

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE



1949



1955



1968



1994



USAF 75th Anniversary Special Edition

**AIR FORCE HERITAGE ON GUAM
1944–2021**

Read about the Most Historic Active USAF Base



Compiled by Jeffrey Meyer, 36th Wing Historian, Mar 2022
Includes the 36th Wing's Heritage since 1 Oct 1994.
Any questions concerning this Heritage Pamphlet please call:
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Cover Photographs — Top: Andersen AFB's Main Gate signs through the years (USAF). Left: 42d Bomb Squadron, 11th Bomb Group, B-24J *Liberator* takes off from Harmon Field, Guam, 1945 (USAAF). Right: On 12 Oct 1983, the last B-52D *Stratofortress*, S/N 56-0676, takes off from Guam for static display at Fairchild AFB, WA (USAF). Bottom: Awesome aerial view of Andersen AFB, Guam, at dusk. (USAF)

EARLY AVIATION ON GUAM, 1921-1944

19 Sep 1921 — 8:35 am, the first recorded flight of any kind from Guam. The USMC seaplane's flight log simply stated, "N-9 2335 launched." It is possible that earlier flights occurred. The Marines maintained an aviation presence of six aircraft on Guam until 1931.

27 Mar 1935 — The steamer S.S. *North Haven* set sail from Pan American Airways' (Pan Am) San Francisco Bay base at Alameda, CA to establish flying boat bases in Hawaii, Midway, Wake Island, Guam, and Manila. On Guam they occupied the old USMC's Sumay seaplane facilities. (See Above)

13 Oct 1935 — A Pan Am flying boat, *Hong Kong Clipper*, Sikorsky S-42, on its first Trans-Pacific Survey Flight landed on Apra Harbor, Guam, and taxied into the newly completed flying boat base at the seaside village of Sumay.



PFC Art Price, USMC, photographed this flight over Apra Harbor, Guam in 1923.



A Pan Am Martin M-130 Seaplane in Sumay, Guam circa 1935-1936.

22 Nov 1935 — Amid much fanfare, the first Pan Am Martin M-130 flying boat *China Clipper* launched from the waters of Alameda, CA with 1,837 pounds of mail; officially opened the Trans-Pacific route. This inaugural Trans-Pacific Airmail Flight passed through Guam, 27-28 Nov 1935.

21 Oct 1936 — *China Clipper* again made history by carrying the first nine paying passengers across the Pacific Ocean; round trip from California to Manila in 15 days. Those passengers paid \$1,438.20 (Approx. \$24K today) for the round trip ticket. This inaugural Trans-Pacific Passenger Flight passed through Guam, 26-27 Oct 1936.

2 Jul 1937 — "Iconic Aviatrix" Amelia Earhart disappeared while attempting to fly around the world. The last airfield she launched from was Lae, Papua New Guinea, approx. 1,400 miles south of Guam. Her navigator, Fred Noonan, was well known for the some of the earlier Pan Am Trans-Pacific firsts.

11 Jan 1938 — Pan Am's *Samoan Clipper*, a Sikorsky S-42, exploded near Pago Pago, American Samoa, while on an airmail flight to Auckland New Zealand. The incident killed Ed Musick, the most famous male pilot in the world at the time, and his crew of six. Musick was the pilot who flew all of the Pan Am's Trans-Pacific firsts through Guam, some with navigator Fred Noonan. **On 2 Jan**, he just completed another one of his 'firsts' the inaugural New Zealand to the U.S. airmail flight.

29 Jul 1938 — "The Lost Clipper", at 6:08 am, Pan Am's *Hawaii Clipper* launched from Apra Harbor, Guam to Manila, Philippines, with 15 people onboard, but was never seen again. After an extensive search nothing was ever found of the flying boat. Its disappearance remains a mystery to this day.

8 Dec 1941 — At 0827, just four hours after the Attack on Pearl Harbor, Sumay Guam's Pan Am facilities were destroyed by Japanese aircraft. The bombing destroyed the Libugon radio and the Standard Oil fuel depot. The Marine Barracks and Piti Navy Yard were also damaged. Ten Chamorro Pan Am employees were killed, and 32 others on Guam and Wake Island were interred for the duration of the war. At nearly the same time, the Pan Am *Hong Kong Clipper II* was strafed and destroyed in Hong Kong by Japanese airpower.

8 Dec 1941 — The Pan Am *Philippine Clipper* heard that Guam had been attacked. It was on a routine flight from Wake Island to Guam carrying a Flying Tiger pilot and cargo full of airplane tires bound for China. The Clipper returned to Wake Island where it sustained 60 bullet holes from Japanese strafing attacks. Then loaded with as many people possible and returned safely to Hawaii. The start of WWII ended Pan Am's Trans-Pacific routes. All Clippers were transferred to the US Navy.



Pan Am Facilities, Sumay, Guam, 1935-41.

10 Dec 1941 — Japanese captured Guam after a series of amphibious landings at different beaches around the island.

1942 - 1943 — Japanese military built the first two airfields on Guam, using Chamorro and Korean labor. These airfields were *Guamu Dai Ichi* (Guam No.1) at the Orote Peninsula; *Guamu Dai Ni* (Guam No. 2) at Tiyan. *Guamu Dai Ni*, later become Naval Air Station (NAS) Agana and is now Guam's main airport called Antonio B. Won Pat, Guam International Airport, named in honor of Antonio Borja Won Pat (10 Dec 1908 - 1 May 1987), Guam's first Delegate to serve on the U.S. House of Representatives, 1973—1985.



Pan Am's 1930s Logo.
(pamanair.org)

Its disappearance remains a mystery to this day.

GUAM'S WWII AVIATION HISTORY, 1944-1946



After the Liberation of Guam on 21 Jul 1944, and the island declared secure on 10 Aug 1944, work immediately began on the construction of five large airfields. Three Army Air Forces (USAAF) and two Navy (USN). The three USAAF B-29 Superfortress airfields were Guam Depot Field (Later, Harmon AFB), North Field (Later, Andersen AFB), and Northwest Field.

25 Apr 1944 — The fight to retake Guam started when the 7th Air Force conducted a joint USAAF/USN bombing/photo reconnaissance mission over the island with very long range (VLR) B-24 Liberators.

19–20 Jun 1944 — Battle of the Philippine Sea, nicknamed “The Marianas Turkey Shoot,” was the last major battle between aircraft carrier forces. It was fought west of Guam. Most of the Japanese naval aircraft were lost during the battle, including from airfields *Guamu Dai Ichi* & *Guamu Dai Ni*.

21 Jul 1944 — “Liberation Day” American forces began the amphibious landings on Guam. The landings occurred at Asan and Agat Beaches. This day is celebrated annually.

8-10 Aug 1944 — The Last Tank Battle on Guam took place on Andersen AFB property. The location was on the pre-war Salisbury-Tarague Trail, near today's 36 MUNS's Storage Area One (MSA-1), the road that leads down Tarague Beach. Several USMC M4 Sherman tanks battled seven Japanese medium tanks in a short exchange of fire. The crews abandoned the tanks and retreated over the cliff line.



Marines moving up Salisbury-Tarague Trail during the last week's of engagements on Guam, Aug 1945. (USMC)



Guam assigned 98 BS, 11 BG, B-24J Liberator, S/N 42-109951, nose art, “Madam Pele.” Japanese -American high school students in Oahu, HI, raised & donated \$350k to have this B-24 built.

11 Aug 1944 — Japanese Island Commander, Lt Gen Hideyoshi Obata's cave complex headquarters near Mt. Mataguac, Yigo, fell while under attack by US forces. It is the same location of today's “South Pacific Memorial Peace Park”.

6 Sep 1944 — Construction commenced at Guam Depot (Harmon) Field, now known as Harmon Industrial Park. Much of the construction north of Upper Tumon was completed by the USAAF's Engineer Aviation Battalions (EAB), included roads and the three huge AF airfields under the command of the 933d Engineer Aviation Regiment (EAR). Sadly, in the sign of those times, half of the EABs were segregated units. Runway paving was completed on 10 Nov 1944.



21 Oct 1944 — The first USAAF flying unit assigned to Guam, The 11th Bombardment Group (BG), 7th Air Force (7 AF), arrived on Guam, temporarily assigned to the Navy's Agana Field. Their B-24 Liberators immediately conducted bombing missions against the Japanese-held island of Palau in support of Gen MacArthur's amphibious landings at Leyte, Philippines. The 11 BG would eventually move down the hill to Guam Depot (Harmon) Field.

13 Nov 1944 — Four Airmen of the 854 EAB began drafting in a tent at Pati Point, Guam. They braved the jungle, sword grass, Dengue Fever, and Japanese military stragglers to survey/blueprint the future North Field (Andersen AFB). First asphalt was laid on the RWY 06R/24L and nearby hardstands on 17 Jan 1945.

1 Nov 1944 — The 3d Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (PRS), F-13A (B-29) Superfortress, S/N 42-93852, nose art “Tokyo Rose,” was the first US aircraft to fly over Tokyo, Japan, since Doolittle's Raid in 1942.

24 Nov 1944 — First B-29 Superfortress bombing mission of Tokyo from the Marianas. The 20th Air Force (20 AF), XXI Bomber Command (XXI BC), 73d Bombardment Wing (73 BW), Isely Field, Saipan, bombed Japan from high altitude. Remarkably, 18 of those B-29s landed at Guam Depot (Harmon) Field afterward, easing the strain of Saipan's one runway at dusk.

4 Dec 1944 — Commander XXI BC, Brig Gen Haywood “Possum” Hansell moved his command, from Isely Field, Saipan, to Guam Depot (Harmon) Field near Two Lover's Point. Later the same week, marked the arrival of the advanced echelon of the first command wing of North Field (AAFB), the 314 BW.

8 Jan 1945 — Construction commenced at Northwest Field, Guam, where the progress was slow. Naval Construction Battalions (Seabees) helped get the base operational by its planned date.

3 Feb 1945 — North Field's (AAFB) RWY 06R/24L was declared operational when the 314 BW's administrative C-87 (B-24) Liberator Express (Photo) was the first aircraft to land on the runway. The real celebration began when Maj Gen Curtis LeMay, new commander of the XXI BC, landed a F-13A Superfortress at the field.

25 Feb 1945 — The 314 BW's first combat mission launched from North Field (AAFB), Guam, and participated in Operation MEETINGHOUSE #1, the first firebombing mission of Japan. (314 BW's black square tail codes on top next page.)

25 Feb 1945 — Commander Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area (Basically,



B-29s & bulldozer at North Field, Guam 1945.

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Tail flashes of the 314th Bomb Wing, North Field, AAFB).

WWII's PACAF Lt Gen Millard "Miff" Harmon's C-87 *Liberator Express* launched from Guam Depot (Harmon) Field. The next day his aircraft disappeared without a trace enroute from Kwajalein to Hawaii. Guam Depot Field was immediately renamed in Gen Harmon's honor. Also, onboard was his Chief of Staff, Brig Gen James R. Andersen. North Field, Guam, was renamed Andersen AFB in 1949.

9-10 Mar 1945 — Operation MEETINGHOUSE #2. 270 B-29s from three Mariana Islands' airfields dropped 1,667 tons of incendiary bombs from low altitudes, destroyed over 267,000 buildings, equivalent to 16 square miles of Tokyo in one night. Known as the most destructive single Airpower event in history. The mission was led by Brig Gen Thomas Power, 314 BW/CC, North Field (AAFB), Guam.

27 Mar 1945 — Operation STARVATION, the 313 BW, North Field, Tinian, began B-29 bombers commenced mining Japan's waterways. This operation proved to be the most efficient means of destroying enemy shipping the last five months of the war.

6 Apr 1945 — History maintains USN submarines discovered the Japanese super-battleship IJN *Yamato* first before its fateful sailing. In accordance with the 3 PRS History, Mission No. 121, that units F-13A Superfort from Guam recorded the movement of the *Yamato* and her escorts near Tokuyama first. 36 hours later it was destroyed by USN carrier aircraft.

12 Apr 1945 — Only Medal of Honor of B-29 Operations. Radio Operator MSgt Henry "Red" Erwin of the 52 BS, 29 BG, 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam, was severely burned when a phosphorus smoke ignited inside his B-29, *City of Los Angeles*. "Red" was able to save his crew and aircraft. He received the Medal of Honor for his sacrifice. The 36th Contingency Response Group (36 CRG) headquarters was dedicated in his name in 1997.

13 Apr 1945 — Guam based POW Airmen killed in B-29 incendiary Raid. Lt Col Doyne Turner, 458 BS/CC, 330 BG, 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam was on a bombing mission when his B-29 was shot down over Tokyo Bay. His unit thought both he and the crew were killed in action (KIA). What they did not know until after the war was the Airmen actually survived the crash and became prisoners of war (POW). On **26 May**, those POWs were killed during in an incendiary bombing mission by their own unit that burned down Yoyoge Army Prison. Japanese captors did not let any POWs out of their cells. In 1946, the Turner Memorial Theater (Outdoor) was dedicated to him and the crew.

11 May 1945 — B-29, S/N 42-63571, 52 BS, 29 BG, 314 BW, call sign "Dracula 44", exploded and crashed in the ocean off RWY 06R/24L the crew was KIA. A ceremony was held over the location of the crash with family members onboard a USCG boat on 11 May 2005.

1 Jun 1945 — Northwest Field Guam Dedication Ceremony was attended by many USAAF and USN distinguished visitors including, Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz and Maj Gen LeMay. The 315 BW/CC, Brig Gen Frank Armstrong, commanded a force of special B-29Bs nicknamed "Eagles" since it was the name of the top secret AN/APQ-7 Eagle Radar which allowed the bombardiers to 'precision' drop at night.

13 Jun 1945 — 41st Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron (41 PRS) equipped with Photo Recon F-5G (P-38) *Lightnings* were assigned to NWF.

22 Jun 1945 — Capt Carl R. Bauer, A/C, accidentally crashed the B-29, S/N 42-93955, nose art "Colleen" 458 BS, 330 BG, 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam, while attempting to land with an engine out on a rainy night. The crash happened over the northwest cliff line of Pati Point. Only the tail gunner survived. In 1997, the remains of Bauer and co-pilot were found in the wreck. They were recovered and a ceremony was held at the Arc Light Memorial Park in 1998.

25-26 Jun 1945 — Longest Mission of WWII, the crew of B-29, S/N 44-69901, "Double Trouble", 60 BS, 39 BG, 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam flew 23-hours non-stop 4,650 mile reconnaissance sortie over Hokkaidō, Japan. The aircrew met with no opposition in spite of flying at "Dear John Speeds."

26 Jun 1945 — First Combat Mission of the 315 BW, Northwest



314 BW's Administrative C-87 (B-24) *Liberator Express*, nose art "Maximum Goose" was the first aircraft to ever land at North Field (AAFB) on 3 Feb 45.



Lt Gen Millard F. Harmon, Commander Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Area (USAAFPOA/CC).



Formation of B-29 Superfortresses from the 19 BG, 314 BW, XXI BC, 20 AF, prepare to land at North Field (AAFB), Guam, during WWII.



Tail flashes of the 315th Bomb Wing, Northwest Field, Guam, 1945-1946.

Field, Guam. Although, it was less than two months before the end of WWII, the wing would complete 15 important combat missions on Japan's oil facilities at night.



B-29 "Colleen" flies in a 330 BG formation. Colleen was named for the pilot's one year old daughter. She visited the crash site in 2002.

315th BW



315BW B-29B inflight shows the AQN-7 "Eagle" radar antenna underneath the wings.

1 Aug 1945 — Largest WWII Bombing Attack in the Pacific, when 836 B-29s from all Marianas based bomb wings attacked several locations in Japan.

6 Aug 1945 — First Atomic Bomb "Little Boy" Hiroshima, Japan. Silver-plate modified B-29 S/N 44-86292, nose art "Enola Gay" was flown by the commander of the 509th Composite Group (509 CG), Col Paul Tibbets, from North Field, Tinian,

9 Aug 1945 — Second Atomic Bomb "Fat Man" Nagasaki, Japan. Another Silver-plate B-29 S/N 44-27297, nose art "Bocks Car" piloted by the commander of the 393 BS, 509 CG, Lt Col Charles W. Sweeney.

9-14 Aug 1945 — People might think that WWII in the Pacific ended after the second atomic bomb was dropped; however, all of the 20 AF's bomb wings continued their attacks on Japan until the end of the war — totaled 1,023 sorties in 10 missions.

GUAM AAF COMMANDS IN 1945	COMMANDERS	CAREERS AFTER WORLD WAR II
2 Jul, Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific (USASTAF) activated Harmon Fld.	Gen Carl Andrew "Tooney" SPAATZ	1st Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF) 1947-1948
16 Jul-1 Aug, 20th Air Force 2 Aug-17 Sep, Chief of Staff USASTAF	Gen Curtis E. LEMAY	5th Chief of Staff of the USAF (CSAF) 1961-1965
2 Aug-14 Oct, 20th Air Force <i>(Note: 18 Jul, XXI BC inactivated)</i>	Gen Nathan F. TWINING	3rd Chief of Staff of the USAF(CSAF), 1953-1957; 3rd Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, (1st USAF Gen. CJCS), 1957-1960
Until 31 Jul, 314 BW , North Fld. (AAFB) After, Deputy Chief of Ops USASTAF	Gen Thomas S. POWER	Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC) 1957-1964
Until Oct, 315th Bomb Wing , Northwest Field (AAFB)	Lt Gen Frank A. ARMSTRONG	Alaskan Air Command, 1956-1961; inspiration for the intense version Brig Gen Savage in the novel (1948) & movie, "Twelve O'Clock High" (1949).

14-15 Aug 1945 — "The Last Mission" when the 315 BW's B-29Bs returned to Northwest Field, Guam, from a night mission to Nippon Oil, Akita, the morning of 15 Aug, the Emperor of Japan had already surrendered. The 315 BW's mission was the last bombing mission, dropped the last bomb, and the last to land. The blackout caused by this mission along helped to prevent a military coup' in Tokyo.

17 Aug- 20 Sep 1945 — POW Supply Missions of Mercy. The next important mission was to supply the POW camps in Japan, China, Manchuria, and Korea until all the US and Allied prisoners could be evacuated. Gen Spaatz, USASTAF, ordered the 20 AF to conduct the airdrop mission and deliver supplies to 154 camps. The range and capacity of the B-29s made them perfect for the job.

2 Sep 1945 — "Show of Force" Over 400 B-29s conducted a flyover of Tokyo Bay during the surrender ceremony aboard the USS *Missouri* (BB-63). Although it was Surrender Day in Tokyo, it was a somber day at Northwest Field. A B-29B crashed on the field after developing engine problems while on a POW Supply Mission, 10 of the 12 crewmen were killed.

2 Sep 1945 — Surrender Photos to CONUS. An eligible mixed crew and a B-29 from the 330 BG, 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam, flew the surrender photos from Iwo Jima to Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. Then a train took the photos the rest of the way to D.C. *Note: Another B-29 from North Field, Tinian, may have taken the actual documents to the CONUS too.



Col Tibbets waves from the cockpit of the B-29 "Enola Gay" while taxiing on North Field, Tinian, just before takeoff on the Atomic Bomb "Little Boy" Hiroshima mission.



B-29s of the 58 BW, West Field, Tinian (Top) & 314 BW, North Field (AAFB), Guam, staged & loaded for the POW Supply Missions from Isley Field, Saipan.

27 Sep 1945-28 Feb 1946 — SUNSET PROJECT, with the war over with Japan, it was time to return the crews and B-29s from the 8th/20th Air Forces, and B-24's from the Far East Air Force. The flights were flown by combat crews operating under Air Transport Command (ATC) control and carried passengers assigned as extra crew members, all Airmen required to be eligible for separation. The returning bombers passed through the Marianas, Kwajalein, Johnston Island, and John Rodgers Field (Oahu) to Mather Field, CA. The

ANDERSEN AFB'S NAMESAKE



Brigadier General James "Jimmie" Roy Andersen

Born on 10 May 1904 in Racine, WI. Gen Andersen graduated in the top 4th of his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the infantry in 1926. Married his high school sweetheart after his graduation from West Point and went on to served as an infantry officer at Ft. Sheridan, IL, 1927-1929. He then served as an infantry officer with the 27th Infantry Regiment at Schofield Barracks in HI, 1929-1931.

In 1931-1933, he transferred to the Ordnance Department serving at Watertown Arsenal, Aberdeen, Md. Proving Ground Command; while there he studied at M.I.T. In 1934, after eight years as a Second Lieutenant he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Transferred to Picatinny Arsenal, NJ then to Selfridge Field, Michigan, 1934-1936.

By 1936, he applied for and began training as an Aviation Cadet at Randolph Field, TX. At advanced Training, Kelly Field, Texas; he received his wings as a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1937. The newly promoted Captain then served as part of the defense force for the Hawaiian Islands from 1937 - 1939 with the 72d Bombardment Squadron (72 BS), 5th Bombardment Group (5 BG), 18th Composite Wing, Hickam Field, HI. He flew the Martin B-12A bomber until 1938; then the Douglas B-18 *Bolo* until his departure. The commander of the 5 BG at the time was Col Millard F. Harmon.

1940 - 1942, he served as an instructor first in the Ordnance Department, then the Department of Chemistry and Electricity at the US Military Academy West Point. He was promoted to Major in 1940 and Lt Col in 1942. The went on to serve as the Director of Training at the Army Air Force Basic - Advanced Flying School for USMA Cadets, Stewart Field, NY where he helped implement the first ever flight training class for Army cadets. It was during this time he was promotion to Colonel, 1942 - 1943. Assigned 1943 - 1944, to the Strategy Section of the Operations Division of the War Department General Staff, Washington, D.C.

In 1944, Lt Gen Millard F. Harmon, Commander US Army Air Forces Pacific Ocean Areas (AAFPOA), the most senior AAF General Officer in the Pacific, personally selected Col Andersen to be his Chief of Staff. As Harmon's Chief of Staff, during the last six months of 1944, he assisted in the final planning and coordination for construction of the six B-29 bases in the Marianas, and the initial bombings of Japan. He also distinguished himself as the principal planner for the move of their headquarters to Guam, which was accomplished in January 1945. He was promoted to brigadier general just six weeks prior to his disappearance.

flow continued the rest of the year into 1946. By New Year's Day 1946, 653 B-29's and 601 B-24's had made it to CONUS. The SUNSET PROJECT I flights would lead to many world record flight attempts as maintenance Airmen and aircrews tinkered with the newest and lightest B-29Bs at Northwest Field.

18-19 Sep 1945 — Generals' Record Flight, from Chitose Airfield, Hokkaidō, Japan, to Chicago IL. Three modified B-29B "Eagles" from the 315 BW, Northwest Field, Guam, with three Generals Barney M. Giles, Emmett O'Donnell Jr. and Curtis LeMay, at the controls of each one. They broke several aviation records, including the greatest USAAF takeoff weight, the longest non-stop flight, and the first ever non-stop Japan-Chicago flight.

1 Nov 1945 — Forgotten Record Flight. Gen Armstrong, 315 BW/CC, led a flight of three more B-29B *Superforts*, assigned to Northwest Field, Guam, They flew nonstop from Chitose Airfield, Hokkaidō, Japan, to Washington D.C. (The intended destination of the "General's Record Flight."), over the great circle route. This was the first such flight of its kind. Largely forgotten in history since it was sandwiched between the two more famous flights.

19-20 Nov 1945, Last Record Flight from Guam. Col Clarence S. Irvine and Lt Col G. R. Stanley flew YB-29J *Superfortress*, S/N 44-84061, nose art "PACUSAN Dreamboat," to the new world distance record of 7,916 miles from Northwest Field to Washington D.C. in 35 hours 5 minutes.



Col Irvine and the crew of the record breaking "PACUSAN Dreamboat." Capt Ruth Saltzman was the stenographer on every flight; sadly, not pictured as part of the crew.

POST WWII ERA GUAM, 1946-1950

By mid-1946, the six heavy bomber bases in the Mariana Islands were reduced to just the three on Guam; of those only North Field remained a very heavy bomber base. Harmon Field became Harmon AFB and continued its logistical and maintenance mission. Northwest Field became a P-47 Thunderbolt fighter base. Both Harmon AFB and Northwest Fields would closed in 1949. North Field, Guam, became Andersen AFB where construction of permanent structures was started.

17 Apr 1946 - 3 Apr 1949 — Northwest Field, Guam, converted to a fighter base. First the 21st Fighter Group (FG) was assigned, then replaced by the famous 23 FG "Flying Tigers" from China. The FGs were equipped with P-47 *Thunderbolts* responsible for Marianas Air Defense. The ramp also became a storage for many access WWII aircraft.

MEDAL OF HONOR



MSgt Henry "Red" Erwin, received the Medal of Honor after flying a B-29 combat mission from North Field, Guam. Decoration's citation reads: "Staff Sergeant Henry E. Erwin was the radio operator of a B-29 airplane leading a group formation to attack Koriyama, Japan, on April 12, 1945. He was charged with the additional duty of dropping phosphorous smoke bombs to aid in assembling the group when the rendezvous point was reached. Upon entering the assembly area, anti-aircraft fire and enemy fighter opposition was encountered. Among the phosphorous bombs launched by Sergeant Erwin, one proved faulty, exploded in the launching chute, and shot back into the interior of the aircraft, striking him in the face. Smoke filled the plane, obscuring the vision of the pilot. Sergeant Erwin realized that the aircraft and crew would be lost if the burning bomb remained in the plane. Without regard for his own safety, he picked it up and, feeling his way, instinctively crawled around the gun turret and headed for the copilot's window. He found the navigator's table obstructing his passage. Grasping the burning bomb between his forearm and body, he unlatched the spring lock and raised the table. Struggling through the narrow passage he stumbled forward into the smoke-filled pilot's compartment. Gropping with burning hands, he located the window and threw the bomb out. Completely aflame, he fell back upon the floor. The smoke cleared and the pilot at 300 feet pulled the airplane out of its dive. Sergeant Erwin's gallantry and heroism above and beyond the call of duty saved the lives of his comrades."



Rare color photo of the 19 BW Airmen's Club in 1952. (Bruce Young)

AFTER WWII NORTH FIELD WAS THE RENAMED 6-TIMES IN 4-YEARS!

1. North Field redesignated on 9 May 1946, to Northfield Air Base Command (P)
2. Northfield Air Base Command redesignated on 1 Mar 1948 North Air Force Base
3. North Air Force Base redesignated on 22 Apr 1948, to North Guam AFB
4. North Guam AFB redesignated on 1 Feb 1949, to North Field AFB Guam
5. North Field AFB Guam redesignated on 15 March 1949, to North Guam AFB
6. North Guam AFB redesignated on 7 Oct 1949, to **Andersen Air Force Base**

15 May 1946 — The future 314th Air Division departed North Field, Guam, after the 29, 39, and 330 BGs and their squadrons inactivated. This left the 19 BG as the only

heavy bomber group in the Western Pacific.

11 Jun 1946 — F-13A *Superfortress*, S/N 42-94114, 3 PRS, 311 RW, nose art "Wild Westy's Wabbits" crashed in the ocean after takeoff from RWY 06R/24L, while on a Marianas mapping flight, the crew was killed.

20 Jun 1946 — The former 41 PRS's 20 F-5G *Lightnings* (Recon P-38s) were destroyed by Typhoon DOLLY while in storage at either Harmon or Northwest Fields.

26 Jun 1947 — President Truman signed the National Security Act which called for Army, Navy, and Air Force to be equal within the new Department of Defense (DoD).

18 Jul 1947 – 21 Oct 1986 — Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (TTPI), under the terms of a United Nations (UN) trusteeship agreement the U.S. became responsible for administration of the former Japanese South Pacific Mandate (Nan'yō-chō) islands. AAFB's Mission Support Branch's motto was "U Call We Haul." The history of the mission included: Mercy missions, search and rescue, US Gov't sorties, parts/supply runs, and general support missions. In return, the aircraft would bring back fresh fruits and vegetables etc. to Guam for the Commissary to sell.

2 Aug 1947 — 54th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather (54 RSW) arrived at North Field, Guam. 54th specialized in early typhoon detection and monitoring. It would inactivate, active, and change designations of its long rich history.

18 Sep 1947 — Happy 75th Anniversary United States Air Force! All US Army air activities were transferred to the new US Air Force on this date.

15 Oct 1947 — 514th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather (514 RSW). Designations of all of the weather squadrons were changed to 3-digit numbers. However, the 54 RSW inactivated and the 514 RSW activated in its place, using same personnel and equipment.

20 Apr 1948 — Bomber Disappeared. 19 BG's B-29 S/N 44-61700 launched from North Field, Guam, and was never seen again. On 31 May 1948, Memorial Day, Maj Gen Francis H. Griswold, 20 AF/CC, presided over the dedication ceremony at the Memorial Field in honor of the crew of 11. It the same baseball field by the current Base Exchange.

14 Apr - 14 May 1948 — Operation SANDSTONE, 514 RSW provided eight WB -29 *Superfortresses* and crews for weather reconnaissance and radiation sampling for three nuclear tests conducted Eniwetok, Marshall Islands. Also, the first penetration of a nuclear cloud by a manned aircraft, flown by Maj Paul H. Fackler, 514 RSW/CC.



12 Oct 1948 — Building 21000 was opened, nicknamed “The Little Pentagon in the Pacific” it was the first large completely concrete building constructed on Guam. It served many missions over the years, including as the Wing Headquarters. The building was demolished 2013-2020.

15 May 1949 — The 20 AF moved from Harmon AFB to Kadena AB, Okinawa. The 19th Bomb Wing assumed area control.

15 Nov 1949 — Typhoon ALLYN struck Guam and destroyed most of Harmon AFB’s structures, the base subsequently closed. Harmon’s Cliff line housing continued to be used until the early 1962. Northwest Field was also closed in 1949.

25 Apr 1950 — “Andersen Air Force Base” After the redesignation on 7 Oct 1949, the official dedication ceremony took place on this date. It was attended by Gen Andersen’s widow Mrs. Esther Andersen and his son James Roy Andersen Jr., with many distinguished visitors and old friends.

KOREAN WAR ERA, 1950-1953

28 Jun 1950 — The Korean War. The 19th Bomb Group (19 BG) sent its entire bomber fleet from Guam to Kadena AB, Okinawa, while still administratively attached to the 19 BW at AAFB. Four B-29s, were flown on combat missions the very first day. 19 BG’s B-29 S/N 44-27288, nose art “Atomic Tom”, was the first large bomber to drop bombs in the Korean War. The 19 BG flew 645 missions, 5,950 sorties, dropped 52k tons of bombs, lost 91 Airmen, and 20 B-29s, all statistics were the most of any B-29 Bomb Groups of the war.



19 BG, B-29 “No Sweat” over Korea, 1950. (Frank Farrell)



Two KB-29Ps of the 91st Air Refueling Squadron (91 ARS) during Operation FOX PETER ONE.

6 Aug 1950 — The First Rotational Bomber Deployment. Strategic Air Command’s (SAC) began deploying B-29 and B-50D Superfortress to AAFB. The base wing supplied security forces and administrative support to the forward-based units.

2 Sep 1950 — 514 RSW Supported Inchon Landings. Typhoon JANE was bearing down on the loading of Gen MacArthur’s Amphibious Force in Japan. Capt Charles Cloniger and crew flew WB-29 Superfort, nose art “Typhoon Goon” into JANE’s eye many times to monitor the strength and position of the typhoon. Capt Cloniger dangerously

accomplished this with only 3-engines ensuring the operation continued for the famous Inchon Landings. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

20 Feb 1951 — 54th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium) Weather, reactivated and the 514 RSW inactivated at AAFB continued the typhoon chasing from Guam. Equipment and personnel stayed the same.

19 Mar 1951 — Last Tarzon Bomb Mission. Commander of the 19 BG, Col Payne Jennings and his crew were killed after jettisoning an ASM-A-1 Tarzon guided bomb in strike against Sinuju, North Korea. The 12,000 lbs. bomb detonated prematurely and crashing the B-29. AAFB’s Officers Housing area near the main gate was renamed “Jennings Manor” in his honor.

12 Apr 1951 — Black Thursday. (Yalu River Bridge Mission) 48 B-29s escorted by 76 fighter jets were attacked by 36 MiG-15s flown by top Soviet pilots. Seven B-29s were lost, five of them from the 19 BG. After which, B-29 gunners were sent to Pati Point Gunnery School on AAB’s cliff line. The school used the hulk of a WWII veteran B-29A. On 23 Oct 1952, was another bad B-29 vs MiG day, known as “Black Tuesday.”

26 Feb 1952 — WB-29 Superfort Crash. No. 1 Engine exploded on a 54 SRS (W), WB-29, S/N 44-61640, 125 miles west of Saipan. The aircraft crashed into the ocean. Four Airmen survived by bailing out and parachuting to safety. Six others were killed.

25 Apr 1952 — Stowaways. 54 SRS (W) Airmen smuggled two women from McCellan Field, CA to AAFB onboard a WB-29. The two women were offered jobs on Guam, but opted to pay their own way back home.

4-16 Jul 1952 — Operation FOX PETER ONE (Fighters Pacific, Op No. 1). AAFB was one of the major hubs for the: First mass movement of jet fighters (60 F-84G Thunderjets, 31st Fighter Escort Wing) across the Pacific. First mass midair refueling movement of jet fighters (24 KB-29P Superfortresses, 91 ARS).

Longest mass movement of a complete jet fighter wing by air, at the time. Longest mass nonstop over-water flight 1,860 nautical miles by jet fighters, at the time. First of what would become a regular occurrence for the USAF.

6 Oct 1952 — Weather Aircraft Lost. 54 SRS (W), WB-29 S/N 44-69970, nose art “Typhoon Goon II” and its crew were lost while penetrating the eye of Typhoon WILMA, 300 NM east of Leyte, Philippines. First loss of any USAF Weather Service aircraft while actively engaged with any type of cyclone.



Nose art “Typhoon Goon II” 54 SRS (W), WB-29 S/N 44-69970. (AWRA)



The hulk of B-29A S/N 44-61789, being used as the Pati Point Gunnery School on Andersen’s cliff line. (Mann Collection)

PERMANENT STRUCTURES



Pre-fabricated housing unit, circa 1957.

Andersen AFB was originally comprised of rows of temporary wartime structures called Quonset Huts (Q-Huts). Then from the late 1940s through 1965 the base was under almost perpetual construction, transforming the environment with permanent, typhoon-proof concrete structures.

One especially important area was housing — until 1960 the majority of AAFB's Airmen and families lived in wooden prefabricated units, located on base, or in the detached AF housing areas at Northwest Field, Harmon, MARBO, or private rentals.

Slowly, the base housing areas became concrete. Fleming Heights nicknamed "Flintstones" houses were completed in 1949. Most of the dorms on the base were built 1950-1954. Roberts Terrace housing area was completed in 1956. Capehart Housing's 1050 units were completed on 2 Aug 1960, thus ended most of the Air Force's housing problems on Guam.

Fortunately, typhoon-proof housing was available before Super-typhoon KAREN struck on 11 Nov 1962. It destroyed most of the non-concrete structures on Guam, including much of the base's remaining WWII-era infrastructure.

Post-KAREN rebuild projects of 1963-1965 resulted in the construction of 15 new buildings including: AMC Terminal, Chapel Two, NCO Club (*Top of the Rock*), and the Bowling Alley/Hot Spot/Shopette Arcade complex.

Following the KAREN Rebuild, apart from upgrades and beautification projects, AAFB saw very little new construction until after the 9/11 Attacks in 2001.



Super-Typhoon KAREN's total destruction of Guam's villages prompted the construction of buildings in concrete.

14 Nov 1952 — The 79th Air Rescue Squadron (79 ARS) activated on AAFB. First equipped with SB-29 'Super Dumbo' *Superfortresses*; later with SC-54D *Rescuemasters* and SH-19B *Chickasaw* helicopters.



1952 — Operation CHRISTMAS DROP (OCD). The annual tradition and story began when a 54 SRS (W), WB-29, *Superfortress* Airmen airdropped some goodies with a dropsonde parachute down to the people of Kapingamarangi Island. The annual CHRISTMAS DROP is the longest running airdrop Humanitarian effort in the DoD and the world. (See later chronological entries for significant OCDs.)

19 May 1953 — B-50D *Superfortress*, S/N 49-0283, 830 BS, 509 BW, crashed while attempting an emergency landing on AAFB. The 79 ARS were praised for their quick response and were able to rescue 4 of the 6 crewmen from the fiery crash. Most of the wreck is still buried in the boonies.

27 Jul 1953 — An armistice was reached ending combat operations during the Korean War. A demilitarized zone is created along the 38th parallel.

Early – COLD WAR ERA, 1953-1964

17 Dec 1953 — Worst Accident in AAFB History. B-29MR *Superfortress*, S/N 44-87741, 9 BW, redeploying to Mountain Home AFB, ID, suffered engine failure and crashed into Jennings Manor Officers' Housing while attempting to land. The crash killed nine crewmembers and passengers. Additionally, 10 men, women, and children on the ground were killed. Typhoon DOLLY occurred and two USN aircraft were lost the same week.

17 Jan 1954 — The Army's 809th Engineer Battalion started to lengthen and strengthen the runways, taxiways, and ramp to accommodate SAC's new and larger aircraft the B-36 *Peacemaker*, B-52 *Stratofortress*, and the KC-135 *Stratotanker*.

28 Jan 1954 — Last Executions in the USAF. Two Airmen were hung by an old abandoned hangar, Northwest Field. They were convicted of the 13 Dec 1948, rape and murder of Ruth Farnsworth.

18 Jun 1954 — SAC established the 3d Air Division (3 AD) at AAFB as a tenant unit.

16 Oct 1954 — B-36 *Peacemaker* Deployment. The 92d Bomb Wing (92 BW), Fairchild AFB, deployed its entire wing deployed overseas to AAFB. The giant B-36s would deploy to Guam, 1954 to 1956.

1 Apr 1955 — SAC took over the base completely when the 3 AD assumed area control and the 6319th Air Base Wing inactivated. The 3960 ABW activated. The Cold War had arrived to the Marianas to stay.



First B-36J *Peacemaker* arrived at AAFB, 1 Oct 1954. It carried the 92 BW's ADVON team. The rest of the Wing arrive 16 Oct 1954.



B-29 tail leaning against on a house after the 17 Dec 1953 Crash.

1 Mar 1956 — Meehan Theater Opened. The first air conditioned theater on Guam opened its doors to much fanfare at AAFB. Many distinguished visitors (DV) including GovGuam Ford Q. Elvidge attended the first movie "Strategic Air Command" starring Jimmy Stewart. It was rededicated on 12 Jun 1957, as the Meehan Theater in honor of Col Arthur W. Meehan, 90th Bomb Group "Jolly Rogers" Commander who disappeared



15 B-47s lined up on the South Ramp, AAFB, circa 1956. (USAF)

during a WWII combat mission from Australia, 14-15 Nov 1943. The outdoor Turner Memorial Theater would close.

5 Aug 1956 — The 41st Fighter Interceptor Squadron (41 FIS) was reassigned from Misawa, Japan. The 41 FIS was equipped with F-86 Sabres and remained integral part of AAFB until inactivation in March 1960.

5 Oct 1956 — Operation LUMBERJACK. The first B-47E *Stratojets* arrived on Guam. AAFB's Airmen had to focus extreme attention on **Foreign Object Debris** (FOD) awareness thanks to two all-jet powered aircraft units. (See Cartoon)

22 Jan 1957 — Last Superfort. The last B-29 departed AAFB after almost 13 years in the Marianas. The aircraft a weather reconnaissance version from the 54 WRS.

14 Aug 1957 — B-47 Record. Brig Gen James V. Edmundson, SAC's Deputy Director of Operations, flew a 321 BW B-47 *Stratojet* nonstop from AAFB, Guam to Sidi Slimane, Morocco, North Africa. He set the B-47 record for distance and time aloft, 11,450 miles in 22 hours 50 minutes.



3 Oct 1957— Fiction novelist James Michener famous for the book "Tales of the South Pacific" visited Guam while researching for his new book about SAC. Later, his C-47 ditched about two miles from Iwo Jima. He was rescued, but all his notes were lost and he never finished the book.

15 Jan 1958 — Weather Aircraft Lost. WB-50 *Superfortress*, S/N 49-295, 54 WRS, AAFB, was lost with the crew of 10 Airmen in the Category 4 Typhoon OPHELIA, 500 miles west of Guam.

30 May 1958 — First Visit by both B-52 and KC-135. According to the base newspaper, a Stratofortress and a Stratotanker, spent the weekend as part of the base open house event. This was the start over six decades of the partnership with the B-52, KC-135, and Andersen AFB.

18 Nov 1959 — Numerous UFO sighting around AAFB. There were so many reports that a entry was written into the annual 3d AD History.

8 Mar 1960 — 41 FIS departed with the last fighters assigned to Guam.

19 Sep 1960 — The Forgotten Crash. A MATS DC-6 leaving the NAS Agana Terminal crashed into Barrigada Heights. The crash left 80 of 94



30 Dec 1965, Maj Gen Crumm presents comedian Bob Hope a plaque at AAFB. Bob Hope performed his USO Christmas Show on Guam nine times in the years 1957, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, and 1972.

OPERATION ARC LIGHT

18 Jun 1965 — Strategic Air Command (SAC) B-52Fs attacked communist positions in South Vietnam under the code name Operation ARC LIGHT. Gradually, they also hit enemy strongholds in Laos, Cambodia and southern North Vietnam. Flying at altitudes where they could not be heard on the ground, the B-52s gave the enemy little warning. Often, the first the enemy knew they were under attack was when bombs exploded around them. If the B-52s hit enemy forces concentrated for an attack, like during the siege of Khe Sanh and the North Vietnamese invasion of South Vietnam in April 1972, the results were devastating. The first Arc Light B-52s were deployed to Andersen AFB, Guam, but the 2,600-mile flight from Guam to South Vietnam took six to seven hours. This distance made it difficult to attack the mobile enemy forces, on the Ho Chi Minh Trail, plus the bombers required aerial refueling. To reduce the response time and lessen the need for aerial tankers, B-52s were also stationed at the U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Air Base, Thailand. Throughout the war, SAC provided B-52s & Airmen for operations in Southeast Asia while also keeping B-52s on nuclear alert duties. To meet both requirements, SAC rotated B-52 aircrews into Guam and Thailand on temporary duty status. When ARC LIGHT operations ended on 15 Aug 1973, B-52 aircrews had flown about 125,000 sorties and dropped almost 3.5 million tons of bombs. Over half of all ARC LIGHT missions were flown over South Vietnam, and the rest struck targets in Cambodia, Laos & North Vietnam. - **From USAF Fact Sheet**



B-52F 1965-1966



B-52D 1966-1973



B-52G 1972-1973

mostly military and dependents on board dead. This was the worst crash on Guam until Korean Airlines Flight 801 (KAL 801) in 1997. (See 8 Aug 1997)

26-31 Jan 1961 — Operation HAPPY HOUR. Martin TM-61 *Matador* Missiles were test fired from Northwest Field, Guam, to the island of Farallon de Medinilla (FDM) in the Northern Mariana Islands.

14-28 Oct 1962 — Cuban Missile Crisis. SAC and the B-47s forward-based at AAFB were in high alert in response to the tensions in the Caribbean.

11-12 Nov 1962 — Super-Typhoon KAREN. Category 5 winds struck Guam with veracity, killing 11 people, and leaving approximately 45,000 homeless. Nearly everything not made of Concrete was severely damaged or completely gone.

13-17 Nov 1962 — Operation HANDCLASP, as part of KAREN Relief, PACAFBASECOM agencies at Hickam AFB, HI, operated 24-hours-a-day to support military dependents evacuated from Guam. In addition, the USAF joined other military/civilian agencies collected donations of food, clothing, and other items to be flown or shipped to Guam.

4 Dec 1962 — Super 'Connie' Crash. USAF C-121G *Super Constellation*, S/N 54-4066, crashed on Nimitz Hill, Guam, while carrying humanitarian supplies for KAREN's recovery efforts. 3 of 8 Airmen were killed.

29 Mar 1964 — First B-52 Rotational Deployment. B-52B *Stratofortresses* from the 95th and 22d Bomb Wings arrived for 90-day deployment to replace the B-47s on SAC's Cold War REFLEX ALERT.

15 Jun 1964 — The 1507th Support Squadron and the MATS terminal moved from NAS Agana to AAFB.



The first deployed B-52B to land was the "City of El Paso" S/N 53-0394.

VIETNAM WAR ERA, 1965-1975

Andersen AFB's operations evolved significantly with the arrival of the first B-52Bs in 1964. On 12 Feb 1965, 30 more B-52Fs arrived as the U.S. involvement in Southeast Asia escalated. Soon the eight-year campaign called Operation ARC LIGHT would begin. It was during this time that Andersen AFB, Guam, became synonymous with the B-52.



21 Feb 1966, Brig Gen Jimmy Stewart, USAFR, famous Actor (Left) flew an ARC LIGHT mission from AAFB during Vietnam on a B-52F. Gen Crumm is in the center of the photo.

18 Jun 1965 — ARC LIGHT One. The first B-52 bombing mission over Vietnam. 30 B-52Fs launched from AAFB. Tragically two of the BUFFs collided in midair and eight crewmen were lost.

29 Jun 1965 — Last Stratojet. The 54 WRS's WB-47E departed, ending the *Stratojet*'s nine-year run on Guam.

17 Sep 1965 — CORONA PROJECT. Satellites were used for photographic surveillance of adversaries from 1959 to 1972. As part of CORONA, the Guam Tracking Station became operational, first as a mobile unit, at Northwest Field. Today, its part of the new U.S. Space Force; namely Det. 2, 21st Space Operations Squadron, Space Delta 6.

c. Dec 1966 — Operation PURPLE DRAGON. During the early Vietnam War, it seemed the enemy knew when B-52 strikes from Guam were coming. PURPLE DRAGON was the investigation to find out why. Today's Airmen practice it, specifically Operational Security (OPSEC).

20 Mar 1967-5 Jul 1972 — Operation POPEYE. AAFB's tenant unit the 54 WRS operated/rotated three modified WC-130A *Hercules* from Udorn AB, Thailand. The crews seeded clouds in an attempt to make it rain and to extend the monsoon season over the Ho Chi Minh Trail; in an effort to slow/stop the flow of war materials into South Vietnam. The 54 WRS's slogan was, "Make Mud, Not War." Nothing conclusive if it worked or not.

10 Apr 1967 — Operation POKER DICE. SAC sent three B-52Ds from AAFB to U-Tapao AB, Thailand, officially opening the base for B-52 combat operations. An important BUFF base during the Vietnam War, as it shortens the distances to target, with no in-flight refuelings, compared to the grueling 2,600 mile sorties from Guam.



21 Mar 1967 — Super DV Day. President Johnson, South Vietnam President Nguyen Van Thieu, & PM Nguyen Cao Ky; plus, all of the President's Cabinet visited AAFB. President awarded 12 B-52F Crewdgs with medals & spoke in front of the current 36 WG HQ. in the rain. It was also the first time Andersen Radio broadcasted a live event to AFRT & around the world.

7 Jul 1967 — Crumm Tragedy. Maj Gen William J Crumm, 3 AD, commander, AAFB, was lost on his fini-flight when the B-52D call sign RED 1 collided with another B-52D call sign RED 2. Both bombers crashed about 20 miles off the Vietnam coast. Gen Crumm is the highest ranking US military officer missing in action from the Vietnam War, presumed dead.



16 Mar 1966 — GEMINI 8 RESCUE. NASA mission went awry & landed 430 miles east of Okinawa, instead of the Atlantic Ocean. AAFB's own 79 ARRS, was assigned secondary recovery force at Naha, Okinawa. Luckily, the rescue pilot saw the capsules parachute on the first pass and 3 Pararescuemen (PJs) jumped from the aircraft & stood by the capsule until a USN destroyer arrived.



8 Jul 1967 — B-52D Misfortune Da Nang, B-52, S/N 56-0601, attached to the 4133 BW (P), AAFB, diverted to Da Nang, South Vietnam, for an emergency landing because of electrical and hydraulic systems problem. Upon landing the bomber overran the end of the runway, broke up, and caught fire in a mine field. All forward crewman were killed. The gunner was the only survivor.

12 Feb 1972 — Operation BULLET SHOT, SAC's 5-phase mission to bring more B-52s into Southeast Asia in response to intelligence reports North Vietnam planned to invade South Vietnam. Over 200 B-52s, crews, and maintainers rotated through Guam and U-Tapao AB, Thailand, for the next 18 months.

23 Jan 1968 — Operations PORT BOW & NIAGARA. After North Korea seized the USS *Pueblo*, SAC sent nine more B-52Ds to AAFB, then another 15 CONUS based B-52Ds were sent to Kadena AB, Okinawa. Although not used in North Korea, the extra BUFFs were used for close air support (CAS) during the "Siege of *Khe Sanh*."

24 Sept 1968 — KC-135 Major Accident. The *Stratotanker*, S/N 55-5133, crashed landed on Wake Island while returning deployers to Pease AFB, NH, from AAFB, Guam. A1C Allan S. Major, 509 Bomb Wing's Historian died with 10 other Airmen. Allan S. Major Award, recognizes an USAF historian assigned to a single-person history office.

28 April-18 June 1969 — Operation GROMET II. A severe drought in the Philippines 1968 and 1969 led their government to try cloud seeding (See POPEYE) to increase rainfall with the help of the U.S. military. 58 silver iodide cloud seeding missions were conducted over the islands. These sorties were conducted by the AAFB's 54 WRS, WC-130s. The only Airmen to be killed in either GROMET II or POPEYE operations was Capt Charles Booker, ARWO, on 16 May 1969, when the silver iodide seeding device exploded on WC-130E, S/N 64-0554, causing fatal injuries. Overall, the missions flown were considered highly successful.



1972-1973 — Operation BULLET SHOT, there were so many large wing aircraft on AAFB's ramp that KC-135s were backed up on the old WWII B-29 hardstands with their tails hanging Arc Light Boulevard like trees!

10 May 1969 — B-52D Crash. B-52, S/N 56-0593, attached to the 4133 BW (P), AAFB, crashed into the ocean after takeoff from AAFB on a combat mission to Vietnam, no survivors.



27 Jul 1969 — B-52D Crash. BUFF, S/N 56-0630, attached to the 4133 BS (P), suffered structural failure just after lift-off from AAFB, Guam, and crashed into the ocean, no survivors.

1 Apr 1970 — 8AF moved to Guam. 8th Air Force replaced the 3d Air Division; the 43d Strategic Wing replaced the 3960th Strategic Wing; and the 4133d Strategic Wing (Provisional) inactivated at AAFB.

18 Apr 1970 — F-4 Phantom II Crash. The F-4D, S/N 65-0616, 12 TFW, transiting to the Vietnam War crashed on AAFB during take off. One of the crew was killed and one injured. On 12 Feb 2019, the wreckage was rediscovered by the 36WG/CC and CV.

10 Jul 1970 — The first C-5 *Galaxy* landed at AAFB

1-30 Aug 1970 — Hollywood Movie, "Noon Sunday" was filmed at Tarague Beach and other locations on Guam.

8 May 1972 — Operation LINEBACKER I. President Nixon authorized bombings in North Vietnam to push back the North Vietnamese Army's (NVA) Easter Offensive. B-52s from AAFB and U-Tapao participated.



(Top) B-52D S/N 55-0100 "Old 100" drops its ordnance over Vietnam c.1966. Most famous photograph of Operation ARC LIGHT. (Bottom) "Old 100" became the centerpiece of the Arc Light Memorial, 1974-1983.

8-9 Jul 1972 — Crewdogs Bail Out in Typhoon's Path. The crew of B-52G S/N 59-2600, 72 BW, bailed out of their ailing aircraft approximately 300 miles west of AAFB after takeoff. Typhoon RITA was bearing down on them. Rescue and weather aircraft from Guam were overhead, but no surface ships could reach the crew because of the 40 foot seas and typhoon force winds. Amazingly, two USN submarines the USS *Barb* and USS *Gurnard* rescued all but one of the crewmen!

12 Jul 1972 — Air Traffic Control Tower Opened. AAFB's current tower officially began operations. Its 168.5 feet tall with 223 steps. When it was built it was the tallest structure in the AF.

25-26 Oct 1972 — Largest EVAC in AAFB History. Typhoon OLGA was bearing down on Guam, all of the Operation BULLET SHOT's over 175 aircraft evacuated to other locations in the Pacific Region. The typhoon never hit Guam.

18-29 Dec 1972 — Operation LINEBACKER II. When North Vietnam showed unwillingness to negotiate the end of the war, the Pres. Nixon unleashed the B-52s out of AAFB and U-Tapao. During this "11-Day War" there were over 153 B-52s on the ramp supported by an estimated 15,000 Airmen (a third of whom were maintainers). 15 B-52s lost, 8 from AAFB. The Paris Peace Accords were signed on 27 January 1973.



Vietnamese refugees in a line at "Tin City" AAFB, Guam., 1975.

**Welcome to
Andersen Air
Force Base**





Andersen Air Force Base History Trail

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE HISTORY TRAIL

1. **Arc Light Memorial** — Standing on the site of the original WWII and Korean War Wing HQ building, the monument lists the names of all B-52 crewmen who lost their lives during the Operation ARC LIGHT bombing campaign (1965-1973), including LINEBACKER II. It was dedicated on 12 Feb 1974.

2. **B-52D Static** — Original “Old 100” B-52D S/N 55-0100 was placed at Arc Light Memorial in 1973. Then, due to severe corrosion “Old 100” was removed and replaced by B-52D S/N 56-0586 in 1983. Now, only the foundations the BUFFS that once adorned the Memorial remain.



ARC LIGHT Memorial B-52D 56-0586 painted as “Old 100” was scrapped in Apr 2014.

3. **Revetment Memorial** — Although the revetment was blown away by Typhoon OMAR in 1992, this memorial plaque reminds us of an important aspect of Vietnam wartime operations on Andersen.
4. **Combat SKYSPOT Memorial** — In memory of the ground radar network used in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War, and the 18 SKYSPOT men who gave their lives, including Medal of Honor recipient CMSgt Richard L. Etchberger. The SKYSPOT antenna was destroyed by Typhoon PONGSONA in 2002. The plaques remain.
5. **MUNS Memorial** — The memorial is a poignant reminder of the munitions Airmen and their hard work during the Vietnam War. The Two Mk-82, 500 lbs. bombs, were removed due to deterioration.



Sister Village huts, 1977

6. **Outdoor Stage** — Until the early 1960s, this was the location of the rotational bomb wing headquarters. During the 1970s and 1980s, the area was used Sister Village huts, traditional Chamorro buildings constructed in miniature to commemorate the Sister Village sponsorship program.

7. **Heritage Room** — A timeline of the Air Force’s presence in the Mariana Islands and the heritage of the 36th Wing is displayed with artifacts and photographs. There is also a large collection of model airplanes. *(The museum was closed in 2020, but access to view the storage is possible through the Historian.)*

8. **Old and New Control Towers** — The structure on the left opened in 1971 and is the tallest freestanding control tower in the AF. At one point it was also the tallest building on Guam. The cylindrical structure on the right, now used for hanging parachutes was the old control tower with its top removed built in 1954.



Control Towers, Early 1970s

9. **Former Building 21000** — “The Little Pentagon of the Pacific” opened 12 Oct 1948, it was the largest and oldest building on AAFB. 21000 was originally built as a dorm, but had many uses through the years. Its all-concrete construction indicated that the USAF was planning to stay on Guam after WWII. Although, tore down in 2020,

its sister Building 21001, at the same location, is now the oldest building on AAFB.

10. **Tropicana** — This building is currently being used by deployed units, but was originally built as a enlisted service club in the mid- 1950's as part of SAC's build up on the base.
11. **Old Gilkeson Field** — In honor of Brig Gen Adlai H Gilkeson, who had a long and distinguished career in the Pacific Theater. Currently the base's running track, this field at



Col Adlai H Gilkeson

one time had bleachers where Airmen watched the Andersen Bombers football team play. The field was also used for Bob Hope's USO visits in the 1957 to 1972.



Crowd of 17,000 to see Bob Hope's USO Show at Gilkeson Field, AAFB, 1970

12. **Meehan Theater** — Opened in 1956, this theatre has been the center of AAFB's family films, plays, and shows. Numerous historic Airmen briefings and debriefings took place there during the Cold War, ARC LIGHT, and LINEBACKER II.

13. **Chapel 1** — Built in 1955, this unique concrete structure has served the spiritual needs of Airmen and families over the years.

14. **Latte Stone Point** — Located in front of the current Headquarters' building, these two authentic Latte Stones have been at this location since the late 1959 after being excavated from the Maagas River, Fena area, south-central Guam.



Latte Stone Point, 1960

15. **AAFB Monument** — On 25 Apr 50, Brig Gen Andersen's widow Mrs. Ester Andersen and son James Roy Jr. were present for Andersen AFB dedication ceremony. The plaque was originally placed in front of the 19th Wing Headquarters, the current site of the Arc Light Memorial. September 2007, marking the AF's 60th Anniversary, it was installed at the current Headquarters' building and rededicated by Brig Gen Owens, 36 WG/CC.



James Roy Andersen Jr. (Left) and Mrs. Ester Andersen (Right), 15 Apr 1950.

16. **Henry "Red" Erwin Building** — The current 36th Contingency Response Group (36 CRG) building commemorates the WWII hero and Medal of Honor recipient MSgt Henry Erwin who was assigned to North Field (AAFB), Guam, during his MOH actions.

17. **Lucas-LeVay Building** — 17 Dec 2004, new 36th Security Forces (36 SFS) Building was dedicated to two fallen security forces Airmen. Both Airman Laurie Lucas and SSgt Stacy LeVay lost their lives in the line of duty, AAFB.

18. **Lafferty Hall and Plaque** — On 2 Aug 1984, 1Lt Michael Lafferty, B-52G navigator, died from gunshot wounds sustained during an attempted robbery while he is leaving a movie theatre. The dorm across from 36th Wing Headquarters was where SAC 60th Bomb Squadron's Alert Crews lived 1983-1989. In early 1985, the building was dedicated in his honor. There is a small memorial plaque (Pictured) on the VAQ Lodging, Building 23005, "Lafferty Hall" in his honor. Located on the outside stairwell facing the parking lot,



19. **"Tin City" Steps** — In front of the base USO, in the parking lot, going down into a grassy field, there are a flight of concrete steps. Those are the last remnants of a vast metal dorm complex built for deployed maintenance crews during the Vietnam War. In 1975, the dorms housed thousands of Vietnamese refugees in 1975. Most of the buildings were destroyed by Super Typhoon PAMELA in 1976.
20. **Top of the Rock** — This facility was built in 1963 as the base's NCO club, as part of the Typhoon KAREN Rebuild project. Many historic events have taken place there over the years.
21. **F-4 Memorial** — F-4E *Phantom II*, S/N 71-1392, was dedicated in 1991, on the grounds of the old Skyview Outdoor Theatre. The memorial commemorated AAFB's role as an important stopover point for thousands of jets on their way to and from the Vietnam War. In 2017, the aircraft was restored, repainted, and rededicated as 22d Tactical Fighter Squadron's S/N 69-0236; the 36th Tactical Fighter Wing's flagship, Bitburg AB, Germany, 1973-1977.



22. **Fleming Heights Housing** — Nicknamed "Flintstones" houses, Fleming Heights was the first permanent concrete housing constructed at AAFB. Built in the late 1940's, the small but significantly upgraded structures have withstood multiple typhoons and earthquakes over the last seven decades!
23. **Chapel II** — This striking structure's completion in 1964 marked the end of the post-Typhoon KAREN Rebuild at Andersen AFB.
24. **B-52E "Grey Ghost" Relic** — Three different B-52s shared the same nickname "Grey Ghost" from 1966 to c. 1983. An actual tail section of the second "Grey Ghost" B-52E S/N 56-0637 remains in the boonies where Super Typhoon PAMELA put it in 1976.



25. **Tarague Embayment Monument and Overlook** — The monument at this overlook explains the ecology of the area. It is also the best spot on base for photographing Guam's natural beauty.
26. **Sander's Slope** — The site of the last tank engagement on Guam during WWII. Named after the last 13th Air Force Vice Commander on AAFB.
27. **Memorial Field** — 20 Apr 1948, 19 BG, B-29 S/N 44-61700, launched from North Field, Guam, and was never seen again. On Memorial Day, 31 May 1948, the baseball field was dedicated by Maj Gen Francis H. Griswold, 20 AF/CC, in honor of the lost crew of 11.

Andersen's Street Names

SPAATZ AVENUE	General Carl A. Spaatz
CRUMM AVENUE	Major General William J. Crumm
LEMAY LANE	Brigadier General Curtis E. LeMay
TWINING AVENUE	General Nathan F. Twining
KENNEY AVENUE	General George C. Kenney
VANDEBURG AVENUE	General Hoyt S. Vandenberg
O'MALLEY AVENUE	General Jerome F. O'Malley
DOOLITTLE AVENUE	General James H. Doolittle
MITCHELL AVENUE	Colonel Billy Mitchell

Andersen AFB Heritage, Not on Map



Brig Gen Andersen's general officer's flag on display in the HQ Bldg. In 1988, Mrs. Andersen, the general's widow, passed away and she willed it to the base.



Wreckage of the B-29 "Colleen" S/N 42-93955, is located down the cliff line on northwest side of Pati Point. The whole crash site was disturbed during the search for the crew remains and their personal items in 1998.



Wreckage of the C-130 Hercules, S/N 62-1841, crashed on takeoff from AAFB, 20 Apr 1974. The site is located on the far northwest end of Pati Point.



"Last Mission" Memorial commemorates the last bombing mission of WWII by the 315th Bomb Wing, 14-15 Aug 1945. Its located near Northwest Field Gate.



Wreckage of the F-4D Phantom II, S/N 65-0616, crashed during takeoff, 18 Apr 1970. The site is located on northeast side of Pati Point.



Not much remains of the **B-50D Superfortress**, S/N 49-0283's wreck between Rt. 9 & RWY 06L, AAFB. It crashed during an emergency landing 19 May 1953.



Remnants of the Korean War Era **Pati Point Gunnery School**. Includes the wreck of the WWII veteran B-29A S/N 44-61789, that was used as the training device. Its located on the cliff line of the northwest side of Pati Point.

15 Aug 1973 — Last ARC LIGHT Mission. Three B-52s bombed locations in Cambodia prior to the cease fire order.

26-29 Oct 1973 — Oil Embargo Crisis. BULLET SHOT's 86 B-52s redeployed to the CONUS during the crisis. The annual Operation CHRISTMAS DROP was also canceled, the only time since 1952.

12 Feb 1974 — ARC LIGHT Memorial Dedication. The ceremony was held exactly one year after the release of the Vietnam War POWs. The memorial honored 75 B-52 crewdogs killed during the Vietnam War when 33 B-52s were lost.

20 Apr 1974 — C-130 Hercules Crash. S/N 62-1841 crashed on the base after takeoff on a flight to CONUS. The wreckage is still there.

12 Dec 1974 — B-52 in the Water. B-52D, S/N 55-0058, 43 SW, AAFB, crashed into the water after instrument malfunction, followed by loss of control. Two Airmen survived the bail out of the aircraft approximately 25 miles west of Andersen AFB.

23 Apr 1975 — Operation NEW LIFE. North Vietnam invaded the South, which caused a major refugee crisis. AAFB received more than 34,000 of the 112,000 refugees who arrived on Guam. By August, over 109,000 were processed through and departed out of AAFB to CONUS.

23 Dec 1975 — YOUNG TIGERS Ceased Ops. The last KC-135 *Stratotankers* still operating under the Vietnam War Era moniker "Young Tigers" departed AAFB, Guam.



The Arc Light Memorial how it appeared in the years 1999-2002 (USAF)

Late-COLD WAR thru Early-PACAF Era, 1976-1994



March 1983 — Three Different Operational B-52 Models on the Same Ramp at the Same Time. This historic event was probably the first and last time three different operational B-52s were at the same operational base at the same time. (Left to Right) The B-52H, possibly the first time at AAFB, was 1 of 3 returning from Australia. The B-52G was 1 of 4 at AAFB to augment the MINEX part of TEAM SPIRIT '83. The B-52D was assigned to the 43 BW, 1 of 14 assigned to AAFB. The B-52D's were going to fly off into the sunset later that year. The B-52G replaced them until they departed AAFB in 1990. (*Tropic Topics, Mar 1983*)

Andersen AFB quieted considerably after Operation NEW LIFE. The post-Vietnam period brought the return to routine operations. AAFB continued to be a vital overseas platform for carrying out SAC's global deterrence mission. Nonetheless, a new enemy surfaced the next 18 years; what was it? Nature! A major Earthquake, a Volcano Evacuation, and many Typhoons! Guess the Airmen won, since we are still here.

c. Jan 1976 — Military Housing in Andersen South started to be built.



Super Typhoon Pamela's destructive nature can be seen in this photo. In the background, all the windows, except one, were blown out of the tower.

21-22 May 1976 — Super Typhoon PAMELA, hit Guam with an estimated winds of 138 mph, gusts over 167 mph, and over 22 inches of rain in 24-hours. On AAFB, communication with the outside world was lost for 14 hours, the runways were flooded and buried under debris. 23 May - 9 June, the 605th Military Airlift Support Squadron (605 MASS) handled 2,652 tons of cargo from over 86 aircraft sorties.

21-25 Aug 1976 — Operation PAUL BUNYAN. B-52Ds from AAFB along with many other U.S. aircraft responded to the Korean DMZ. On 18 Aug 1976, "Axe Murder Incident" when two U.S. soldiers were killed by North Korean Army personnel over a disagreement about a tree being trimmed on the border. During PAUL BUNYAN the tree was completely cut down with no further incident.

c. Sep 1977 — Guam Sister Village Program, began to promote community between Andersen and the villages of Guam. Squadrons assisted with community service in their selected villages, such as building bus stops and cleaning up debris after typhoons. Villages reciprocated by inviting squadrons to community events and making the military feel welcome.

26 Feb 1982 — "The BUFF & Pump House" B-52D, 55-0099, 43 SW, AAFB, was damaged beyond repair during engine maintenance run. It jumped chocks and collided with a concrete fuel pump house. The lower half forward fuselage was crushed from the tip of the chin radome to the forward edge of the wheel well.

AF seeking shooting suspect



6 Oct 1987, a B-52G was shot at and damaged by M-14 rifle shots causing hydraulic system failures. The aircraft managed to emergency land safely at AAFB.

18 Feb 1983 — First visit to AAFB by a KC-10A *Extender*.

7 Mar 1983 — Largest B-52 Mining Exercise (MINEX) to date, TEAM SPIRIT '83, was conducted off the South Korean coast with seven B-52D's and four B-52G's, along with eight KC-135s all flew sorties from AAFB.

12 Oct 1983 — The Last Tall Tail. The last B-52D, known for their Vietnam Era black and camouflage paint scheme, departed AAFB. During Operation LINEBACKER II, the same B-52 S/N 56-0676, was the first B-52 to shoot down an enemy aircraft. It is currently on static display at Fairchild AFB, WA.



14 May 1988 — First Lancer. B-1B Lancer, S/N 85-0072, nose art "Polarized" landing at AAFB.



Airmen deployed from AAFB return to a Heroes' Welcome after Operation DESERT SHIELD & STORM in 1991.

28 Feb 1986 — Former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos was exiled to the U.S. His first stop was AAFB, Guam.

2 May 1986 — President Ronald Reagan visited AAFB.

24 Dec 1986 — First Rota Walk. Although there were similar events during the holidays in years before, the 1986 Rota Walk was the genesis of how Holidays are celebrated on Rota Drive today. It even had a similar name, but was a tranquil event until the arrival of the 13th Air Force (13 AF) in 1991.

17 Sep 1987 — Thunderbirds. The first ever performance of the Thunderbirds at AAFB. It coincided with the 40th USAF birthday and AAFB's Open House.

c. Oct 1988 — The host 43d Bombardment Wing traded its nuclear deterrent role for a conventional mission, and in the next year began redeploying its B-52s to CONUS. The 43d would see inactivation on 30 Sept 1990.

1 Oct 1989 — 633rd Air Base Wing (633 ABW). The thawing of the Cold War, AAFB became part of Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) and saw the activation of 633 ABW. Although the 633d's life on Guam was relatively short, it would be an interesting 5-years.

1990-2011 — AAFB designated as emergency Space Shuttle landing site.

27 Mar 1990 — The Last B-52G, to ever permanently assigned to AAFB departed to Australian Aviation Heritage Centre, Darwin. the SAC's 60 BS continued to fly B-52s out of Guam until Mar 1990.

17 Jan 1991 — Operation DESERT STORM. 34 Airmen from Guam were deployed to Middle East in support. On 1 Oct 1990, the 1500th Strategic Wing (Provisional) activated with six B-52Gs less than a year after the 60 BS departed. The 1500 SW (P) sent the B-52Gs to Diego Garcia to replace BUFFs that flew combat missions the first day of air operations.

20 Aug 1991 — Amn Laurie Lucas, 633d Security Police Squadron (633 SPS), died from wounds sustained in MIDNIGHT TRAIL training exercises.

2 Dec 1991 — 13th Air Force (13 AF). An official flag raising ceremony was held at the current HQ Bldg. for the 13 AF who moved from the Philippines to Guam after Clark AB was closed. The Pinatubo eruption and non-renewal of RP-US Military Bases Agreement,

29 Dec 1991 — SSgt Stacy Levay, 633 SPS, was murdered while escorting the Commissary's cash box to be deposited at the old Bldg. 21000. Jose Simoy, a Security Forces Airman, was convicted in the murder.

23 Jan 1992 — B-52G Blown Up. A veteran DESERT STORM BUFF, S/N 58-0234, was blown up and scrapped at AAFB. After Depot Maintenance Airmen found an unrepairable unflyable condition.

21-29 Jul 1992 — Nasion Chamoru Protests. USAF's Potts Junction entrance to Northwest Field and NAS Agana were sites of protests by future Guam Senator Angel Santos and his Nasion Chamoru Activist Group.

Bombs away!

Ammo troops restack bombs shaken loose by earthquake



28-29 Aug 1992 — Super Typhoon OMAR. The strongest typhoon since 1976 (PAMELA). OMAR caused severe damage to AAFB and the surrounding areas. US Navy unit VRC-50's KC-130F B/N 149793 was crushed in a partially collapsed hangar. The *Hercules* was resurrected and flew again.

8 Aug 1993 — 8.1 Earthquake! Known as the "8.1", the USGS later reduced it to an 7.8 magnitude. There were four aftershocks over 5 magnitude. It caused various damages across Guam. On AAFB the damages included: 1) Tower swayed 8-10 feet and a fire broke out on the 15th floor; 2) Current 36 MXS Bldg.18006 had to be abandoned until major repairs were completed; 3) Over 90,000 bombs fell off their racks; 4) Loss of power and water; and 5) two injuries. In spite of the damage, AAFB was declared ready for air ops within 14 hours after the quake.



12 Jun 1991 — Operation FIERY VIGIL. The volcano Mt. Pinatubo, RP., erupted in close proximity to Clark AB. In the wake of the eruption, then a typhoon; more than 21,000 U.S. Military, family members, and pets evacuated from the Philippines. Eventually, all the evacuees made it to AAFB, Guam, for processing to CONUS. **Photo:** FIERY VIGIL evacuees being processed in one of the old hangars at Andersen.

36TH WING, 1994 – 2021

On 1 Oct 1994, the 36th Air Base Wing (36 ABW) activated at Andersen AFB; the 633 ABW was inactivated. Prior to Guam, the 36th was a Fighter Wing (36 FW) at Bitburg AB, Germany. Other units also moved from USAFE and activated on Guam that day were the: 36 LG (now MXG), 36 MDG, 36 SPTG (now MSG), 36 CES, 36 CONS, 36 CS, 36 MDOS, 36 MDSS, 36 MSS (now FSS), 36 MXS, 36 OSS, 36 SFS, 36 SPTS (now LRS), & 36 CPTF (now CPTS).



B-52H's First Combat Mission?
DESERT STRIKE, 1 of the 2 BUFFs shown here returning to AAFB, Guam, 3 Sep 1996.

1 Oct 1994 — USN Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 5 (HC-5). Not only did the 36 ABW activate on this date, but another unit moved to AAFB too. The HC-5 "Providers" moved from NAS Agana equipped with HH-46A *Sea Knights*. On 21 Apr 2005, HC-5 redesignated as the Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 25 "Island Knights" equipped with MH-60S *Sea Hawks*.

5 Feb 1996 — First B-2 Spirits. The first B-2 stealth bombers to land on Guam were the 509th Bomb Wing's Spirit of Washington and Spirit of California. They were on a stopover for the Singapore Air Show.

2-3 Sep 1996 — Operation DESERT STRIKE. Saddam Hussein attacked Kurds and seized the city of Irbil in a zone protected by the U.S. In response, Operation DESERT STRIKE commenced.

The two B-52Hs from Barksdale AFB started and ended their mission at AAFB, fired 13 conventional air launched cruise missiles (CALCM) against Iraqi targets simultaneously with the USS *Carl Vinson* Battle Group in the Persian Gulf.

6 August 1997 — Korean Air Flt 801. The Boeing 747 crashed on Nimitz Hill killing 228 of the 254 passengers and crew onboard. All military services on Guam assisted with emergency and the recovery efforts.

8 Nov 2000 — 613th Contingency Response Squadron (613 CRS) activated. Assigned to the 13th Air Force.

11 Apr 2001 — VALIANT RETURN. On 1 Apr 2001, an USN EP-3 *Aries II* was involved in the accidental collision with a Chinese fighter jet and it landed at Hainan Island, China. On 11 Apr 2001, a Continental Airlines jet retrieved the crew from China and flew them to their first U.S. soil, AAFB, Guam; where they spent a few hours before departing on an C-17 to Hickam AFB, HI.



16 Sep 1996-30 Apr 1997 — Operation PACIFIC HAVEN. Team Andersen supported 6,572 Kurdish refugees for 6-months after DESERT STRIKE. 64 Kurdish babies were born on Guam too!



Wreckage of KAL-801 smolders in the morning of 6 Aug 1997, after crashing on the Nimitz Hill. (Troy R. Wegleitner, DoD)

21-23 May 2001 — Joint CAPEX. AAFB hosted PACAF sponsored Combat Ammunition Production Exercise (CAPEX) for the first time. It was also the first Joint Services CAPEX. 300 service members from three different branches of the military participated.

11 Sep 2001 — 9/11 Terrorist Attacks. At 2246L (Guam Time), American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center, NY. By early 12 Sep, the 36 ABW went into FPCON Delta in response to the terrorist attacks.

14 Sep 2001 — Operation NOBLE EAGLE. After the terrorist attacks in New York, Washington DC, and Pennsylvania, the 36 ABW hosted the VMFA-212 Lancers, USMC F/A-18 *Hornets*, MCAS Iwakuni. The VMFA-212 flew combat air patrol missions over Guam. They were the first USMC squadron to deploy after the 9/11 Attacks. At nearly the same time, the USN Aegis cruiser USS *Cowpens* (CG-63), from Yokosuka, Japan, stood naval air defense offshore of Guam.

Sep 2001—July 2002 — Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. AAFB's flight line served as the epicenter for air bridge activity supporting and servicing 3,211 aircraft, 38,000 passengers and 60,000 tons of cargo.

7 Oct 2001 — US Combat Operations began in Afghanistan. Det. 1, 13 AF (Det. 1, 36 MSG), Diego Garcia, BIOT, provided facilities, munitions, vehicles, ground equipment, supplies and fuel to sustain the deployed bomber

Cope North '99 ends in 'victory'



21 June 1999 — First Cope North Guam. Exercise COPE NORTH '99 was the first time the Japan Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) deployed outside of Japan since WWII.



11 Apr 2001 — VALIANT RETURN at AAFB, Guam. (CNN)



Rows of KC-135s and KC-10s on the North Ramp during **Operation ENDURING FREEDOM**.

and tanker combat operations of the 40th Air Expeditionary Wing (40 AEW).

30 Sep 2002 — USAF-Wide Changes. The following groups redesignated: 36th Logistics Group became the 36th Maintenance Group (36 MXG) and the 36th Support Group became the 36th Mission Support Group (36 MSG).

8 Dec 2002 — Super Typhoon PONGSONA. AAFB endured typhoon strength winds for more than 17 hours. Sustained winds reached 120 mph and gusts were reported at 156 mph. The total rainfall came to over 17 inches. The widespread damage caused an estimated \$112.1 million.

28 March 2003 — 613th Contingency Response Group (613 CRG) activated on AAFB. Also activated under the 613 CRG were the 613th Mobility Response Squadron (613 MRS) and 613th Security Forces Squadron (613 SFS).

9 Jul 2004 — 36th Munitions Squadron (36 MUNS) reactivated. It had been inactive since 1979.

2 Mar 2005 — First B-2 Spirit CBP. The 393rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron (393 EBS) was the first B-2 *Spirit* unit to conduct Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP) deployment.

29 Apr 2005 — Theater Security Package (TSP). AAFB hosted 12 F-15E *Eagles* of the 391st Expeditionary Fighter Squadron (391 EFS). This was the first TSP fighter unit deployed to Guam.

2 May 2005 — 13 AF Departed. The 13 AF transferred to Hickam AFB, HI. The NAF had been on Guam since Dec 1991.

15 Sep 2005 — Lancer Fire. 37 EBS's B-1B bomber, S/N 85-0066, burst into flames after landing at AAFB. It was repaired and flown back to Ellsworth AFB, SD, 11 Jun 2008.

19 Jan 2006 — CRG Swap. The 36 CRG activated at AAFB, replacing the 613 CRG, who inactivated. Also activated that day were the 36 MRS and 736 SFS.

c. Jun 2006 — 506th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron (506 EARS) activated at AAFB for the deployed active and reserve KC-135 *Stratotanker* unit rotations in PACOM's Theater Security Package (TSP).

12 Feb 2007 — 36th Operations Group (36 OG). The reestablishment ceremony was held for the 36 OG replacing the Provisional 36th Expeditionary Operations Group (36 EOG) for all deployed flying units assigned at AAFB.

10 May 2007 — F-22 *Raptors* visited AAFB for the first time.

19 Jul 2007 — RQ-4 *Global Hawk* visited Guam the first time.

1 Jan 2008 — 644th Combat Communications Squadron (644 CBCS), reactivated at AAFB as 3rd of 5 eventual squadrons assigned to the 36 CRG.

22 Feb 2008 — 554th RED HORSE (554 RHS). The flag transfer ceremony for the 554 RHS from 7th Air Force (7 AF) to the 36 CRG was held. This transition marked the first time in USAF history, that a RED HORSE unit was aligned under a Wing.

1 Jul 2008 — 36th Mission Support Squadron (36 MSS) was redesignated as the 36th Force Support Squadron (36 FSS). The 36th Services Squadron (36 SVS) was inactivated. The missions of both the 36 MSS and 36 SVS were combined under the new 36 FSS umbrella.

10 Sep 2008 — New BX Grand Opening. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held to open the new 181,000 square foot AAFB AAFES Base Exchange.



5 Mar - Jun 2003 - 7th Air Expeditionary Wing (7 AEW) activated as the first bomber wing assigned to AAFB, Guam, since 1991. The deployment of 12 B-1Bs and 12 B-52Hs was the largest bomber deployment since the Vietnam War.



The bombers have landed

22 Feb 2004 — Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP), rotational bomber deployments began when six 23d Expeditionary Bomb Squadron (23 EBS) B-52Hs, Minot AFB, ND, arrived AAFB.

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19 Aug 2005 — “Andersen International Airport” A Northwest Airlines 747 nose gear collapsed while landing, blocking the runway at Guam's International Airport. The 36 MXS assisted with emergency removal of the aircraft and Team Andersen landed nine civilian airliners at the base.



19-24 June 2006 — First Exercise VALIANT SHIELD, formations of multi-service combat aircraft & three USN Carrier Strike groups, of the USS *Kitty Hawk*, USS *Ronald Reagan* and USS *Abraham Lincoln*, led by a B-2 *Spirit* of the 393 EBS. VALIANT SHIELD was an exercise that focused on integration of joint training among US forces. (USN)



11 Oct 2006, PRTC Groundbreaking.

6 Feb 2009 — Joint Region Marianas (JRM) was established during the ground breaking ceremony of the new JRM HQ on Nimitz Hill. Brig Gen Ruhlman 36 WG/CC, attended the ceremony as the Deputy Commander of JRM. While bases in CONUS were becoming “Joint Bases”, Guam’s became “Joint Region” since the bases were geographically separated across the island.

5 Aug 2010 — 36th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron (36 EAMXS), Provisional (P), activated for deployed aircraft maintenance.

12 Mar-4 May 2011 — Operation TOMADACHI. After the 8.9 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami ravaged northern Honshu, Japan, many 36 CRG Airmen deployed there and RQ-4 *Global Hawks* took many reconnaissance photos that assisted the rescue and relief efforts.

6 Oct 2011 — First Aviation Training Relocation (ATR). Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115 and Strike Fighter Squadron 94 conducted aerial and ground training in the Marianas. ATR was training located outside of Japan for USAF, USMC, USN, and JASDF aircraft. It enabled increased operational readiness for maintainers, pilots, and support personnel, while managing the noise impacts in and around the local communities of Japan.

14 Dec 2011 — CHRISTMAS DROP ‘11. C-130H *Hercules* aircrew from the 36th Airlift Squadron (36 AS), Yokota AB, Japan, delivered 25 boxes of life-saving IV fluids to the Micronesian Island of Fais from AAFB. The real-world emergency was an outbreak of dengue fever infecting 35 percent of the population of Fais which prompted a declaration of emergency.

11-24 Feb 2012 — First Trilateral COPE NORTH. CN 12 took place with Australian Air Force (RAAF) joining forces with USAF and JASDF for the exercise.

c Apr 2013 — Terminal High Altitude Area Defense. The first elements of the US Army’s THAAD system arrived at Northwest Field. The anti-ballistic missile system under the name “Task Force Talon” was brought to Guam in response to North Korea’s threats .

10 Nov – 4 Dec 2013 — Operation DAMAYAN. 89 Airmen from the 36 CRG deployed to Tacloban, Philippines, and the RQ-4 *Global Hawk* conducted reconnaissance in assisting the rescue and relief efforts after Super Typhoon HAIYAN struck.



21 Apr 2009 — Stealths’ First OCONUS Deployment. Both the stealth B-2 *Spirits* and F-22 *Raptors* conducted the first OCONUS deployment together at AAFB, Guam.

CNMI, and caused widespread damage to homes and the power distribution systems. Numerous agencies contributed to the disaster relief efforts including: 36 CRG, HSC-25, and the USS *Ashland* (LSD-48).

15 Aug 2016 — B-1B Returned CBP. The BONES of the 34 EBS returned in support of PACOM’s Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP) mission. It was the first time B-1Bs were part of CBP rotation since 23 Apr 2006.



First International Operation CHRISTMAS DROP 2015 (See 10 Dec 2019)



23 Feb 2008 — B-2 Crash. 393 EBS, B-2 “Spirit of Kansas” S/N 87-0127, crashed while taking off from AAFB. The estimated \$1.4 billion accident was the most expensive aircraft crash in history, both pilots ejected safely with minor injuries. (FAA)

21 Jul 2008 — RAIDER 21 Crash. 20 EBS B-52H, S/N 61-0053, nose art “Louisiana Fire” crashed into the Philippine Sea while maneuvering for the annual Liberation Day Parade fly-over. (Above) **RAIDER 21 Memorial** in Anigua, Guam, honors the memory of the six B-52H Airmen who lost their lives on Liberation Day 2008.

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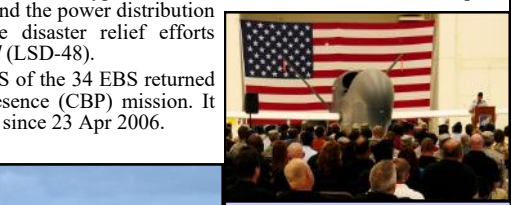
14 - 28 Feb 2014 — COPE NORTH ‘14, turned real-world when the CNMI governor declared the island of Rota under a state of emergency due to shortage of food and other commodities. CN 14 participants provided humanitarian assistance.

20 Jun 2014 — SILVER FLAG. 554 RHS completed the first mock course at PRTC, Northwest Field. In the past the courses were held by Det.1, 554 RHS, Kadena AB, Japan until the unit moved to Guam.

26 Jun 2015— The Last Blast. A 20 EBS B-52H dropped the last M117, 750-lbs bomb, from the PACAF (36 MUNS) stockpile. The last Vietnam War Era ordnance was dropped on Farallon de Medinilla Island (FDM).

29 Jul 2015— First Chamorro Airman General. Brig General Johnny Lizama, Guam Air National Guard GUANG), became the first Chamorro Airman promoted to USAF general officer.

2 Aug 2015 — Typhoon SOUDELOR, hit the island of Saipan,



20 Sep 2010 — RQ-4 Global Hawk Arrived. The Det. 3, 9 OG, brought significant intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities to the Pacific Theater. (USAF)



7 Dec 2017 — Northwest Field (NWF) Pacific Regional Training Center (PRTC), 11 years after ground-breaking, the 554 RHS held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the conclusion of more than 70 construction projects, valued at \$251 million, making up the new PRTC. Airmen used facilities to prepare for contingency and deployment missions.

11 Dec 2017 — Operation Christmas Drop '17, was the first to feature 374 AW's new C-130J *Super Hercules* from Yokota AB, Japan.

c. Jan 2018 — 554 RHS deployed to South Korea. Airmen from the 554 RHS, 36 CRG, AAFB, deployed to assist the 7 AF in

repairs and construction projects at multiple bases on the Korean Peninsula.

5–26 Oct 2018 — Operation DHARMA PALU. On 28 Sep, the 7.5 Magnitude SULAWESI earthquake struck north of Palu, Indonesia. It triggered a large tsunami that left 4,340 dead, 10,679 injured, and thousands displaced. INDOPACOM sent three C-130J *Super Hercules* from 374 AW, Yokota AB, Japan and 30 Airmen from the 36 CRG's "911 Force" assisted USAID in Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HA/DR) efforts.

25 Oct 2018 — Super Typhoon YUTU, devastated the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The 36 CRG, 36 CES, and the tenant units 734 AMS, USN's HSC-25, and Guam National Guard provided disaster relief from AAFB.

22-24 Feb 2019 — COPE NORTH '19 EVAC. CN 19's 3,000 international Airmen demonstrated flexibility when Typhoon WUTIP's closest point of approach (CPA) initiated inclement weather plans. Many of the 100 assigned exercise aircraft needed to evacuate from Guam, then later returned.

28 Mar 2019 — 36th Mobility Response Squadron (36 MRS) redesignated to 36th Contingency Response Sq. (36 CRS).

1 Jun 2019 — 36th Contingency Response Support Squadron (36 CRSS) activated on AAFB. It was the 5th Squadron assigned to the 36 CRG.

17 - 28 Jun 2019 — "Operation Christmas Drop" Movie. A movie about the annual Christmas Drop was filmed both on and off AAFB, Guam. Many of Team Andersen's Airmen participated as extras. It was the first movie filmed on Guam to be widely distributed (*See I-30 Aug 1970*). The OCD movie was released on 5 Nov 2020.

10 Dec 2019 — Operation Christmas Drop '19. A fourth international partner, the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF), joined the humanitarian airdrop. The first multi-national OCD took place in 2015 when C-130 *Hercules* from the Japanese Air Self Defense Force (JSDF), and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) joined the USAF.

26 Jan 2020 — MQ-4C Triton. The USN's version of the RQ-4 *Global Hawk* arrived at AAFB, Guam. Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, the first *Triton* squadron operated two aircraft. The MQ-4C conducted intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions; also, brought increased persistence, capability, and capacity through its multi-sensor mission payload.

7 Mar 2020 — Patriot Express. The AMC 'rotator' commercial charter flight began routine flights for passengers between AAFB, Guam, and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, WA.

17 Mar 2020 — COVID-19. In response to the virus spreading around the world and on Guam, Brig Gen Gentry Boswell, 36 WG/CC, declared a Public Health Emergency. What was not known then was how long COVID would last. At the start of 2022, Guam seemed to be getting back to normal.

1 May 2020 — First Bomber Task Force (BTF) Deployment. The Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP) ended in Apr 2020, after being on the "Forward Edge" for over 16 years. The new BTF rotation arrived in the form of Four B-1B *Lancers* of the 9 BS, 7 BW, Dyess AFB, TX. It was the first BTF on Guam since B-2 *Spirits*, Jan 2019.

13 Apr 2020 — Elephant Walk. USN MH-60S *Knighthawk*, USAF RQ-4 *Global Hawk*, USN MQ-4C *Triton*, B-52H *Stratofortresses*, & KC-135 *Stratotankers* assigned to Guam performed an "Elephant Walk". During COVID-19, it showed Team Andersen's ability to generate combat airpower at a moment's notice to ensure regional stability throughout the Indo-Pacific.

25 Apr 2015 — Operation SAHAYOGI HAAT. devastating magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck Nepal. The 36 CRG responded to call. Photo: 4 May 2015, the 36 CRG boards a C-17 *Globe-master III*, AAFB, bound for Nepal. (USAF)

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7.5 Magnitude SULAWESI earthquake struck north of Palu, Indonesia. It triggered a large tsunami that left 4,340 dead, 10,679 injured, and thousands displaced. INDOPACOM sent three C-130J *Super Hercules* from 374 AW, Yokota AB, Japan and 30 Airmen from the 36 CRG's "911 Force" assisted USAID in Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HA/DR) efforts.

devastated the islands of Saipan and Tinian. The 36 CRG, 36 CES, and the tenant units 734 AMS, USN's HSC-25, and Guam National Guard provided disaster relief from AAFB.

CN 19's 3,000 international Airmen demonstrated flexibility when Typhoon WUTIP's closest point of approach (CPA) initiated inclement weather plans. Many of the 100 assigned exercise aircraft needed to evacuate from Guam, then later returned.

36th Mobility Response Squadron (36 MRS) redesignated to 36th Contingency Response Sq. (36 CRS).

36th Contingency Response Support Squadron (36 CRSS) activated on AAFB. It was the 5th Squadron assigned to the 36 CRG.

"Operation Christmas Drop" Movie. A movie about the annual Christmas Drop was filmed both on and off AAFB, Guam. Many of Team Andersen's Airmen participated as extras. It was the first movie filmed on Guam to be widely distributed (*See I-30 Aug 1970*). The OCD movie was released on 5 Nov 2020.

Operation Christmas Drop '19. A fourth international partner, the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF), joined the humanitarian airdrop. The first multi-national OCD took place in 2015 when C-130 *Hercules* from the Japanese Air Self Defense Force (JSDF), and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) joined the USAF.

MQ-4C *Triton*. The USN's version of the RQ-4 *Global Hawk* arrived at AAFB, Guam. Unmanned Patrol Squadron (VUP) 19, the first *Triton* squadron operated two aircraft. The MQ-4C conducted intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions; also, brought increased persistence, capability, and capacity through its multi-sensor mission payload.

Patriot Express. The AMC 'rotator' commercial charter flight began routine flights for passengers between AAFB, Guam, and the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, WA.

COVID-19. In response to the virus spreading around the world and on Guam, Brig Gen Gentry Boswell, 36 WG/CC, declared a Public Health Emergency. What was not known then was how long COVID would last. At the start of 2022, Guam seemed to be getting back to normal.

First Bomber Task Force (BTF) Deployment. The Continuous Bomber Presence (CBP) ended in Apr 2020, after being on the "Forward Edge" for over 16 years. The new BTF rotation arrived in the form of Four B-1B *Lancers* of the 9 BS, 7 BW, Dyess AFB, TX. It was the first BTF on Guam since B-2 *Spirits*, Jan 2019.

Elephant Walk. USN MH-60S *Knighthawk*, USAF RQ-4 *Global Hawk*, USN MQ-4C *Triton*, B-52H *Stratofortresses*, & KC-135 *Stratotankers* assigned to Guam performed an "Elephant Walk". During COVID-19, it showed Team Andersen's ability to generate combat airpower at a moment's notice to ensure regional stability throughout the Indo-Pacific.



19 May 2016 — 69 EBS, B-52H, S/N 60-0047. Nose art "Neanderthaul" had a take off accident at AAFB. All seven crewdogs egressed safely.



17 Aug 2016 — All three of AFGSC's strategic bombers simultaneously conducted operations in the U.S. PACOM area of operations for the first time in history.



Gen O'Shaughnessy, PACAF/CC, visits Soldiers of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command's Task Force Talon, THAAD on Northwest Field, 1 Feb 2017.



13 Apr 2020 — Elephant Walk. USN MH-60S *Knighthawk*, USAF RQ-4 *Global Hawk*, USN MQ-4C *Triton*, B-52H *Stratofortresses*, & KC-135 *Stratotankers* assigned to Guam performed an "Elephant Walk". During COVID-19, it showed Team Andersen's ability to generate combat airpower at a moment's notice to ensure regional stability throughout the Indo-Pacific.



24 Nov 2020 — PACAF Agile Combat Employment (ACE). F-22s assigned to the 94 FS, 1 FW, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA, deployed to AAFB, Guam, conducted hot refuel during a Dynamic Force Employment on Palau. 36 AS's C-130J Super Hercules refueled the Raptors using Aerial Bulk Fuel Delivery System which supports the ACE concept.

30 Jun 2020 — C-17 Globemasters' Airdrop. Paratroopers from the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army Alaska, parachuted onto AAFB as part of their Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercise from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

23 Jul 2020 — 4th Reconnaissance Squadron. The 319th Operations Group, Detachment 1 was a tenant unit at AAFB. Their RQ-4 Global Hawks have deployed to Japan nearly every year since 2014.

However in 2020 things would be a little different, besides COVID, the 319 OG, Det. 1. deactivated; the 4 RS reactivated at Yokota AB, Japan. The 4 RS was still assigned to the 319 OG, and returned to Guam.

Jul 2021 — PACIFIC IRON 21. 35 Fighters, Mobility Aircraft, 800 Airmen, and support equipment operated from AAFB, Guam International Airport, Northwest Field, and Tinian International Airport to conduct ACE.



11 Dec 2021, **35th Rota Walk**. SrA Alexander Lawrence, 734 AMS, constructed the 8-foot "Operation Candy Drop" C-17 replica in the background. The 35th Annual Rota Walk was attended and enjoyed by over 4,000 people.



14 Dec 2021, **70th Operation Christmas Drop**. C-130J Hercules crew, call sign SANTA 63, 36 AS, 374 AW, Yokota AB, Japan, prepares to "Bring Love from Above." 70th Annual OCD was the DOD's longest-running humanitarian airlift operation. (USAF)

Ever constant changes the 36th Wing and "Team Andersen" will continue to "Prepared to Prevail."

Chronological List of the Most Senior Commanders, Andersen AFB

Each commander's highest rank achieved in the USAF

North Field, Guam, 03 February 1945

314th Bombardment Wing (Very Heavy), 17 January 1945

Gen Thomas S. Power, 29 Aug 1944

Col Carl R Storrie, 23 Jul 1945

19th Bombardment Group (Very Heavy), 15 May 1946

Col Vincent M Miles Jr, 1 Mar 1946

Col Elbert D Reynolds, 13 Apr 1946

Col David Wade, 26 Apr 1947

Col Francis C Shoemaker, 8 Nov 1947

Col Robert V DeShazo, 2 Dec 1947

19th Bombardment Wing (Medium), 17 August 1948

Lt Col Clarence G. Poff, 17 Aug 1948

Col Robert V. DeShazo, 24 Sep 1948

Maj Gen Alvan C. Kincaid, 16 May 1949

Brig Gen Alfred R. Maxwell, 1 Jun 1949

Andersen Air Force Base, 7 October 1949

Col Frederick E. Calhoun, 26 Nov 1949

Brig Gen Adlai H. Gilkeson, 29 Nov 1949

Brig Gen Robert W.C. Wamsatt, 27 May 1951

6319th Air Base Wing, 1 June 53 - 18 Jun 1954

Brig Gen Robert W.C. Wamsatt, 1 June 1953

Col Edwin G. Simenson, 12 Jun 1953

3d Air Division, 18 Jun 1954 - 1 Apr 1970

Maj Gen Joseph D. Caldara, 18 Jun 1954

Brig Gen Nils O. Ohman, 10 Feb 1955

Maj Gen Charles W. Schott, 1 Oct 1956

Lt Gen Richard M. Montgomery, 3 Sep 1958

Maj Gen John M. Reynolds, 2 Aug 1959

Maj General William C. Kingsbury, 7 Jul 1961

Brig General Harold W. Ohlke, 2 Jul 1963

Maj Gen William J. Crumm, 16 July 1965

Brig Gen John W. Kline, 7 Jul 1967

Lt Gen Selmon Willard Wells, 8 Jul 1967

Lt Gen Alvan C. Gillem II, 6 Jun 1968



314 BW



19 BG/BW



3 AD

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8th Air Force, 1 Jul 1970 – 1 Jan 1975

Lt Gen Alvan C. Gillem II, 1 Apr 1970
 Brig Gen Leo C. Lewis, 11 Jul 1970
 Lt Gen Sam J. Byerley, 1 Aug 1970
 Lt Gen Gerald W. Johnson, 14 Sep 1971
 Lt Gen George H. McKee, 1 Oct 1973
 Maj Gen Charles F. Minter Sr., 30 Aug 1974

3d Air Division, 1 Jan 1975 – 12 Sep 1988

Maj Gen Charles F. Minter Sr., 1 Jan 1975
 Maj General Thomas F. Rew, Aug. 20, 1975
 Maj Gen Hilding L. Jacobson Jr., Aug. 17, 1976
 Maj Gen Andrew Pringle, 30 Apr 1978
 Maj Gen Louis C. Buckman, 13 August 1979
 Maj Gen Stanley C. Beck, 12 Aug 1980
 Brig Gen Clarence R. Autery, 27 Aug 1982
 Lt Gen E.G. "Buck" Shuler Jr, July 1984
 Maj Gen Donald L. Marks, July 1986

(3d Air Div departed AAFB to Hickam, 12 Sep 1988)

13th Air Force, 2 Dec 1991 -- 1 May 2005

Maj Gen H. Hale Burr, Jr., 2 Dec 1991
 Lt Gen Richard T. Swope, 21 Jul 1994
 Maj Gen John R. Dallager, 22 Apr 1996
 Lt Gen Thomas C. Waskow, 20 Aug 1998
 Maj Gen Daniel M. Dick, May 1999
 Maj Gen Theodore W. "Bill" Lay II, 14 Nov 2000
 Lt Gen Dennis R. Larsen, 21 Sep 2002
 Gen Edward A. Rice, Jr., 24 Jan 2005

(13 AF departed AAFB to Hickam AFB, HI, 1 May 2005)

36th Air Expeditionary Wing, 20 Feb 2004

Col Paul K. White, 1 May 2005
 Maj Gen Michael Boera, Jun 2005

36th Wing, 15 Mar 2006 — Current

Lt Gen Douglas H. Owens, 25 Oct 2006
 Brig Gen Philip Rullman, 2 Sep 2008
 Brig Gen John W. Doucette, 25 Jun 2010
 Brig Gen Steven D. Garland, 26 Jun 2012
 Maj Gen Andrew J. Toth, 19 Jun 2014
 Brig Gen Douglas A. Cox, 6 May 2016
 Brig Gen Gentry W. Boswell, 8 Jun 2018
 Brig Gen Jeremy T. Sloane, 8 Jul 2020



8 AF



3 AD



13 AF



36TH WING

Other USAF Wing's assigned to Andersen AFB, Guam

6319th Air Base Wing (6319 ABW) , 1 Jun 1953 – 1 Apr 1955

3960th Air Base/Strategic Wing, 1 Apr 1955 – 1 Jul 1970

43d Strategic/Bomb Wing, 1 Jul 1970 – 1 Oct 1989

633d Air Base Wing, 1 Oct 1989 – 1 Oct 1994



3960 ABW



43 SW/BW



633 ABW