused many bombers to abort the mission. The fighters continued through the heavy weather in case any bombers had continued to the target. When the P-38s reached the target, 140 American bombers were under attack by 80 enemy fighters. The Group's 48 P-38s attacked the German fighters, driving them off. The pilots shot down and damaged nearly 20 enemy aircraft, with a loss of one P-38, whose pilot parachuted to safety.

During the summer of 1947, the Army Air Force issued the "Wing-Base" plan, creating a self-sufficient wing at each base. As a result, on 15 August 1947, the 1 Fighter Wing was activated at March Field, California. The 1 Fighter Group, with the 27th, 71, and 94th Fighter Squadrons, was assigned under the Wing. In addition, maintenance, supply, and support organizations fell under the Wing's control.

During the Korean War, the 1st served an air defense role while the Wing's elements split to opposite coasts. The 1 Fighter Interceptor Group Headquarters, 27th and 71 Fighter Interceptor Squadrons were assigned to the Eastern Air Defense Force, while the Wing headquarters and the 94th Fighter Interceptor Squadron served with the Western Air Defense Force. After the cease-fire, the Wing returned to a more traditional organization. With exception of the 27th, the Wing, Group, and most of its squadrons reunited at Selfridge, Michigan.

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.