

SERVICE TO OUR NATION
2ND LT. Anthony J. Goode

UNITED STATES ARMY AIR FORCES



Aviation Cadet Program (1941–1961 / 1965)

On 20 June 1941, the air arm of the US Army became the "US Army Air Forces" (USAAF). The grade of Aviation Cadet was created for pilot candidates, and the program was renamed the Aviation Cadet Training Program (AvCad). The program was expanded to also cover training navigators and bombardiers and Moffett Field became the first center to give "pre-flight" training to navigators and bombardiers. Later non-rated specialties covered included communications, armament, meteorology, and radar operation.

From 1941 to 1961 Aviation Cadets wore the same uniform as Army officers, except they lacked the mohair cuffband of a full officer. The service cap differed in that it had a blue hatband (with Olive Drab uniform) or brown hatband (with Khaki uniform) and the General Issue eagle was replaced by the winged propeller insignia of the Army Air Force. They were paid \$75 a month – the same rate as Army Air Corps Privates with flight status. As junior officers, cadets were addressed as "Mister" by all ranks.

1940–1945

Cadet flight training was reduced in 1940 to seven months of training and only 200 Flight Hours to meet a potential demand for military pilots.

In August 1941 the minimum age for cadets was dropped from 21 to 18. The requirements for a 4-year college degree or at least 2 years of college was dropped to a high school diploma and graduating at the top of their class, later dropping to possession of a high school diploma in November 1942. After demand lifted in mid-1944, the requirements went back to college-educated or college-graduated candidates.

Graduating cadets who lacked a college education were graded as Flight Staff Sergeants, with cadets who graduated at the top of their class being graded as Flight Technical Sergeants; and nicknamed Flying Sergeants. They were usually assigned to flying transport and liaison aircraft. Their pilot status was only indicated by their pilot's wings, often leading to enlisted aviators being mistaken for air crew or harassed for impersonating a pilot. This caused a lot of bad feelings between the enlisted pilots (who had more dangerous jobs for lower pay and no privileges) and the officer pilots (who received the same pay, promotability, and privileges as officers). When the education requirements dropped in 1942, all enlisted pilots were promoted to the rank of Flight Officer and graduating enlisted cadets were graded as Flight Officers or Second Lieutenants depending on merit.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor and the United States entry into the war, the number of volunteers for pilot training was enormous. Fearing that they would lose them to the general draft, aviation cadet-applicants were given exemption from 1942 until 1944.

Demand for pilots meant that training had to be modified to accommodate the large numbers of pilot candidates. Training came in four stages (extended to five stages in April 1942 with the creation of the Pre-Flight stage). Classification lasted 1 week and the education and training stages were 9 weeks each. Each 9 week stage was divided into two 4.5 week (63 day) halves: a lower half and an upper half. The lower half was made up of students just beginning the stage and the upper half was made up of the students who were half-finished. The more experienced cadets would (hopefully) help the new cadets get through the section before they were promoted to the next stage.

- Classification stage processed the cadet and issued him his equipment. This was the stage where it would be decided whether the cadet would train as a navigator, bombardier, or pilot. Candidates who failed the advanced physical were returned to the regular Army.
- Pre-Flight stage was divided into two parts and was attended by pilots, navigators, and bombardiers. The first 6 weeks concentrated on athletics and military training. This was followed by 3 weeks of academics. They were taught the mechanics and physics of flight and required the cadets to pass refresher courses in mathematics and physics. Then the cadets were taught to apply their knowledge practically by teaching them aeronautics, deflection shooting, and thinking in three dimensions.

Pilot School

1. Primary Pilot Training taught basic flight using two-seater training aircraft. This was usually done by Contract Schools (civilian pilot training schools) through the *Civil Aeronautics Authority – War Training Service* (CAA-WTS). Cadets got around 60 to 65 Flight Hours in Stearman, Ryan, or Fairchild trainers before going to Basic.
2. Basic Pilot Training taught the cadets to fly in formation, fly by instruments or by aerial navigation, fly at night, and fly for long distances. Cadets got about 70 Flight Hours before being promoted to Advanced.
3. Advanced Pilot Training placed the graduates in two categories: single-engined and multi-engined. Single-engined pilots flew fighters and fighter-bombers. Multi-engined pilots learned to fly transports and bombers. First they flew Trainer aircraft, then transitioned to front-line aircraft. Cadets were supposed to get a total of about 75 to 80 Flight Hours before graduating.

Graduates were usually graded as Flight Officers (Warrant Officers). Cadets who graduated at the top of their class were graded as Second Lieutenants. Aviation Cadets who washed out of pilot training were sent to navigator or bombardier school. Aviation Cadets who washed out of navigator or bombardier training were usually sent to gunnery school.

Liaison Pilot School lasted 60 flight hours. It was an option for cadets who had passed Primary training, but had washed out of Basic or Advanced. They were trained to fly single-engined light aircraft similar to the light trainers they flew in Primary and were given training in takeoffs over obstacles, short-field landings, and low-altitude navigation. Their duties included transportation of troops and supplies, medical evacuation, aerial photography, and low-level reconnaissance. Graduates received Liaison Pilot wings. They were originally graded as Flight Staff Sergeants until 1942, when they were graded as Flight Officers.

Bombardier School lasted 18 weeks. It consisted of 425 hours of ground instruction in the proficiencies of a bombardier (plus familiarity with the tasks of the pilot, radioman, or navigator in case of an emergency). After 3 weeks this included 120 hours of air training in which the cadet began with practice runs and ended by performing bombing runs with live ordnance. Graduates received a Bombardier's wings.

Navigator School lasted 18 weeks. It consisted of 500 hours of ground instruction in the duties of a Navigator (charting, directional bearings, computed headings, airspeed, radio codes, celestial navigation, etc.). This was combined with familiarity with the tasks of a pilot or radioman in case of emergency. After 4 weeks the cadet acted as a navigator in day and night flights. Graduates received a Navigator's wings.

Flexible Gunnery School was a 6 week program that taught the cadet how to man a flexible-mount machinegun or a powered turret. All aircrew had to attend Gunnery School in case of emergencies and had to qualify before they could join an aircrew. Bombardiers and Navigators attended either before or after they attended their training school.



The United States Army Air Forces (USAAF) was the military aviation arm of the United States of America during and immediately after World War II, and the direct predecessor of the United States Air Force.

The AAF was a component of the United States Army, which in 1942 was divided functionally by executive order into three autonomous forces: the Army Ground Forces, the Services of Supply (which in 1943 became the Army Service Forces), and the AAF. Each of these forces had a commanding general who reported directly to the Chief of Staff of the United States Army. The AAF controlled all parts of military aviation formerly distributed among the Air Corps, General Headquarters Air Force, and ground forces corps area commanders, and thus became the first air organization of the U.S. Army to control its own installations.

The peak size of the AAF was over 2.4 million men and women in service and nearly 80,000 aircraft in 1944, and 783 domestic bases in December 1943. By VE Day it had 1.25 million men stationed overseas and operated from more than 1,600 airfields worldwide.

The Air Corps became the Army Air Forces in June 1941 to provide the air arm a greater autonomy in which to expand more efficiently, and to provide a structure for the additional command echelons required by a vastly increased force. Although other nations already had separate air forces independent of the army or navy (such as the British Royal Air Force and the German *Luftwaffe*), the USAAF remained a part of the United States Army until the United States Air Force came into being in September 1947.

13TH AIR FORCE



The **Thirteenth Air Force (13 AF)** was a numbered air force of the United States Air Force Pacific Air Forces (PACAF). It was last headquartered at Hickam Air Force Base on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. 13 AF has never been stationed in the continental United States. It was one of the oldest continuously-active numbered air forces in the United States Air Force.

The command plans, commands and controls, delivers, and assesses air, space, and information operations in the Asia-Pacific region—excluding the Korea theater of operations—across the security spectrum from peacetime engagement to major combat operations.

Established on 14 December 1942 at Plaine Des Gaiacs Airfield, on New Caledonia, 13 AF was a United States Army Air Forces combat air force deployed to the Pacific Theater of World War II. It engaged in operations primarily in the South Pacific, attacking enemy forces in the Solomon Islands, Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaigns; Mariana and Palau Islands campaigns and the Philippines campaign (1944–45).

Stations

- Plaine Des Gaiacs Airfield, New Caledonia, Melanesia (January 1943)
- Pekoia Airfield, Espiritu Santo, New Hebrides, (January 1943 – January 1944)
- Carney Airfield, Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, (January – June 1944)
- **Momote Airfield, Los Negros, Admiralty Islands, (June – September 1944)**
- Hollandia, New Guinea (September 1944)
- Hollandia Airfield, Netherlands East Indies, (September – October 1944)
- Wama Airfield, Morotai, Netherlands East Indies, (October 1944 – March 1945)
- Clark AAFld, Luzon, Philippines, (March 1945 – January 1946)
- Fort William McKinley, Luzon, Philippines, 30 May 1946
- Clark Field, Luzon, Philippines, 15 August 1947
- Kadena AB, Okinawa, 1 December 1948
- Clark AFB (Later Clark Air Base), Luzon, Philippines, 16 May 1949
- Andersen AFB, Guam, 2 December 1991–May 2005
- Hickam AFB, Hawaii, May 2005–28 Sep 2012

XIII Bomber Command

Activated on 13 January 1943. Served in combat with Thirteenth AF until the end of the war. Inactivated in the Philippines on 15 March 1946. Disbanded on 8 October 1948.

Groups

- **5th Bombardment Group (1943–46) (B-17, B-24)**
(Deployed to Espiritu Santo in November 1942, reassigned from Seventh Air Force in January 1943).
- 11th Bombardment Group (1943) (B-17, B-24)
(Deployed to New Hebrides in July 1942, reassigned from Seventh Air Force in January 1943. Reassigned back to Seventh Air Force, May 1943 and transferred to Hawaii)
- 42d Bombardment Group (1943–45) (B-25, B-26)
(Reassigned from Second Air Force antisubmarine patrol duty, March 1943)
- 307th Bombardment Group (1943–45) (B-17, B-24)
(Reassigned from Seventh Air Force, February 1943)
- 868th Bombardment Squadron (Unattached) (1944–45) (B-24)
Formerly 349th Bomb Squadron, 5th Bomb Group. The planes flown by the 868th were often called SB-24s and sometimes LABs (Low Altitude Bomber). They were equipped with SRC-717-B search and navigation radar. Formed into 868th Bomb Squadron in January 1944 and operated independently within the 13th AF.

OPERATIONAL HISTORY

Thirteenth Air Force began operations in November 1942 as an organization composed of many widely separated Seventh Air Force and independent units scattered in the South Central Pacific during the Solomon Islands campaign.

Initially charged with taking a defensive stand against advancing enemy forces, Thirteenth Air Force later took the offensive flying a variety of aircraft, including the B-17 Flying Fortress, B-24 Liberator, B-25 Mitchell, B-26 Marauder, P-38 Lightning, P-39 Airacobra, P-40 Warhawk, P-61 Black Widow, C-46 Commando, C-47 Skytrain, and L-5 Sentinel.

It was Thirteenth Air Force P-38Gs of the 339th Fighter Squadron of the 347th Fighter Group which, on 18 April 1943, flew the mission which resulted in the death of Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto.

From 1942–1945, Thirteenth Air Force staged out of tropical jungles on more than 40 remote islands including the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign; Mariana and Palau Islands campaign and the Philippines campaign (1944–45), thus earning the nickname, "The Jungle Air Force." The command's units participated in a total of five different operation areas and 13 campaigns.

Thirteenth Air Force along with Fifth Air Force in Australia and Seventh Air Force in Hawaii were assigned to the newly created United States Far East Air Forces (FEAF) on 3 August 1944. FEAF was subordinate to the U.S. Army Forces Far East and served as the headquarters of Allied Air Forces Southwest Pacific Area. By 1945, three numbered air forces—5th, 7th and 13th—were supporting operations in the Pacific. FEAF was the functional equivalent in the Pacific of the United States Strategic Air Forces (USSTAF) in the European Theater of Operations.

After hostilities ended in 1945, Thirteenth Air Force established its headquarters at Clark Field, Philippines, in January 1946. In May of that year, it moved to Fort William McKinley, Luzon. By August 1947, 13AF returned to Clark Field. In December 1948, the unit moved to Kadena, Okinawa, where it remained for only a few months before returning to Clark in May 1949.

5TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP



The 5th Bombardment Group suffered devastating casualties and equipment damage during the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Hickam Field and other targets on the island of Oahu on 7 December 1941. However, the group's aircrews went on to become the first U.S. military forces to take to the air following the attack.

Assigned to Seventh Air Force in February 1942. Engaged primarily in search and patrol missions off Hawaii from December 1941 to November 1942. In Hawaii, the B-17E-equipped 5th and 11th Bombardment Groups were used in the Battle of Midway to attack Japanese surface fleets. High-altitude bombing attacks against moving ships capable of evasive action proved to be completely unsuccessful at Midway. Although several attacks were made by the B-17s, none of their bombs actually hit a single Japanese ship. An attack against naval vessels at sea was found to be a job best done by low-altitude B-25 Mitchell/B-26 Marauder medium bombers or by Douglas A-24 Banshee dive bombers.

Left Hawaii in November 1942 and, operating primarily from Pekoa Airfield, Espírito Santo in the New Hebrides Islands with a mix of B-17 and B-24 aircraft, served in combat with Thirteenth Air Force during the Allied drive from the Solomons to the Philippines. Flew long patrol and photographic missions over the Solomon Islands and the Coral Sea, attacked Japanese shipping off Guadalcanal, and raided airfields in the northern Solomons until August 1943. Then struck enemy bases and installations on Bougainville, New Britain, and New Ireland.

The group moved between various bases in the Southwest Pacific and by mid-1943, most B-17s were withdrawn in favor of the longer-ranged Consolidated B-24 Liberator. The B-24 was better suited for operations in the Pacific, having a higher speed and a larger bombload at medium altitudes. In addition, the losses in Europe were reaching such magnitudes that the entire B-17 production was urgently needed for replacements and training in that theatre.

Raided the heavily defended Japanese base on Woleai during April and May 1944 and received a Distinguished Unit Citation for the action. Helped to neutralize enemy bases on Yap and in the Truk and Palau Islands, June–August 1944, preparatory to the invasion of Peleliu and Leyte. Flew missions to the Netherlands Indies, receiving a DUC for an attack, conducted through heavy flak and fighter defenses, on oil installations at Balikpapan, Borneo, on 30 September 1944. Completed a variety of missions from October 1944 until the end of the war, these operations including raids on enemy bases and installations on Luzon, Ceram, Halmahera, and Formosa; support for ground forces in the Philippines and Borneo; and patrols off the China coast. Moved to the Philippines in 1945 till the end of the war.

During the nearly four years of war, the group participated in 10 major campaigns, flew more than 1,000 combat missions and earned two Distinguished Unit Citations and the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation. During the time, its members accumulated more than 13,300 medals and decorations.

72ND BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON



Lineage

- Organized as 72nd Aero Squadron on 18 Feb 1918. Demobilized on 11 Jul 1919. Reconstituted, and consolidated (1924) with the 72nd Bombardment Squadron, which was constituted on 6 Feb 1923. Activated on 1 May 1923.
- Redesignated: 72nd Bombardment Squadron (Medium) on 6 Dec 1939; **72nd Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 20 Nov 1940**; 72nd Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on 6 Mar 1944; 72nd Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, on 30 Apr 1946. Inactivated on 10 Mar 1947.
- Redesignated: 72nd Reconnaissance Squadron, Very Long Range, Photographic, on 16 Sep 1947. Activated on 13 Oct 1947.
- Redesignated: 72nd Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Photographic, on 23 Feb 1949; 72nd Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Heavy, on 14 Nov 1950; 72nd Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on 1 Oct 1955. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 Feb 1963.
- Redesignated: 72nd Bomb Squadron on 30 Nov 1994. Activated on 1 Dec 1994. Inactivated on 1 Jul 1996.
- Redesignated: 72nd Test and Evaluation Squadron on 1 Nov 1998. Activated on 20 Nov 1998.

Assignments

- Unkn, 18 Feb-Sep 1918; 1st Air Depot, Sep 1918-Jun 1919; unkn, Jun-11 Jul 1919. 5th Composite Group, 1 May 1923; 19th Bombardment Group (attached to 5th Composite Group), 24 Jun 1932; **5th Bombardment (later, 5th Reconnaissance) Group, 12 Oct 1938-10 Mar 1947**.
- Alaskan Air Command, 13 Oct 1947; 311th Air Division, 1 Apr 1949; 5th Strategic Reconnaissance Group, 28 Jun 1949 (attached to 5th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 10 Feb 1951-15 Jun 1952); 5th Strategic Reconnaissance (later, 5th Bombardment) Wing, 16 Jun 1952; 4134th Strategic Wing, 1 Jul 1958-1 Feb 1963.
- 5th Operations Group, 1 Dec 1994-1 Jul 1996. 53rd Test and Evaluation Group 20 Nov 1998.

Stations - Waco, TX, 18 Feb 1918; Rich Field, TX, 23 Feb 1918; Garden City, NY, 16 Jul-13 Aug 1918; St Maixent, France, 4 Sep 1918; Delouze, France, 20 Sep 1918; Colombey-les-Belles, France, 30 Sep 1918-Jun 1919 (detachment at Bar-le-Duc, 4 Oct-1 Dec 1918); Mitchel Field, NY, c. 29 Jun-11 Jul 1919. Luke Field, TH, 1 May 1923; Hickam Field, TH, 4 Jan 1939; Bellows Field, TH, 11 Dec 1941-18 Sep 1942; **Espiritu Santo, 24 Sep 1942 (operated from Guadalcanal, 4 Oct 1942-8 Aug 1943; 7 Oct-15 Nov 1943; 13 Dec 1943-27 Jan 1944); Munda, New Georgia, 9 Jan 1944; Momote Airfield, Los Negros, 15 Apr 1944; Wadke, c. 19 Aug 1944**; Noemfoor, 27 Sep 1944; Morotai, 24 Oct 1944; Samar, 20 Mar 1945; Clark Field, Luzon, Dec 1945-10 Mar 1947. Ladd Field, AK, 13 Oct 1947; Mountain Home AFB, ID, 28 Jun 1949; Fairfield-Suisun (later, Travis) AFB, CA, 9 Nov 1949 (deployed at: RAF Station Sculthorpe, England, 31 May -15 Nov 1950; Andersen AFB, Guam, 14 Jan-12 Apr 1955); Mather AFB, CA, 1 Jul 1958-1 Feb 1963. Minot AFB, ND, 1 Dec 1994-1 Jul 1996. Whiteman AFB, MO, 20 Nov 1998-.

Commanders - Lt William Henel, Jr., 18 Feb 1918; Lt George L. Twigg, 20 Jul 1918; unkn, Jan-11 Jul 1919. Capt Ross G. Hoyt, 1 May 1923; unkn, 1924-Feb 1926; Capt Clyde V. Finter, by (Mar) 1926; unkn, 1926-

1928; Capt Harry C. Drayton, by (1929); unkn, 1930-1934; Maj John V. Hart, by (12) Jan 1935; Capt Ford J. Laur, 3 Sep 1935; Maj Idwald H. Edwards, 23 Oct 1935; Lt. Paul E. Ruestow, Jul 1937; Maj Oliver P. Gothlin, Jr., 4 Sep 1937; Capt Robert F. Travis, Jun 1939; Maj Archibald Hanna, by (11 Dec) 1941; Maj Jay D. Rutledge, Jr., Jan 1942; Maj Donald E. Ridings, 23 Mar 1942; Maj Marshall R. Gray, 26 Jun 1942; Lt Col Donald E. Ridings, by (18 Sep) 1942; Maj Narce Whitaker, 1 Dec 1942; unkn, 12 Apr-14 Jun 1943; Maj Byron M. Sansom, Jr., 15 Jun 1943; Maj Charles L. Peirce, 15 Nov 1943; **Maj Gerald M. Cass, 4 Feb 1944**; Maj Leo L. Hunt, 5 May 1944; Capt D. G. Dougherty, 14 Aug 1944; Maj Norman C. Wahlstron, 4 Nov 1944; Maj Christopher Goldsbury, 21 Feb 1945; Maj Lee R. Williams, 26 Apr 1945; unkn, Oct-Dec 1945; none (not manned), Jan 1946-10 Mar 1947. Maj Maynard E. White, 13 Oct 1947; Lt Col Charles S. Overstreet, 12 Aug 1948; Capt William R. Vaughan, 3 Apr 1949; Lt Col Donald M. Hyland, 3 May 1949; Lt Col Martin B. Schofield, 2 Dec 1949; Lt Col Clarence E. Becker, 1 Jun 1952; Lt Col Robert J. Ray, 3 Jan 1954; Lt Col Holly W. Anderson, c. 30 Sep 1955; Maj Rowan M. Perkins, 3 Apr 1957; Lt Col Ray M. Watkins, 1 Jul 1957; Lt Col Harry D. Gilpin, by (Dec) 1961-1 Feb 1963. None (not manned), 1 Dec 1994-Jan 1995; Lt Col Edward T. Dixon, 6 Jan 1995-1 Jul 1996.

Aircraft. In addition to DH-4, included NBS-1 and LB-5 during period 1923-1929; primarily B-4, B-5, and LB-6 during period 1929-1936; B-12, 1936-1938; B-18, 1938-1942; B-17, 1941, 1942-1943; **B-24, 1943-1945**. B-29, 1947-1951; F-13, 1947-1948; RB-36, 1951-1955; B/RB-36, 1955-1958; B-52, 1958-1963. B-52, 1995-1996.

Operations. Air park in Zone of Advance, 1918-1919. Bombed lava flowing from Mauna Loa, thus diverting it from the city of Hilo, 27 Dec 1935. Patrols over the Pacific, 7 Dec 1941-Sep 1942 and 8 Aug-2 Oct 1943. **Combat in South and Southwest Pacific, 26 Sep 1942-6 Aug 1943; 4 Oct-15 Nov 1943; 24 Dec 1943-2 Apr 1944**; and in Southwest and Western Pacific, 18 Apr 1944-12 Aug 1945. Flew mapping reconnaissance missions over Arctic frontiers, 1947-1949 and long range strategic reconnaissance missions, 1950-1954. Maintained capability to deliver nuclear or conventional bombs world-wide, 1955-1963 and 1995-1996.

Service Streamers. World War I Theater of Operations.

Campaign Streamers. *World War II*: Central Pacific; Guadalcanal; China Defensive; **New Guinea**; Northern Solomons; Eastern Mandates; **Bismarck Archipelago**; **Western Pacific**; Leyte; Luzon; Southern Philippines; China Offensive; Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None.

Decorations. **Distinguished Unit Citations: Woleai Island, 18 Apr-15 May 1944**; Borneo, 30 Sep 1944. Presidential Unit Citation (Navy): [1942]. Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII). Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 13 Oct 1947-1 Jun 1949; 6 Jan 1995-31 May 1996.

Commanders, Aircraft, and Operations through Dec 1996.

Emblem. Sable, three storm clouds one and two issuing to base from the upper cloud and behind the sinister cloud two lightning flashes palewise forming the numeral "72" Argent; all within a diminished bordure of the last. Approved on 14 Feb 1924.

SECOND LIEUTENANT



In the United States, Second Lieutenant is the normal entry-level rank for most commissioned officers.

In the Army and Marine Corps, a second lieutenant typically commands a platoon-size element (16 to 44 soldiers or Marines). In the Army, the rank bore no insignia other than a brown sleeve braid on blouses and an officer's cap device and hat cord until December 1917, when a gold bar similar to the silver bar of a first lieutenant was introduced. Air Force ranks duties of the second lieutenant are mainly focused in the supervision of flights of different sizes depending on his field of career. He may also perform duties as a flight commander or as an assistant flight commander. He may work as well in different administrative positions in squadrons, groups or wing level.

NAVIGATOR



The **Navigator Badge** is a military qualification badge of the United States Armed Forces which was first created during the Second World War. The current USAF badge is designated by Air Force Instructions as the **Navigator/Observer Badge** and is issued to rated officers in both rating categories. In 2009, it was renamed as the Combat Systems Officer badge.

The badge recognizes the Aeronautical Rating of Navigator, now Combat Systems Officer. The original Navigator badge was a successor to the Observer Badge, which was issued to military aviation navigators in the 1920s and 1930s. With an increase in aircraft technology, however, the Navigator, Bombardier, Engineer, and Gunner badges were created to recognize the advanced training and qualifications required of various aircrew members.

The original Navigator badge was issued by the U.S. Army Air Forces and consisted of an armillary sphere centered between two wings. The badge was similar to the Aviator Badge and the Aircrew Badge. On July 26, 1947, the U.S. Air Force became a separate Branch of Service in the U.S. armed forces. and in late 1951 the Aircraft Observer, Navigator, and Bombardier badges were replaced with a single design, with the Air Force shield centered between two wings. At the same time, the aeronautical ratings of Navigator and Bombardier were merged into a single rating. The Aircraft Observer rating continued for Electronic Warfare Officers (EWOs), but eventually EWOs were awarded the Navigator-Bombardier aeronautical rating.



Purple Heart



1. Description: A Purple heart within a Gold border, 1 3/8 inches wide, containing a profile of General George Washington. Above the heart appears a shield of the Washington Coat of Arms (a White shield with two Red bars and three Red stars in chief) between sprays of Green leaves. The reverse consists of a raised Bronze heart with the words "FOR MILITARY MERIT" below the coat of arms and leaves.

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/8 inch White 67101; 1 1/8 inches Purple 67115; and 1/8 inch White 67101.

3. Criteria: a. The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of an Armed Force who, while serving with the U.S. Armed Services after 5 April 1917, has been wounded or killed, or who has died or may hereafter die after being wounded;

- (1) In any action against an enemy of the United States;
- (2) In any action with an opposing armed force of a foreign country in which the Armed Forces of the United States are or have been engaged;
- (3) While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party;
- (4) As a result of an act of any such enemy of opposing armed forces;
- (5) As the result of an act of any hostile foreign force;
- (6) After 28 March 1973, as a result of an international terrorist attack against the United States or a foreign nation friendly to the United States, recognized as such an attack by the Secretary of the department concerned, or jointly by the Secretaries of the departments concerned if persons from more than one department are wounded in the attack; or,
- (7) After 28 March 1973, as a result of military operations, while serving outside the territory of the United States as part of a peacekeeping force.
- (8) After 7 December 1941, by weapon fire while directly engaged in armed conflict, regardless of the fire causing the wound.
- (9) a. While held as a prisoner of war or while being taken captive.
b. Award is made must have required treatment by a medical officer.

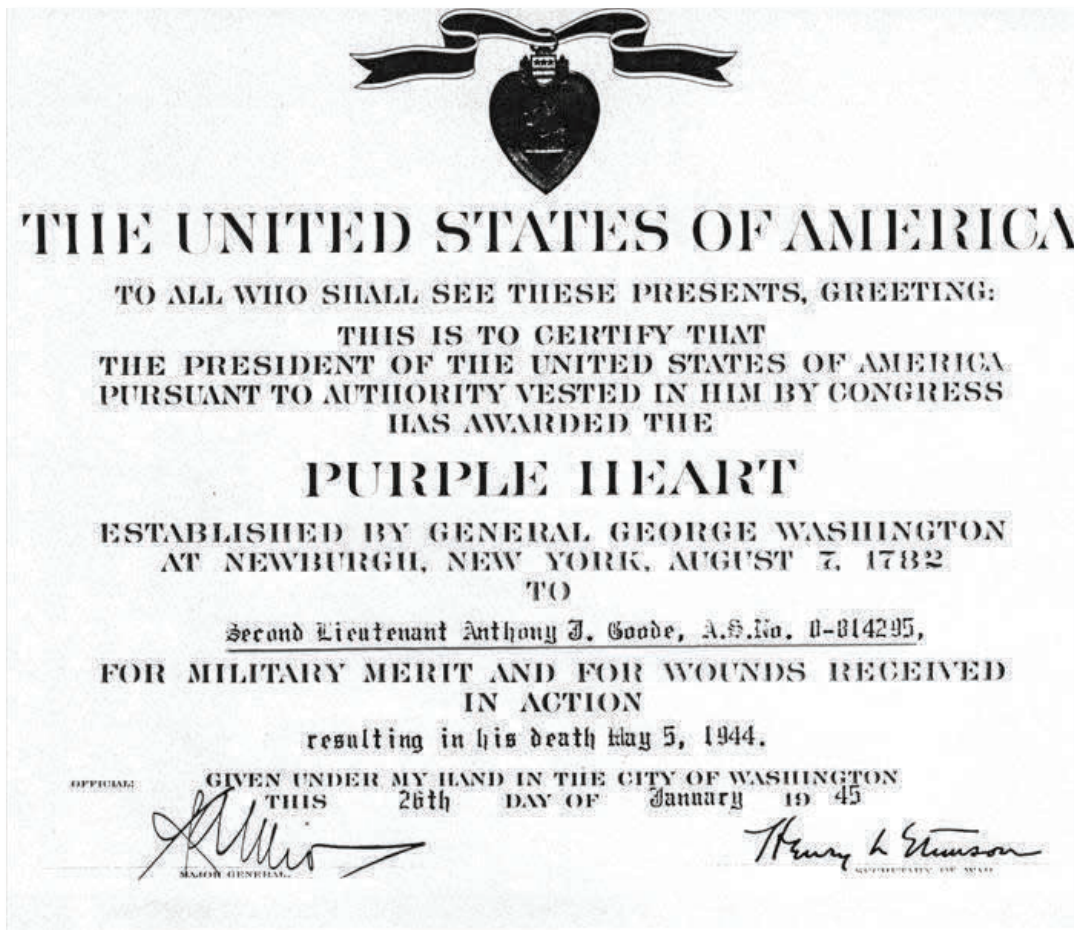
4. Components:

- a. Decoration (regular size): MIL-D-3943/24; NSN for set 8455-00-269-5757; individual medal 8455-00-246-3833.
- b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943//24.
- c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/126. NSN 8455-00-9948.
- d. Lapel Button (metal replica of ribbon bar): MIL-L-11484/18. NSN 8455-00-253-0818.

5. Background:

- a. The original Purple Heart, designated as the Badge of Military Merit, was established by General George Washington by order from his headquarters at Newburgh, New York, August 7, 1782. The writings of General Washington quoted in part:
- b. "The General ever desirous to cherish a virtuous ambition in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of Military Merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings over the left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding. Not only instances of unusual gallantry, but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service in any way shall meet with a due reward".
- c. So far as the known surviving records show, this honor badge was granted to only three men, all of them noncommissioned officers: Sergeant Daniel Bissell of the 2d Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line; Sergeant William Brown of the 5th Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Line, and Sergeant Elijah Churchill of the 2d Continental Dragoons, which was also a Connecticut Regiment. The original Purple Heart depicted on the first page is a copy of the badge awarded to Sergeant Elijah Churchill and is now owned by the New Windsor Cantonment, National Temple Hill Association, PO Box 525, Vails Gate, NY 12584. The only other known original badge is the badge awarded to Sergeant William Brown and is in the possession of The Society of the Cincinnati, New Hampshire Branch but differs in design by not having any lettering embroidered on the heart and the leaves are at the top only with a larger spray of leaves at the base.
- d. Subsequent to the Revolution, the Order of the Purple Heart had fallen into disuse and no further awards were made. By Order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart was revived on the 200th Anniversary of George Washington's birth, out of respect to his memory and military achievements, by War Department General Orders No. 3, dated 22 February 1932. The criteria was announced in War Department Circular dated 22 February 1932 and authorized award to soldiers, upon their request, who had been awarded the Meritorious Service Citation Certificate or were authorized to wear wound chevrons subsequent to 5 April 1917.
- e. During the early period of World War II (7 Dec 41 to 22 Sep 43), the Purple Heart was awarded both for wounds received in action against the enemy and for meritorious performance of duty. With the establishment of the Legion of Merit, by an Act of Congress, the practice of awarding the Purple Heart for meritorious service was discontinued. By Executive Order 9277, dated 3 December 1942, the decoration was extended to be applicable to all services and the order required that regulations of the Services be uniform in application as far as practicable. This executive order also authorized award only for wounds received.
- f. Executive Order 10409, dated 12 February 1952, revised authorizations to include the Service Secretaries subject to approval of the Secretary of Defense. Executive Order 11016, dated 25 April 1962, included provisions for posthumous award of the Purple Heart. Executive Order 12464, dated 23 February 1984, authorized award of the Purple Heart as a result of terrorist attacks or while serving as part of a peacekeeping force subsequent to 28 March 1973.

- g. The Senate approved an amendment to the 1985 Defense Authorization Bill on 13 June 1985, which changed the precedent from immediately above the Good Conduct Medal to immediately above the Meritorious Service Medals. Public Law 99-145 authorized the award for wounds received as a result of "friendly fire". Public Law 104-106 expanded the eligibility date, authorizing award of the Purple Heart to a former prisoner of war who was wounded before 25 April 1962.
- h. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1998 (Public Law 105-85) changed the criteria to delete authorization for award of the Purple Heart Medal to any civilian national of the United States while serving under competent authority in any capacity with the Armed Forces. This change was effective 18 May 1998.
- i. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.





Air Medal



1. Description: A bronze compass rose 1 11/16 inches circumscribing diameter and charged with an eagle volant carrying two lightning flashes in its talons. A fleur-de-lis at the top point holds the suspension ring. The points of the compass rose on the reverse are modeled with the central portion plain for engraving the name of the recipient.

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/8 inch ultramarine blue 67118; 1/4 inch golden orange 67109; center 5/8 inch ultramarine blue; 1/4 inch golden orange; and 1/8 inch ultramarine blue.

3. Criteria: The Air Medal is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the armed forces of the United States, shall have distinguished himself by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight. Awards may be made to recognize single acts of merit or heroism or for meritorious service. Award of the Air Medal is primarily intended to recognize those personnel who are on current crew member or non-crew member flying status which requires them to participate in aerial flight on a regular and frequent basis in the performance of their primary duties. However, it may also be awarded to certain other individuals whose combat duties require regular and frequent flying in other than a passenger status or individuals who perform a particularly noteworthy act while performing the function of a crew member but who are not on flying status. These individuals must make a discernible contribution to the operational land combat mission or to the mission of the aircraft in flight. Examples of personnel whose combat duties require them to fly include those in the attack elements of units involved in air-land assaults against an armed enemy and those directly involved in airborne command and control of combat operations. Involvement in such activities, normally at the brigade/group level and below, serves only to establish eligibility for award of the Air Medal; the degree of heroism, meritorious achievement or exemplary service determines who should receive the award. Awards will not be made to individuals who use air transportation solely for the purpose of moving from point to point in a combat zone.

4. Components: The following are authorized components of the Air Medal and the applicable specifications for each:

- a. Decoration (regular size): MIL-D-3943/23. NSN for decoration set is 8455-00-269-5747. For replacement medal NSN 8455-00-246-3837.
- b. Decoration (miniature size): MIL-D-3943/23. NSN 8455-00-996-5002.

- c. Ribbon: MIL-R-11589/7. NSN 8455-00-252-9963.
- d. Lapel Button: MIL-L-11484/17. NSN 8455-00-257-4308.

5. Background:

- a. In a letter from the Secretary of War to the Director, Bureau of Budget, dated 9 March 1942, the Secretary submitted a proposed executive order establishing the Air Medal for award to any person who, while serving in any capacity of the Army of the United States, distinguishes himself by meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight. The Secretary of War, in his request, stated "The Distinguished Flying Cross is available only for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight...It is desired not to cheapen the Distinguished Flying Cross by awarding it for achievement not bordering on the heroic. It is, however, important to reward personnel for meritorious service."
- b. The Air Medal was authorized by President Roosevelt by Executive Order 9158, dated 11 May 1942, and established the award for "any person who, while serving in any capacity in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States subsequent to September 8, 1939, distinguishes, or has distinguished, himself by meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight." Authorization was announced in War Department Bulletin No. 25, dated 25 May 1942. Executive Order 9242-A, dated 11 September 1942 amended the previous Executive Order to read "in any capacity in or with the Army".
- c. In July 1942, the Office of The Quartermaster General (OQMG), forwarded a letter to twenty-two artists offering an opportunity to submit designs for consideration. The design selected was submitted by Walker Hancock and approved by the Secretary of War on 31 December 1942. The designer, Walker Hancock, had been inducted into the Army and assigned to Camp Livingston, Louisiana. He was ordered to temporary duty effective 16 November 1942 to G1 War Department to work on the medal. The Chief of Staff approved the ribbon design prepared by OQMG on 26 August 1942.
- d. Oak leaf clusters were initially used to denote subsequent awards of the Air Medal. The number of additional awards were so great that the oak leaf clusters did not fit on the ribbon. As a result, the policy was changed in September 1968 to require the use of numbers to indicate subsequent awards of the Air Medal.
- e. The Air Medal may be awarded for service during peacetime; however, approval authority for peacetime awards is not delegated to field commanders.
- f. Order of precedence and wear of decorations is contained in Army Regulation (AR) 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, supply, and issue of decorations is contained in AR 600-8-22.





Presidential Unit Citation Army/Air Force

1. Description: The Presidential Unit Citation emblem worn to represent award of the Presidential Unit Citation is 1 7/16 inches wide and 9/16 inch in height. The emblem consists of a 1/16 inch wide Gold frame with laurel leaves which encloses an Ultramarine Blue 67118 ribbon.

2. Criteria: The Presidential Unit Citation is awarded to units of the Armed Forces of the United States and co-belligerent nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy occurring on or after 7 December 1941. The unit must display such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would warrant award of a Distinguished Service Cross to an individual. Extended periods of combat duty or participation in a large number of operational missions, either ground or air is not sufficient. This award will normally be earned by units that have participated in single or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans. It is not reasonable to presume that entire units can sustain Distinguished Service Cross performance for extended time periods except under the most unusual circumstances. Only on rare occasions will a unit larger than battalion qualify for award of this decoration.

3. Components: The components of the Presidential Unit Citation are the emblem awarded to members of the unit and the streamer for display on the unit flag/guidon.

- a. Presidential Unit Citation emblem: MIL-D-3943/32 (frame) and MIL-R-11589/54 (ribbon). NSN 8455-00-257-3875.
- b. Streamer: MIL-S-14650/5. Manual requisition in accordance with Chapter 9, Army Regulation (AR) 840-10.

4. Background:

- a. The Distinguished Unit Citation was established as a result of Executive Order No. 9075, dated 26 February 1942. The Executive Order directed the Secretary of War to issue citations in the name of the President of the United States to Army units for outstanding performance of duty after 7 December 1941. The design submitted by the Office of the Quartermaster General was approved by the G1 on 30 May 1942.
- b. The Distinguished Unit Citation was redesignated the Presidential Unit Citation (Army) per DF, DCSPER, date 3 November 1966.
- c. The emblem is worn by all members of a cited organization and is considered an individual decoration for persons in connection with the cited acts and may be worn whether or not they continue as members of the organization. Other personnel may wear this decoration while serving with an organization to indicate the unit has been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation.
- d. Order of precedence and wear policy for unit awards is contained in Army Regulation (AR) 670-1. Policy for awards, approving authority, and supply of the unit award emblem is contained in AR 600-8-22. The policy for display of unit awards on guidons and flags and supply of streamers is contained in AR 840-10.



Army Good Conduct Medal



1. Description: The Bronze medal is 1 ¼ inches in width. On the obverse is an American bald eagle with wings spread (denotes vigilance and superiority) perched on a sword (denoting loyalty) and atop a book (denoting knowledge acquired and ability gained). The eagle is encircled by the words "EFFICIENCY, HONOR and FIDELITY". On the reverse, a lone star denotes merit and the wreath of laurel and oak leaves denotes reward and strength. Included on the reverse are the words "FOR GOOD CONDUCT".

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; center 1/2 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; 1/16 inch Scarlet; 1/16 inch White; center 1/16 inch Scarlet.

3. Criteria: The award is for soldiers completing three years "honorable and faithful service" active service after 28 June 1941. Such service implies that a standard enlistment was completed without any non-judicial punishments, disciplinary infractions, or court martial offenses. If a service member commits an offense, the three-year mark "resets" and a service member must perform an additional three years of service without having to be disciplined, before the Good Conduct may be authorized.

The criteria was amended by Executive Order 9323, dated 31 March 1943, to authorize award for three years service after 7 December 1941 or one year service while the United States is at war. Executive Order 10444, dated 10 April 1953, revised the criteria to authorize award for three years service after 27 August 1940; one year service after 7 December 1941 while the United States is at war; and award for the first award for service after 27 June 1950 upon termination of service, for periods less than three years, but more than one year. The Good Conduct Medal is awarded to any active-duty enlisted member of the United States military who completes three consecutive years of. The Good Conduct Medal may also be awarded posthumously, to any service member killed in the line of duty.

4. Background:

- a. The Good Conduct Medal is one of the oldest military awards of the United States military. The Navy Good Conduct Medal was first issued in 1869, followed by a Marine version in 1896. The Coast Guard Good Conduct Medal was issued in 1923 and the Army Good Conduct Medal in 1941.
- b. The Army Good Conduct Medal was established by Executive Order 8809, dated 28 June 1941. It was designed by Mr. Joseph Kiselewski and approved by the Secretary of War on 30 October 1942.

- c. The Air Force was the last service to create a Good Conduct Medal authorized by Congress on 6 July 1960, but not created until 1 June 1963. The USAF discontinued the Good Conduct Medal for a brief period from February 2006 to February 2009.
- d. Between 1947 and 1963, Air Force personnel were issued the Army Good Conduct Medal. For those serving both before and after 1963, both the Army and Air Force Good Conduct Medals could be worn simultaneously on an Air Force uniform.
- e. All Good Conduct Medals are the same as the Army Good Conduct Medal, except for the colors of the ribbons.



- f. The Air Force Good Conduct Medal has remained unchanged in appearance since its original design over forty years ago.
- g. Additional awards of the Air Force Good Conduct Medal are denoted by oak leaf clusters.
- h. The criteria for award of the Air Force Good Conduct medal are as follows: It is awarded to Air Force enlisted personnel during a three-year period of active military service or for a one-year period of service during a time of war. Airmen awarded this medal must have had character and efficiency ratings of excellent or higher throughout the qualifying period including time spent in attendance at service schools, and there must have been no convictions of court martial during this period.
- i. In October 2005, the 97th Air Force Uniform Board met and considered discontinuing the medal with the rationale that good conduct of Airmen is the expected standard, not an exceptional occurrence worthy of recognition. The decision was finalized on 8 February 2006 and the medal was no longer issued. Airmen who had previously earned the Good Conduct Medal were still authorized to wear it.
- j. On May 2008, Air Force officials reconsidered the policy. On 11 February 2009, the medal was reinstated and made retroactive to 8 February 2006, with all eligible recipients being awarded the medal automatically.



ASIATIC PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL



Authorized on November 6, 1942 and amended on March 15, 1946. Awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces for at least 30 consecutive (60 nonconsecutive) days service (less if in combat) within the Asiatic-Pacific Theater between December 7, 1941 and March 2, 1946.

The front of the medal shows a palm tree amidst troops with an aircraft overhead and an aircraft carrier, battleship and submarine in the background. The reverse has the American eagle, symbolizing power, on a rock, symbolizing stability, with the inscription, "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" on the eagle's back. The orange yellow of the ribbon represents Asia while the white and red stripes toward each edge represent Japan. The center blue, white and red thin stripes are taken from the American Defense Service Medal, referring to America's continued defense preparedness after Pearl Harbor. A bronze star denoted participation in a campaign. A silver star attachment is used to represent five bronze stars. An arrowhead attachment is authorized by the Army and Air Force for participation in a combat

parachute jump, combat glider landing or amphibious assault landing (only one arrowhead may be worn on the medal/ribbon despite the number of qualification events). The ribbon is worn with the center blue stripe on the wearer's right.

Designated Army & AAF campaigns for the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal are:

Burma, 1941-1942	Northern Solomons, 1943-1944
Philippine Islands, 1941-1942	Eastern Mandates (Air), 1943-1944
Central Pacific, 1941-1943	Eastern Mandates (Ground), 1944
East Indies, 1942	Leyte, 1944-1945
Aleutian Islands, 1942-1943	Luzon, 1944-1945
Guadalcanal, 1942-1943	Western Pacific, 1944-1945
Papua, 1942-1943	Central Burma, 1945
Air Offensive, Japan, 1942-1945	China Offensive, 1945
China Defensive, 1942-1945	Ryukyus, 1945
India-Burma, 1942-1945	Southern Philippines, 1945
Bismark Archipelago, 1943-1944	Air Combat, 1941-1945
New Guinea, 1943-1944	Antisubmarine, 1941-1945
	Ground Combat, 1941-1945



WWII Victory Medal



1. Description: The bronze medal is 1 3/8 inches in width. On the obverse is a figure of Liberation standing full length with head turned to dexter looking to the dawn of a new day, right foot resting on a war god's helmet with the hilt of a broken sword in the right hand and the broken blade in the left hand, the inscription "WORLD WAR II" placed immediately below the center. On the reverse are the inscriptions "FREEDOM FROM FEAR AND WANT" and "FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND RELIGION" separated by a palm branch, all within a circle composed of the words "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 1914 1945".

2. Ribbon: The ribbon is 1 3/8 inches wide and consists of the following stripes: 3/8 inch double rainbow in juxtaposition (blues, greens, yellows, reds (center), yellows greens and blues); 1/32 inch White 67101; center 9/16 inch Old Glory Red 67156; 1/32 inch White; and 3/8 inch double rainbow in juxtaposition. The rainbow on each side of the ribbon is a miniature of the pattern used in the WWI Victory Medal.

3. Criteria: The WW II Victory Medal was awarded to all military personnel for service between 7 December 1941 and 31 December 1946.

4. Components: The following are authorized components and related items:

- a. Medal (regular size): MIL-DTL-3943/237. Medal set with full size medal and ribbon bar. NSN 8455-00-269-5782.
- b. Medal (miniature): MIL-DTL-3943/237. Available commercially.
- c. Ribbon: MIL-DTL-11589/149. NSN 8455-00-257-0577. Available commercially.
- d. Streamer: The WW II Victory Medal ribbon is not used as a streamer by the Army. The Navy and Marine Corps does use the ribbon design for a streamer.

5. Background:

- a. The World War II Victory Medal was established by an Act of Congress on 6 July 1945 (Public Law 135, 79th Congress) and promulgated by Section V, War Department Bulletin 12, 1945.
- b. The medal was designed by Mr. Thomas H. Jones and approved by the Secretary of War on 5 February 1946.
- c. The Congressional authorization for the World War II Victory Medal included members of the Armed Forces of the Government of the Philippine Islands. It also specified the ending date would be the date of the termination of hostilities as proclaimed by the President. President Truman officially ended the state of hostilities on 31 December 1946.