

On its birthday, the Air Force celebrates nearly seven decades of providing airpower to the joint fight

The Air Force celebrates another year of existence following the National Security Act of 1947. Under President Harry S. Truman, the Army Air Forces formally cut ties with the Army to become a separate and equal military branch. We celebrate a proud history and heritage of American Airmen, a long-standing culture of innovation, the unique global aspects of airpower and the service's enduring contribution to national security.



Air Force milestones in the joint fight

- Operation Provide Promise to Bosnia/Herzegovina was the longest sustained humanitarian airlift in history.
- 123rd CRG became the first contingency response group in the Air National Guard that is fully capable of operating a Joint Task Force-Port Opening.
- Operation Guardian Retrieval, USAF aircraft evacuated U.S. citizens and other foreigners from Zaire.
- E-8C JSTARS completed 100 thousand combat hours (equivalent to 11.4 years of continuous flight).

Air, Space and Cyber Conference comes to D.C.

- The Air Force Association's Air, Space & Cyber Conference is Sept. 19-21 at National Harbor, Md.
- All personnel are encouraged to join the conversation at #ASC16
- Click [here](#) to view the live broadcast feed of Air Force Senior leaders during the conference. Also, you can go to www.af.mil and locate the graphic in the top right corner under 'Featured Events'.



► RESOURCES

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

[AF.mil](#)

[Airman magazine](#)

[Military OneSource/HomeFront](#)

[Air Force Personnel Center](#)

[Air Reserve Personnel Center](#)

[Department of Defense News](#)

[Department of Veteran Affairs](#)

[TRICARE](#)

[U.S. Government Website](#)

[Air Force Association
Scholarships](#)

[Air Force Safety Center](#)

[Civil Service Employment Opportunities](#)

[NAF Employment Opportunities](#)

[Air Force Bands/Outreach](#)

► THIS WEEK IN AIR FORCE HISTORY

September 15, 2001 – In the first five days after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, 35 Air National Guard fighter units supplied 603 sorties while the 18 ANG tanker wings flew 72 sorties to offload 3.2 million pounds of fuel during Operation Noble Eagle.

September 16, 1960 – From Cape Canaveral, Florida, a 1.5-ton reentry nose cone on an Atlas missile flew on a 5,000-mile test flight.

September 17, 1908 – Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, flying as a passenger with Orville Wright, died when the Wright Flyer crashed at Fort Myer, Virginia. This was the world's first fatal airplane accident, and Lt. Selfridge was the first military casualty. Mr. Wright also received serious injuries.

September 18, 1967 – Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara approved production of a "thin" Nike-X and ballistic missile to give regions in the U.S. at least one battery of warhead interceptors.

September 19, 1972 – A Minuteman III completed its first operational test launch from a regular launch facility at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.

September 20, 1957 – Gen. Thomas D. White, CSAF, announced that radar units could detect intercontinental ballistic missiles at a distance of 3,000 miles.

September 21, 1952 – During the Korean War, F-86 Sabre pilot Capt. Robinson Risner destroyed two MiG-15s to become an ace when the enemy responded to an attack on the Pukchong munitions plant by 41 F-84 Thunderjets.



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>

The Defense Media Activity produces **Commander's Call Topics** weekly. For questions or comments about this or any other DMA product, send an e-mail to afbiographies.dma@mail.mil

Subscribe to AF news and information products, go to <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDODAF/subscriber/new>