# 3 OPERATIONS GROUP



**MISSION**

**LINEAGE**
Army Surveillance Group organized, 1 Jul 1919
Redesignated 1 Surveillance Group, 15 Aug 1919
Redesignated 3 Group (Attack), 15 Sep 1921
Redesignated 3 Attack Group, 25 Jan 1923
Redesignated 3 Bombardment Group (Light), 15 Sep 1939
Redesignated 3 Bombardment Group (Dive), 28 Sep 1942
Redesignated 3 Bombardment Group (Light), 25 May 1943
Redesignated 3 Bombardment Group, Light, 14 Feb 1944
Redesignated 3 Bombardment Group, Tactical, 1 Oct 1955
Inactivated, 25 Oct 1957
Redesignated 3 Tactical Fighter Group, 31 Jul 1985
Redesignated 3 Operations Group, 1 Dec 1991
Activated, 19 Dec 1991

**STATIONS**
Kelly Field, TX, 1 Jul 1919
Ft Bliss, TX, 12 Nov 1919
Kelly Field, TX, 2 Jul 1921
Ft Crockett, TX, 1 Jul 1926

Barksdale Field, LA, 28 Feb 1935
Savannah, GA, 6 Oct 1940-19 Jan 1942
Brisbane, Australia, 25 Feb 1942
Charters Towers, Australia, 10 Mar 1942
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 28 Jan 1943
Dobodura, New Guinea, 20 May 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea, 3 Feb 1944
Hollandia, New Guinea, 12 May 1944
Dulag, Leyte, 16 Nov 1944
San Jose, Mindoro, 30 Dec 1944
Okinawa, 6 Aug 1945
Atsugi, Japan, 8 Sep 1945
Yokota AB, Japan, 1 Sep 1946
Johnson AB, Japan 15 Mar 1950
Iwakuni AB, Japan, 1 Jul 1950
Kunsan AB, South Korea, 22 Aug 1951
Johnson AB, Japan, 5 Oct 1954-25 Oct 1957
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Dec 1991

**ASSIGNMENTS**
Unkn, 1 Jul 1919-1929
3 Attack Wing, 8 May 1929-unkn
3 Wing, 1 Mar 1935
17 Bombardment Wing, 16 Jan 1941
III Air Support Command, 1 Sep 1941
III Bomber Command, 8 Dec 1941
III Air Support Command, 2 Jan 1942
United States Army Forces in Australia, Feb 1942
Allied Air Forces, Southwest Pacific Area, 18 Apr 1942
V Bomber Command, 5 Sep 1942
314th Composite Wing, 31 May 1946
3 Bombardment Wing, 18 Aug 1948-25 Oct 1957
3 Wing, 19 Dec 1991

**ATTACHMENTS**
1 Wing [Provisional], 1 Jul 1922-unkn
Fifth Air Force, 20 Jul-25 Aug 1950
6133 Bombardment [later, 6133 Tactical Support] Wing, 25 Aug-30 Nov 1950

**WEAPON SYSTEMS**
DH-4, 1919-1926, 1926-1932
JN-6, 1919-1921
JNS-1, 1919-1921
C-1, 1919-1921

GAX (GA-1), 1921-1923
XB-1A, 1921-1923
O-2, 1921-1928
O-1, 1927
O-6, 1928
A-3, 1928-1934
A-8, 1932-1936
O-19, 1932-1936
A-12, 1933-1936
A-17, 1936-1940
XO-6
Y-8
JN-4
A-9
A-10
Lockheed Hudson
O-24
PT-26
BT-14
A (later, B)-18, 1937-1941
B-12, 1939-1941
A-20, 1941-1945
A-24, 1941, 1942
B-25, 1942-1944, 1945
B-24, 1944-1946
A (later, B)-26, 1945-1956
F-2, 1946-1947
P-51/F-6, 1946-1947
F-7, 1946-1947
F-9, 1946-1947
F-13, 1946-1947
B-17, 1946-1947
P-61, 1946-1947
RB-17, 1947-1948
RB-29, 1947-1948
RF-51, 1947-1948
RF-61, 1947-1948
RF-80, 1947-1948
B-57, 1956
F-4, 1991
F-15, 1991
C-130, 1992
C-12, 1992
E-3, 1993

F-22,

**COMMANDERS**

Maj B. B. Butler, 1 Jul 1919
Maj William G. Schauffler Jr., 1 Sep 1919
Lt Col Henry B. Claggett, 27 Sep 1919
Maj Leo A. Walton, 20 Nov 1919
Maj Leo G. Heffernan, 10 Oct 1921
Lt Col Seth W. Cook, 22 Aug 1922
Maj Lewis H. Brereton, 5 Feb 1923
Maj Harvey B. S. Burwell, 25 Jun 1924
Col Ira A. Rader 25 Jun 1924-22 Jan 1926
Capt Joseph H. Davidson, Feb 1926
Maj Frank D. Lackland, 26 Jun 1926
Maj John H. Jouett, 15 Aug 1928
Maj Davenport Johnson, 27 Feb 1930
Lt Col Horace M. Hickam, 18 Jun 1932
Lt Col Earl L. Naiden, 5 Nov 1934
Col J. A. Rader, Jul 1937
Maj Oliver S. Ferson, Aug 1938
Col John C. Mcdonnell, Sep 1938
Lt Col R. G. Green, Nov 1940
Lt Col Paul L. Williams, Dec 1940
Lt Col Phillips Melville, 18 Aug 1941
Capt Robert F. Strickland, 19 Jan 1942
Col John H. Davies, 2 Apr 1942
Lt Col Robert F. Strickland, 26 Oct 1942
Lt Col Donald P. Hall, 28 Apr 1943
Lt Col James A. Downs, 20 Oct 1943
Col John P. Henebry, 7 Nov 1943
Lt Col Richard H. Ellis, 27 Jun 1944
Col John P. Henebry, 30 Oct 1944
Col Richard H. Ellis, 28 Dec 1944
Col Charles W. Howe, 1 May 1945
Lt Col James E. Sweeney, 7 Dec 1945
Maj L. B. Weigold, 7 Feb 1946
Col Edward H. Underhill, 23 Apr 1946
Lt Col John P. Crocker, 3 Jan 1947
Col Edward H. Underhill, 28 Mar 1947
Col James R. Gunn Jr., 2 Jun 1947
Lt Col Joseph E. Payne, 27 Sep 1948
Col Donald L. Clark, 3 Jan 1950
Lt Col Leland A. Walker Jr., 5 Aug 1950
Col Henry G. Brady Jr., 17 Oct 1950

Col Chester H. Morgan, 4 Jan 1952
Col William G. Moore, 17 Jan 1952
Col Sherman R. Beaty, 1952
Col John G. Napier, 1 Apr 1953
Col Straughan D. Kelsey, 22 Jul 1953
Col William H. Matthews, 18 Aug 1953
Col Sam L. Barr, 2 Feb 1954
Col Rufus H. Holloway, 21 Sep 1954
Lt Col William D. Miner, 9 Jun 1955
Lt Col Charles E. Mendel, 25 Jul 1955
Col Rufus H. Holloway, 17 Aug 1955
Col Arthur Small, 1 Mar 1956-25 Oct 1957
Col Richard P. Van Rees, 19 Dec 1991
Col Theodore W. Lay Ii, 6 Aug 1992
Col Fred K. Wall, 11 Aug 1994
Col William A. Curry Jr., 5 Mar 1996
Col Stephen M. Goldfein, 17 Jun 1997
Col Harold W. Moulton Ii, 25 Jun 1999
Col Donald Jurewicz, 11 May 2001
Col Donald Jurewicz, 11 May 2001
Col Russell J. Handy, 11 Jul 2003
Col Randy R. Roberts, 9 Aug 2005

**HONORS**
**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**
World War II
Antisubmarine, American Theater
East Indies
Air Offensive, Japan
Papua
New Guinea
Bismarck Archipelago
Western Pacific
Leyte
Luzon
Southern Philippine

Korea
UN Defensive
UN Offensive
CCF Intervention
First UN Counteroffensive

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

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**
Distinguished Unit Citations
Papua, 23 Jul 1942-23 Jan 1943
New Guinea, 17 Aug 1943
Korea, 27 Jun-31 Jul 1950
Korea, 22 Apr-8 Jul 1951
Korea, 1 May-27 Jul 1953

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jan 1994-31 De 1995
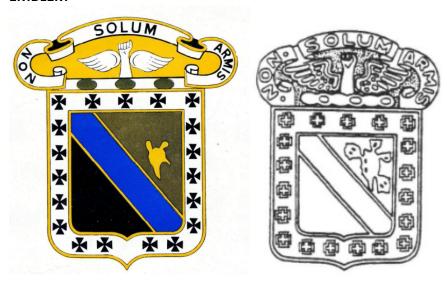1 Jan 1996-30 Sep 1998
1 Jan 2000-31 Dec 2001
1 Jan 2002-30 Sep 2003
1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation
27 Jun-31 Jul 1950

**EMBLEM**

Party per bend Vert and Sable a bend fimbriated Or in sinister Chief a prickly pear cactus of the like, all within a bordure Argent semi of nineteen crosses patee Black and fimbriated yellow. (Approved for 3 Group, 17 Jan 1922, and for 3 Wing, 22 Dec 1952)

**MOTTO**
NON SOLUM ARMIS—Not by Arms Alone

**OPERATIONS**
It was in 1933 that Lt. Col. Horace Hickam took command of the 3. Soon after, the army assigned the group to carry mail and Hickam complained bitterly. He said his pilots were not trained to fly in the harsh, snowy winter weather of the U.S. Central Postal Zone. Even when two airmen were killed in A-12 accidents while flying between Salt Lake City and Cheyenne, the army refused to relieve the 3 from air mail duties. Not until 1934, did the Reapers again resume combat training. But, on 5 November, the group suffered a personal tragedy. During a night landing at Fort Crockett, Lt. Col. Hickam was killed when his plane crashed. In his honor, the U.S. Army named their new airfield near Fort Kamehemeha, Hawaii, after him.

In March 1942 - 42 officers, 62 enlisted men and 24 A-24's were assigned to the 3 Bomb Group stationed at Charters Towers, Queensland, Australia. They were assigned to the 8th Squadron.

On 1 April 1942 the 3 Bomb Group pulled their first combat mission of WW II. Six A-24's, led by Lt. Bob Ruegg. The mission was planned for Lae Airdrome. Lae was socked in by weather so they diverted to Salamaua. They dropped 5 bombs, a very inauspicious start for a Group.

In Jan 1943, moved to Port Moresby, New Guinea and in May on to Dobodura, New Guinea, participating in the Battle of the Bismarck Sea, crippling enemy shipping by sinking or severely damaging numerous vessels, including cruisers, destroyers, transports, and cargo vessels. As fighting advanced along the New Guinea coast, attacked installations and airdromes in the vicinity of Wewak, Hollandia, Madan, and Hansa Bay. Bombed and strafed enemy coastal gun positions, airstrips, roads, and trails, and villages during the invasion of Biak. Moved to the Philippines in Nov 1944 and attacked shipping off the northwest coast of Luzon, flew missions supporting the landings at Subic Bay, and provided support for the recapture of Manila and Bataan.

The 3d BG conducted its first combat missions in Korea on 27 Jun 1950. Its B-26 pilots flew reconnaissance sorties and protected allied shipping in Korean waters. The next day, the group attacked rail and road targets at Munsan. A day later, the B-26s attacked Pyongyang Airfield. On July 1, the group and its squadrons moved with a forward echelon of the wing to Iwakuni AB, Japan, to be closer to Korea. After September, the 3d BG flew mostly at night against airfields, vehicles, and railways. The 3d BG moved to Korea in August 1951 to continue combat missions, receiving three Distinguished Unit Citations before the armistice in July 1953

Following the war, remained in Korea until Oct 1954 when it returned to Japan. By Aug 1956, the Group had become a paper unit, with only one officer and one airman assigned for record purposes. Its squadrons were attached to the 3d Bombardment Wing, which had assumed its duties.

In the Far East, the 3 Bomb Group (Tactical), which served continually in that theater from the beginning of World War II, turned in their B-26s for B-57s, and completed the four group build-up of Canberra night intruder bombers by 1957.

Activated in Alaska after 34 years on the inactive list, and expanded the air defense mission of the 3d Wing, to include deep interdiction and air-to-air capabilities with the F-15E aircraft.

Added an airlift capability in Apr 1992, using C-130 and C-12 aircraft, providing worldwide combat airdrop, tactical airland, operational support airlift, airlift for theater deployed forces, and resupply of remote Alaskan long-range radar sites.

Again expanded its mission in 1993 when it gained E-3B aircraft for long-range airborne surveillance, detection, identification, and command and control.



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