

41 FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

The 41 Flying Training Squadron mission is to train future Air Force military aviators in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training in the T-6. Additionally, the 41 FTS trains several foreign military pilots each year in the T-6, through both Foreign Military Sales program and the international Aviation Leadership Program. To accomplish its mission, the 41 FTS annually flies over 17,200 sorties and 22,000 flight hours. The squadron also qualifies and sustains 84 mission-ready T-6 instructor pilots.

LINEAGE

41 Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor), constituted, 22 Dec 1939
Activated, 1 Feb 1940
Redesignated 41 Fighter Squadron, 15 May 1942
Redesignated 41 Fighter Squadron, Single Engine, 14 Feb 1944
Redesignated 41 Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 20 Jan 1950
Discontinued and inactivated, 8 Mar 1960
Redesignated 41 Flying Training Squadron, 1 Jan 1990
Activated, 10 Jan 1990
Inactivated, 15 May 1991
Activated, 1 Oct 1998

STATIONS

Bolling Field, DC, 1 Feb 1940
Selfridge Field, MI, 21 Oct 1940
Baer Field, IN, 6 Dec 1941
Paine Field, WA, 15 Dec 1941-21 Jan 1942
Brisbane, Australia, 25 Feb 1942

Ballarat, Australia, 8 Mar 1942
Mount Gambier, Australia, 17 Mar 1942
Bankston, Australia, 7 Apr 1942
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 20 Jul 1942
Tsili Tsili, New Guinea, 16 Aug 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea, 22 Oct 1943
Gusap, New Guinea, 15 Feb 1944
Nadzab, New Guinea, 9 Jun 1944
Noemfoor Island, New Guinea, 16 Aug 1944
Owi Island, New Guinea, 17 Sep 1944
Morotai, Moluccas Islands, 17 Oct 1944
Mangaldan, Luzon, 21 Jan 1945
Lingayen, Luzon, 16 Apr 1945
Clark Field, Luzon, 20 Apr 1945
Okinawa, 30 Jun 1945
Irumagawa, Japan, 10 Oct 1945
Yokota AB, Japan, 25 Mar 1950
Johnson AB, Japan, 14 Aug 1950 (detachments operated from Misawa AB, Japan, 6 Sep 1950-
Aug 1951, and from Niigata AB, Japan, 25 May 1951-31 Oct 1954)
Yokota AB, Japan, 13 Aug 1954
Andersen AB, Guam, 5 Aug 1956-8 Mar 1960
Reese AFB, TX, 10 Jan 1990-15 May 1991
Columbus AFB, MS, 1 Oct 1998

ASSIGNMENTS

31 Pursuit Group, 1 Feb 1940
35 Pursuit (later, 35 Fighter; 35 Fighter-Interceptor) Group, 15 Jan 1942
327 Air Division, 1 Oct 1957-8 Mar 1960
64 Flying Training Wing, 10 Jan 1990-15 May 1991
14 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1998

ATTACHMENTS

6162 Air Base Wing, 1 Dec 1950-25 Jun 1951

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-35, 1940-1941
P-39, 1941-1942; 1942-1943
P-400, 1942-1944
P-38, 1943
P-47, 1944-1945
P-51, 1945-1950
F-80, 1950-1953
F-86, 1953-1960
T-38, 1990-1991

T-37, 1998

T-6

COMMANDERS

Capt Edward W. Anderson 1 Feb 1940
Capt Paul B. Wurtsmith Jan 1941-7 Dec 1941
Capt 1lt George Cantello, Jan 1942
Capt Jack A. Wilson, 8 Jun 1942
Capt Edwin A. Doss, 12 Sep 1942
Capt Albert W. Schinz, 19 Oct 1942
Capt Edwin A. Doss, 27 Oct 1942
Capt Furlo S. Wagner, 6 Nov 1942
Capt Fred E. Thompson, 20 Jun 1943
Capt Marion J. Wood, 12 Sep 1943
Maj Fred E. Thompson, 26 Sep 1943
Maj Francis E. Dubisher, Dec 1943
Maj Douglas V.N. Parsons, 17 Mar 1944
Capt Robert W. Dorothy, 2 Dec 1944
Capt Morgan R. Beamer, Jr., 1 Jan 1945
Capt Thomas E. Davis, 1 Jun 1945
Maj Morgan R. Beamer, Jr., 11 Jun 1945
Capt Leroy V. Grosshuesch, Aug 1945
Capt Thomas G. Wininger, 20 Nov 1945
Capt Carlyle F. Whiting, By Jul 1946
Maj James H. Thorne, 1 Jul 1947
Maj Douglas F. Belfield, 10 Nov 1947
Capt Elmer H. Duff, 5 Jan 1949
Maj Harris F. Krause, Mar 1949
Lt Col Harvey L. Case, Jr., Jul 1950
Maj Benjamin H. King, 20 Aug 1950
Maj Henry M. Fletcher, Jr., 25 Sep 1950
Maj Besby F. Holmes, 25 Jun 1951
Capt Robert W. Terry, By Oct 1951
Maj James L. Stewart, 7 Apr 1952
Capt Freeling H. Glower, 29 Nov 1952-Unkn
Unkn, 31 Dec 1952-1955
Maj Roland J. Dufresne, Jul 1955
Lt Col Lassiter Thompson, Jul 1956-Unkn
Lt Col Glenn E.W. Mann, Jr., Unkn-Unkn
Maj Roger W. Mcdonell, Unkn-Unkn
Lt Col Clark B. Van Deusen, By Dec 1957
Lt Col James L. Price, 4 Jan 1959-Unkn
Unkn, 30 Jun 1959-8 Mar 1960
Lt Col John R. Dipiero, 10 Jan 1990

Lt Col Francis W. Shealy, 8 Apr-15 May 1991
Lt Col Susan Ross, 1 Oct 1998
Lt Col Philip L. Koppa, 22 Jul 2000
Lt Col John Davidson, 7 Mar 2002
Lt Col Jeffrey D. Kindley, 7 Feb 2004
Lt Col Kelly Holbert
Lt Col. Kathy Brown

HONORS

Service Streamers

Korean Service

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Antisubmarine, American Theater
East Indies
Papua
Bismarck Archipelago
New Guinea
Leyte
Luzon
Western Pacific
Ryukyus
Air Offensive, Japan
China Offensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Papua, 23 Jul 1942-23 Jan 1943
New Guinea, 15 Aug 1943
Borneo, 10 and 14 Oct 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
[10 Jan 1990]-31 Mar 1990
1 Jul 1999-30 Jun 2001
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2002
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2004
1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2006

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

7 Sep 1950-7 Feb 1951

EMBLEM



41 Pursuit Squadron





41 Fighter Interceptor Squadron patches





Approved, 10 May 1990



MOTTO

Flying Buzzsaws

OPERATIONS

Antisubmarine patrols off the coast of Washington, 14 Dec 1941-21 Jan 1942; combat Southwest and Western Pacific areas, 23 Jul 1942-14 Aug 1945.

On January 12, 1942, the group boarded the USS President Polk en route to Australia. After a short stint in India, the group, redesignated as the 35th Fighter Group (FG) in May 1942, returned to Australia and took control of three new fighter squadrons: the 39th, 40th, and 41. The group received P-400 aircraft, an export version of the P-39 Airacobra, for their deployment to Port Moresby, New Guinea. The P-400's slow climb rate and in-sufficient speed at high altitude frustrated 35th pilots. Lieutenant Frank Atkins, after a 20 May 1942 mission,

commented in his combat diary, “Could have done better with a truck; it’s more maneuverable and will go higher.”

The 40 and 41 Fighter Squadrons retained their P-40s sprinkled with a mix of newer P-39 models. Despite the fact it took these aircraft 15 minutes to climb to 20,000 feet, they still wreaked havoc on enemy aircraft scoring over 90 kills by the end of 1943. In the final month of 1943, the entire 35 FG transitioned to the P-47 Thunderbolt for the final push across the island of New Guinea and eventually into the Western Pacific. From these new bases the pilots flew long-range missions against airfields in the Philippines in preparation for an invasion. In September 1944, the group moved to the island of Morotai, where it protected the invasion fleet’s southern flank.

In March 1945, the group once again switched aircraft, this time to the P-51 Mustang. Two months after receiving their new aircraft, the group moved from the Philippines to a newly captured airfield on Okinawa, Japan. Once there, they found the shortage of airborne foes presented sparse opportunities to add to their aerial victory scores. As a result, they made a request to General Kenney not to send any additional fighter groups for fear it might further reduce those opportunities. Despite the paucity of targets, they found a way.

Air defense of Japan during the Korean War.

Conducted academic training for pilots and managed the accelerated copilot enrichment training program, 1990-1991.



41 Flying Training Squadron operations building, Columbus AFB, Mississippi.



41 Fighter Interceptor Squadron F-86s

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.