

Commander's Call Topics



April 14, 2016

Aircraft on the move

The Air Force recently made several announcements affecting F-35A basing. It also released its criteria for basing potential new RPA units, with the possibility of opening two MQ-9 locations.



• F-35 basing

- Eielson AFB, Alaska, was selected as the first F-35A host installation outside the Continental United States. With the addition of the two F-35A squadrons projected to arrive in 2020, the Air Force's fifth-generation fighter aircraft presence in the Pacific will double. For more, click [here](#).
- The Air Force also accelerated the arrival of F-35As to the 158th Fighter Wing in Burlington, Vermont, to 2019, making Burlington AGS the first F-35A Air National Guard Base. For more, click [here](#).
- The Air Force also released four candidate locations for the first Reserve-led F-35A location. The preferred and reasonable location selections are expected this fall; F-35As are slated to begin arriving at the first Reserve-led F-35A location by summer 2023.
- Basing criteria that will be used to select the next two Air National Guard squadrons was also released, and the F-35A aircraft are expected to arrive in 2022. For more, click [here](#).

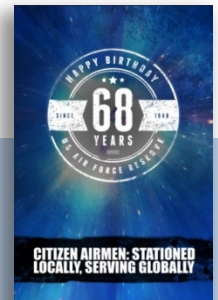


• RPA basing

- The Air Force is pursuing the possibility of establishing a new MQ-9 Reaper wing with units at up to two locations. The locations are expected to provide the opportunity to diversify assignment opportunities for MQ-9 personnel, provide increased opportunities for leadership and enhance integration with other organizations and capabilities. For more, click [here](#).

Happy birthday Air Force Reserve!

April 14 marked the 68th birthday of the Air Force Reserve. Originally formed as an emergency "stand by" force by President Harry Truman in 1948, the AFR now has five air reserve bases, 33 flying wings and more than 70,000 members. In 1997, the Air Force Reserve officially became the ninth major command, Air Force Reserve Command. For more information about the Air Force Reserve, click [here](#).



► RESOURCES

Website access to the following resources can be gained by clicking on the name.

AF.mil

[Airman magazine](#)

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[Air Force Personnel Center](#)

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► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

April 14, 1970 -- The Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile deployment in North Dakota began when Minot Air Force Base accepted its first missile. It arrived on board a C-141 Starlifter in a flight from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, in the first airlift of an operational Minuteman III.

April 15, 1972 -- The last F-100 Super Sabre left U.S. Air Forces in Europe.

April 16, 1969 -- The first Minuteman II ICBM operational test launch was unsuccessful.

April 17, 1989 -- Lockheed delivered the 50th and last C-5B Galaxy transport to the Air Force.

April 18, 1942 -- From the carrier USS Hornet, located 668 miles off Tokyo, Lt. Col. James H. Doolittle led 16 B-25 Mitchells in the first raid on Japan. The range of the mission caused the raiders to crash land in China. The attack caused little damage. However, the mission raised U.S. morale and reversed a trend of Japanese victories. Doolittle later received the Medal of Honor for leading the mission.

April 19, 1919 -- Leslie Leroy Irvin made the first successful parachute jump from an airplane.

April 20, 1966 -- Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, launched its last Titan II ICBM operational test vehicle.



The OPM data breach, massive in its identity theft implications, gives rise to other crimes, and often one crime can result in two more. For example, phishing scams can morph into credit card fraud and social security abuse. Learn how to protect yourself [here](#).

To learn more about the Office of Personnel Management data breach, legitimate assistance being provided to impacted individuals, and to understand cybersecurity as it is grounded in the Air Force tradition, please go to the specially created [Air Force Cybersecurity](#) web page.



For more information on Air Force heritage, visit <http://www.airforcehistory.af.mil>

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