

531st AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING GROUP



The 21st Composite Wing was activated at Elmendorf AFB on 8 July 1966. It replaced the 5040th Air Base Wing, which was inactivated. All the AAC flying units were assigned to the wing's control. This provided AAC with a much needed intermediate headquarters. However, the Headquarters, AAC, continued to retain control of the aircraft control and warning sites until 15 November 1977, when the 531st Aircraft Control and Warning Group was activated and the squadrons were assigned directly to its control. The following types of aircraft were flown by the 21st Composite Wing at the time of activation: 17th Troop Carrier Squadron, C-130Ds and C-130D-6s; 317th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, F-102As, TF-102As, EB-57Es, and T-33As; and the 21st Operations Squadron, C-119As, C-123Bs, EC-54Ds, H-21Bs and U-6As. It was a mixed bag of aircraft, which justified the composite designation and kept the wing's four maintenance squadrons busy.

In order to better manage the air defense system, the 531st Aircraft Control and Warning Group was activated 15 November 1977. It was redesignated the 11th Tactical Control Group on 1 July 1981, in recognition of its air defense and tactical support missions. The 3rd Air Support Operations Center was assigned to the 11th. The 11th was upgraded to wing status on 6 January 1989.

LINEAGE

STATIONS

McChord AFB, WA, 21 Jun 1948-5 Jul 1949

Elmendorf AFB, AK, 13 Jul 1949-1 Jan 1950
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 17 Nov 1950-13 Apr 1953
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 1977

531st

Aircraft Control & Warning Group

Activated: 25 June 1948, McChord Air Force Base, Washington, training.

Note: June 1948, 626th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron assigned as a Squadron of the 531st Aircraft Control and Warning Group, McChord Air Force Base, Washington.

Note: 6 December 1948, the Group was to take control of 505th Group Detachments at Neah Bay, Bohokus Peak and Pacific Beach. The purpose of this transfer was to enable the 531st Group to give training to its personnel. See 635th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron for more details.

Relocated: July 1949, Port of Whittier, Alaska

Subordinate Units: 1949, Located at:

Ladd Air Force Base, Alaska

Clear, Alaska

Galena, Alaska

Nome, Alaska

Naknek, Alaska

Gamble Point, Alaska

Saint Lawrence Island, Alaska

Mission: 1951, Provide Ground Observer Network over Southern Alaska

Note: 1951, Operated Ground Controlled Interception stations at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Naknek Air Force Base and Farewell, Alaska. Operated Early Warning sites at Bethel, Kenai, and Willow, Alaska.

Reorganized: 8 July 1981, as 11th Tactical Control Group

Neah Bay

Note: 6 December 1948, 531st Group would take over Neah Bay, Washington

Note: 7 February 1949, operations stopped due to a fire which seriously damaged the AN/TPS-1B and destroyed the major part of the AN/TPS-10A.

Note: 29 March 1949, Detachment returned to 635th Squadron from 531st Group.

See: 505th Group for additional information

Equipment:

1949, AN/TPS-1B

1949, AN/TPS-10A

Pacific Beach

Note: 6 December 1948, 531st Group would take over Pacific Beach, Washington

Note: 29 March 1949, Detachment returned to 635th Squadron from 531st Group.

See: 505th Group for additional information

Pasco Air Defense Direction Center

Note: 7 December 1948, 531st Group would take over the Pasco ADDC from the 637th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, 505th Aircraft Control and Warning Group.

Exercises:

1979

Amalgam 79-4

Fencing Brave 79-2

1981

Fencing Virgo 81-10

Vigilant Overview 81-3

LINEAGE

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources