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(U) Malmstrom Air Force Base

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See the Wikipedia article *Malmstrom Air Force Base*

Malmstrom Air Force Base (IATA: **GFA**, ICAO: **KGFA**, FAA LID: **GFA**) is a United States Air Force base and census-designated place (CDP) in Cascade County, Montana, United States. It was named in honor of World War II POW Colonel Einar Axel Malmstrom. It is the home of the 341st Missile Wing (341 MW) of the Air Force Global Strike Command (AFSPC). As of the 2000 census, the base had a total population of 4,544. It is part of the "Great Falls, Montana Metropolitan Statistical Area".

Malmstrom Air Force Base

Part of Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC)

USGS aerial photo as of 8 July 1995

IATA: GFA—ICAO: KGFA —FAA: GFA	
Summary	
Airport type	Military: Air Force Base
Owner	United States Air Force

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Overview

Malmstrom AFB is one of three US Air Force Bases that maintains and operates the Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile. The 341st Missile Wing reports directly to Twentieth Air Force at F.E.

Approved for Release by NSA on 09-24-2018, FOIA Case # 101326

Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. It is part of Air Force Space Command, headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.[3]

Location	Great Falls, Montana
Built	1941
In use	1941 - Present
Commander	Col. Mike Fortney
Occupants	341st Missile Wing
Elevation AMSL	3,472 ft / 1,058 m
Coordinates	47°30'17"N 111°11'14"W
Website	www.malmstrom.af.mil

Helipads

Number	Length		Surface
	ft	m	
H1	100	30	Asphalt

Sources: Federal Aviation Administration[1] and official site[2]

Units

- 341st Missile Wing

  341st Operations Group
  341st Security Forces Group
  341st Mission Support Group
  341st Maintenance Group
  341st Medical Group
  341st Staff Agencies

- 819th RED HORSE Squadron

The base's runway was closed on 31 December 1996 for aircraft operations. However, helicopter operations at Malmstrom continue in support of the base's missile mission.[3]

History

Name

Colonel Einar Axel Malmstrom

Originally named Great Falls Army Air Base, later Great Falls Air Force Base, the facility was renamed **Malmstrom Air Force Base** on 1 October 1955 in honor of Colonel Einar Axel Malmstrom (1907-1954). Colonel Malmstrom, shot down on his 58th combat fighter mission in World War II, became the US commander of Luftwaffe Stalag Luft 1 South Compound, at Barth, Germany. After his release and return to active Air Force service, he died in the crash of a T-33 Shooting Star trainer on 21 August 1954 near Great Falls Air Force Base. In the short period of his tenure as vice wing commander, Colonel Malmstrom endeared himself to the local community. Saddened by the loss, the people of Great Falls began a drive to rename the base after him.

Major commands to which assigned

- Second Air Force, 6 Jul 1942
- AAF Air Service Command, 15 Oct 1943
- Air Transport Command, 1 Jan 1944
- Military Air Transport Service, 1 Jun 1948
- Air/Aerospace Defense Command (Attached) (8 Nov 1953 - 30 Jun 1972)

  Western Air Defense Force, 1 Aug 1951 - 16 Feb 1953
  Central Air Defense Force, 16 Feb 1953 - 1 Jan 1960
  Great Falls Air Defense Sector, 1 Mar 1959 - 1 Apr 1966

- Strategic Air Command, 1 Feb 1954 - 1 Jun 1992

- Air Mobility Command, 1 Jun 1992 - 1 Jul 1993
- Air Force Space Command, 1 Jul 1993 - 7 August 2009
- Air Force Global Strike Command, 9 August 2009 - Present

Major units assigned

- 352d Base HQ and Air Base Squadron*, 20 Aug 1942 - 4 May 1944
- 2d Bombardment Group, 27 Nov 1942 - 13 Mar 1943
- 385th Bombardment Group, 11 Apr - 7 Jun 1943
- 390th Bombardment Group, 6 Jun - 4 Jul 1943
- 401st Bombardment Group, 6 Jul - 10 Oct 1943
- 90th Ferrying Squadron, 15 Apr 1943 - 1 Apr 1945
- 1455th Army Air Force (later Air Force) Base Unit*, 1 Aug 1943 - 4 Jun 1948
- 517th Air Base Group*, 1 Jun 1948 - 1 May 1953
- 517th Air Transport Wing, 1 Jun 1948 - 1 May 1953
- 29th Air Division, 1 Mar 1951 - 1 Feb 1952
- 29th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 8 Nov 1953 - 1 Jul 1968
- 407th Strategic Fighter Wing, 18 Dec 1953 - 1 Jul 1957
- 582nd Air Resupply and Communications Wing, 1 May - 14 Aug 1953
- 1300th Air Base Wing*, 1 May 1953 - 1 Feb 1954
- 407th Air Base Group*, 1 Feb 1954 - 1 Jul 1957
- 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, 20 Dec 1954 - 17 Jul 1955
- 4061st Air Refueling Wing*, 1 Jul 1957 - 15 Jul 1961
- HQ, Great Falls Air Defense Sector, 1 Mar 1959 - 1 Apr 1966
- 22d Air Division, 9 Sep 1960 - 1 Jul 1962
- 17th Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron, 1 Jul 1974 - 13 Jul 1979 (EB-57 Canberras)
- 341st Strategic Missile Wing*, 15 Jul 1961 - 1 Sep 1991

  Redesignated: 341st Missile Wing, 1 Sep 1991 - 1 Oct 1997
  Redesignated: 341st Space Wing, 1 Oct 1997 - 1 Jul 2008
  Redesignated: 341st Missile Wing, 1 Jul 2008 - Present

- 71st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 1 Jul 1968 - 30 Jun 1971
- 319th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 1 Jul 1971 - 30 Jun 1972
- 43d Air Refueling Wing / 43d Air Refueling Group, 1992 - 1 Oct 1996

references for base name, major commands, major units[4]

* Base operating unit

Operational history

World War II

Malmstrom Air Force Base traces its beginnings back to 1939 when World War II broke out in Europe. Concern about the war caused the local Chamber of Commerce to contact two Montana senators, Burton K. Wheeler and James E. Murray and request they consider development of a military installation in Great Falls. In addition, appeals were made to the Secretary of War, Harry H. Woodring. In 1941, the Civil Aeronautics Authority

provided the money for the development of the Great Falls Municipal Airport. In May 1942, construction began on an Army Air Corps base six miles (10 km) east of Great Falls. The base was known as East Base. [5]

File:Greatfallsaab-1944.jpg
Oblique aerial photo of Great Falls AAB, looking south-westward, about 1944

File:1stb17-greatfallsaab.jpg
The first B-17 landing at Great Falls AAB, 30 November 1942

In November 1942, a survey team evaluated an area near the Green Mill Dance Club and Rainbow Dam Road approximately six miles east of Great Falls. Great Falls, along with ten other northern tier sparsely populated sites, was considered for a heavy bomber training base. Construction began on Great Falls Army Air Base (AAB) on 8 June 1942. The base was informally known as East Base since the 7th Ferrying Group was stationed at Great Falls Municipal Airport on Gore Hill (known as Gore Field during its military use). Its mission was to establish an air route between Great Falls and Ladd Field, Fairbanks, Alaska, as part of the United States Lend-Lease Program that supplied the Soviet Union with aircraft and supplies needed to fight the German Army.[4][5]

Great Falls AAB was assigned to II Bomber Command, Second Air Force. Its initial base operating unit was the 352d Base HQ and Air Base Squadron. Airfield operations began on 30 November 1942 when the first B-17 Flying Fortress landed at the new base. Four Bombardment Groups, the 2nd, 385th, 390th, and 401st, trained at Great Falls AAB from November 1942 to October 1943 under Army Air Force Training Command. Group Headquarters and one of the Groups' four squadrons were stationed in Great Falls with the other squadrons stationed on sub-bases at Cut Bank, Glasgow, and Lewistown, Montana. Aircraft would take off at a predetermined time, form up in squadron formation over their respective location, and later, over central Montana, join up in group formation. These bombardment groups went on to participate in decisive raids over Germany as part of Eighth Air Force opening the door for Allied daylight precision bombing.[5][6]

Upon completion of the B-17 training program, in October 1943, Great Falls Army Air Base was transferred to the Air Transport Command (ATC) and units from Gore Field were transferred to the base. The base was considerably expanded with more buildings were constructed including a consolidated mess, a Post Exchange, a theater, and a 400-bed hospital. Air Transport Command also established aerial port facilities for passengers and cargo, as well as a flight service center. The ATC 90th Ferrying Squadron was assigned to the base which performed operations in support of the Lend Lease Program with the Soviet Union.[4][5]

At Great Falls, P-39 Airacobras, C-47 Skytrains, B-25 Mitchells, and A-20 Havocs aircraft. B-25 Mitchell Bombers arrived by rail and were assembled on base, along with others that were flown in by both military and Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs). These aircraft were later flown by U.S. pilots by way of the Alaskan-Siberian Route (ALSIB) through Canada, to Fairbanks, Alaska, and transferred to Soviet pilots who in turn flew them into Siberia. A total of 1,717,712 pounds of cargo containing aircraft parts, tools miscellaneous equipment, explosives and medical supplies were shipped through Great Falls Army Air Base to the Soviet Union.

This included one of the greatest technology transfers (and espionage operations) in the history of the world. According to Richard Rhodes the plans for the atomic bomb, hundreds of tons of nuclear weapons materials, strategic intelligence reports, and the plans for much of the most advanced aviation, electronic, and heavy industrial technology was transferred through Gore Field and East Base in sealed diplomatic containers. Dozens, if not hundreds, of Soviet agents also entered the U.S. through Great Falls as part of the Soviet Lend-lease delegation and staff.[7]

Aircraft shipments to the Soviet Union stopped in September 1945, when World War II ended, with approximately 8,000 aircraft having been processed in a 21-month period.[5]

Cold War

Following World War II, Great Falls Army Air Base (later Great Falls Air Force Base and Malmstrom Air Force Base) played an important role in US defense during the Cold War era (1948-1991). The base was assigned or attached to several Major Commands, and its assigned units performed a wide variety of missions.

Military Air Transport Service

Further information: United States Air Forces in Europe for additional information about the Berlin Airlift.

125px After World War II ended Great Falls AAB assumed a support mission for military personnel assigned to Alaskan military installations. A reserve training unit was established by the Continental Air Forces Fourth Air Force under the 418th Army Air Force Base Unit on 10 October 1946. In September 1947, the United States Air Force became a separate service and the base's name was changed to **Great Falls Air Force Base**. [5]

USAF C-54 Skymaster.

Tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union increased dramatically when the Soviet Union closed all land travel between the western occupation sectors of Germany and the American, French and British sectors of Berlin. The United States and Britain vowed not to abandon West Berliners to the Soviet Blockade. On 25 June 1948 "Operation Vittles," the strategic airlift of supplies to Berlin's 2,000,000 inhabitants, was initiated. Great Falls AFB played a critical role in assuring the success of this vital operation. Officials selected the base as the only replacement aircrew training site for Berlin Airlift-bound C-54 Skymasters, officially activating the 517th Air Transport Wing. Using radio beacons, Great Falls AFB was transformed to resemble Tempelhof Airport in Berlin, Germany. Hundreds of pilots and Flight Engineers, many of whom were recalled to active duty, were qualified on the C-54 aircraft and on flight procedures to and from Berlin by practicing on ground mock-ups and flying simulated airlift missions. [5]

Later, the 517th Air Transport Wing was redesginated the 1701st Air Transport Wing on 1 Jun 1948 when Air Transport Command was redesignated the Military Air Transport Service (MATS). Great Falls was assigned to the MATS Pacific Division. Transport units assigned to Great Falls were the 5th, 6th and 7th Air Transport Squadrons (later redesignated 1270th, 1271st and 1272d ATS) which flew C-54 Skymasters.[5][8]

MATS reopened the C-54 Flight Training School as the 1272 Medium Transition Training Unit (Squadron) in May 1950, one month before the Korean War began. The unit's primary mission was the routing and scheduling of flights throughout the Pacific Ocean region and in support of allied forces in the conflict. The 1701st ATW was later replaced by the 1300th Air Base Wing. [5]

Also in the summer of 1950, the base was visited by several members of the newly-formed Project Blue Book, a government agency which studied the appearance of unidentified flying objects. While there, they studied the Mariana UFO film, which had been receiving massive media attention for the previous few months. They returned in 1952 to study the tape once more.[9]

Great Falls became the temporary home of the 582nd Air Resupply and Communications Wing on 1 May 1953 which was transferred from Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. The 582d was a special operations unit which focused on PSYWAR missions. it deployed from Great Falls to RAF Molesworth, United Kingdom (UK), and set up

operations as part of USAFE's Third Air Force in February 1954.[10]

Air Defense Command

125px Great Falls (later Malmstrom AFB) played a major aerial defense role in North American Air Defense mission. Although the base was not assigned to Air Defense Command, the attached 29th Air Division was activated at Great Falls AFB in early 1950, bringing with them command and control authority of fighter interceptor squadrons, an aircraft control and warning squadron, and ground observer detachments in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and parts of Nevada, Utah, and Colorado as part of the Air Defense Command Western Air Defense Force. The 29th Fighter Interceptor Squadron was activated in 1953 and remained at Malmstrom until 1968, initially flying F-94C Starfire and later F-101 Voodoo interceptors.[5][11]

File:McDonnell F-101B 060912-F-1234S-009.jpg
McDonnell F-101B-110-MC Voodoo AF Serial No. 58-0325. This was the type of aircraft flown by Air Defense Command at Malmstrom AFB. After its active service was over, this aircraft was retired to the National Museum of the United States Air Force where it is now on static display.

Great Falls was reassigned to the Central Air Defense Force at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in 1953. The 29th Air Division's area of responsibility changed to include Montana, North and South Dakota and Nebraska. The 29th supervised the training of its units, and participated in numerous training exercises. On 1 July 1961, the 29th AD was relocated to Richards Gebaur AFB, Missouri. [12]

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) was created in 1957. Malmstrom AFB was responsible for the 24th NORAD region, which covered the western half of the North America. This comprised four fighter/interceptor squadrons and radar sites stretching from the Rocky Mountains, halfway across North Dakota and north to the north border of Canada. The 24th also served as the NORAD alternate command post, which remained active until 1983.[5] Beginning in 1959, Malmstrom was the headquarters of the Great Falls Air Defense Sector, until inactivated in 1966.[4]
* Base operating unit</small>

On 1 July 1968, the F-101B equipped 29th FIS was inactivated and replaced by the F-106 Delta Dart equipped 71st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, which was reassigned from Richards Gebaur AFB when its ADC mission was eliminated. Three years later, the 71st was redesignated as the 319th FIS, which remained on alert until 30 Jun 1972 when the active duty Air Defense interceptor mission at Malmstrom was phased down and inactivated. [11]

Strategic Air Command

On 18 December 1953, Great Falls AFB was transferred from Military Air Transport Service to Strategic Air Command (SAC), although MATS units remained at the base for several years. SAC activated the 407th Strategic Fighter Wing at Great Falls with a mission to provide fighter escort for SAC's long-range B-36 Peacemaker The 407th SFW was assigned to Fifteenth Air Force, 39th Air Division and flew F-84 Thunderjets.[5][13]

97th ARS Boeing KC-97G "City of Great Falls" (52-2638)

On 21 August 1954 the 407th SFW Vice Commander, Col. Einar Axel

Malmstrom, died when his T-33 Shooting Star trainer crashed approximately one mile west of the Great Falls Municipal Airport. Although his tenure was short, he was well liked by the local community. It was the local civilian community that led the efforts to rename Great Falls AFB for Col. Malmstrom. On June 15, 1956, the base was officially dedicated as Malmstrom Air Force Base. [5]

With the phaseout of the B-36 from the inventory in the late 1950s, the need for fighter escorts of SAC bombers was eliminated. The new B-52 Stratofortress and B-47 Stratojet bombers flew higher and faster than the F-84 escort fighters and instead of flying in formations, SAC's bombers flew individually to their selected targets. The 407th SFW was inactivated in 1957 and replaced by the 4061st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) was activated flying KB-29J Superfortresss re-engineered into aerial tankers. The 407th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) were joined by the 97th ARS and their KC-97 Stratotankers to form the wing. The 4061st ARW flew their missions from Malmstrom AFB until July 1961. [5][13]

341st Strategic Missile Wing

With the development of the three-stage, solid-fuel Minuteman I missile in the late 1950s SAC began searching for sites to deploy this revolutionary weapon. Because Malmstrom's location placed most strategic targets in the Soviet Union within range of Minuteman, the base was selected to become a command and control center for ICBMs located in central Montana.

On December 23, 1959, the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee approved the selection of Malmstrom AFB to host the first Minuteman ICBM base. A change of mission for the base occurred on 15 July 1961 when the 341st Strategic Missile Wing was reassigned to Malmstrom. [5] The 341st was previously assigned to Dyess AFB, Texas, where it was designated as the 341st Bombardment Wing. With the reassignment of the 341st SMW to Malmstrom, the tankers of the 407th ARW were reassigned or retired and the runway at the base was used by the Air Defense Command F-101 and F-106 interceptors along with transient aircraft.

Construction of the wing's first launch facility began in March 1961 and was completed in December. The 10th Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) was activated on 1 November 1961 and Alpha-01, the first launch control facility, was completed in July 1962. The first Minuteman I ICBM arrived on base by rail July 23, 1962. Just four days after the missile's arrival, Launch Facility Alpha-09 gained the title of the first Minuteman missile site. The 12th SMS and 490th SMS activated in March and May 1962. [5]

On July 3, 1963, following 28 months of construction, the wing and its three squadrons became operational. Each squadron controlled 50 missiles, bringing the total wing strength to 150 Minuteman I missiles. Two years later, construction began on the fourth and final squadron, the 564th SMS. This squadron was equipped with the more modern Minuteman II missiles. On May 5, 1967, the 564th SMS was declared fully operational. Malmstrom's missile field was now the largest in the United States, covering 23,500 square miles. Two years later, the 10th, 12th and 490th SMSs were also upgraded to the Minuteman II missiles, increasing the wing's capabilities to four missile squadrons equipped with a total of 200 Minuteman II missiles.[5]

In late 1962 missiles assigned to 341st would play a major role in the Cuban Missile Crisis. On 26 October, at 11:16 am, the 10th SMS's launch facility Alpha-06 went on "strategic alert" after it was discovered the Soviet Union had placed nuclear missiles in Cuba to counter the threat to Moscow and most of the Soviet Union east of the Urals posed by American nuclear-armed Jupiter and Thor missiles based in Turkey. Over the next four days the wing placed four more missiles on alert, with the last missile from Alpha flight achieving alert status on 10 November The Soviets eventually removed their missiles from Cuba. Later President John F. Kennedy said the Soviets backed down because they knew he had an " Ace in the Hole," referring directly to the Minuteman missiles of the l0th SMS.[5] In fact, the Minuteman missiles at Malmstrom were able to substitute for Jupiter

and Thor missiles based in Turkey, which were removed under a secret accord, thus allowing the Soviets to remove their missiles from Cuba, and replace them with submarine-based missiles and longer-range ICBM's based on Soviet territory. The overall effect of the Cuban Missile Crisis was to greatly expand and extend the nuclear arms race, in which Malmstrom played (and continues to play) a leading role.

Throughout the Cold War era, the wing' s missiles remained on alert and underwent extensive weapons systems upgrades. The 17th Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron, equipped with EB-57 Canberras, was activated in the 1970s to train NORAD air defense personnel in electronic countermeasures. In 1988 the Hardened Mobile Launcher for the Small ICBM was tested at Malmstrom AFB to verify its ability to operate in harsh winter conditions. [5]

On January 5, 1988, Malmstrom gained its first SAC flying wing since the 4061st Air Refueling Wing had been inactivated in 1961. SAC's 301st Air Refueling Wing arrived from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio and was responsible for the operation of KC-135R Stratotankers, refueling fighter, bomber, airlift, special operations and strategic reconnaissance aircraft worldwide. [5]

A major restructuring occurred in 1989 when SAC relocated the 40th Air Division to Malmstrom AFB and assigned it host responsibilities for both the newly activated 301st ARW and the 341st Strategic Missile Wing.[5]

The 301st ARW deployed to Moon Island in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm. During this time period the 301st flew 443 Combat Sorties refueling 936 coalition aircraft, and transferring 33.5 Million pounds of fuel. The 341st Stragetic Missile Wing deployed security, civil engineering, services and support personnel in support of the action. On June 14, 1991, the 40th Air Division deactivated, returning host responsibilities back to the 341st SMW with the 301st ARW remaining as a tenant unit. [5]

(U) Modern era

On 1 September 1991, the 341 SMW became the 341st Missile Wing. Also in 1991, the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START, was officially formalized. President Bush took all Minuteman II missiles, bombers and tankers off alert status on 27 September. In November 1991, the 12th Missile Squadron's Launch Facility J-03 became the first to have its missile removed in compliance with the order. It would be three and one half years, until the last Minuteman II in the Air Force inventory was removed from Kilo-11 on 10 August 1995. As Minuteman II missiles were removed, a new program called Rivet Add was launched, modifying the 150 Minuteman II launch facilities to accommodate the newer Minuteman III.

With the deactivation of the Strategic Air Command on June 1, 1992, Malmstrom temporarily became an Air Mobility Command (AMC) base with the 341st Strategic Missile Wing as an Air Combat Command (ACC) tenant unit.

The 301 ARW was subsequently inactivated and replaced by the 43d Air Refueling Wing (43 ARW) as a KC-135R unit reporting to Fifteenth Air Force (15 AF), then located at March Air Force Base, California. The 341 SMW was redesignated as the 341st Missile Wing (341 MW), reporting to ACC's Twentieth Air Force (20 AF) located at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. Following an Air Force decision to divest ACC of all ICBM units and assets, the 341 MW was subsequently transferred to Air Force Space Command located at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. This mid-1993 move merged all missile and space operations under one command. In October 1997, the 341 MW, along with all other missile wings, was redesignated as the 341st Space Wing (341 SW).

In 1994, the 43 ARW was downgraded in status and redesignated as the 43rd Air Refueling Group (43 ARG). In 1996, the 43 ARG and its KC-135R aircraft were transferred from Malmstrom to MacDill AFB, Florida as part of a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action, merging with MacDill's 6th Air Base Wing to form the current 6th Air Mobility Wing. With the loss of its only fixed-wing flying unit, Malmstrom's runway was decommissioned as a cost-savings measure following departure of the last KC-135R aircraft in 1997. Malmstrom's air traffic control tower was leveled, the navigational aids were turned off and runway was closed. It remains inactive as of 2008. One hangar and a portion of the Malmstrom flight line remain operational for aviation purposes as heliport for Malmstrom's 40th Helicopter Squadron (40 HS) and its UH-1N Twin Huey helicopters supporting the 341st Space Wing's Minuteman III ICBM sites.

On May 18, 2007 there was an incident involving the visiting Canadian Forces aerial demonstration squadron, the "Snowbirds". While practicing, a lap belt failed in one of the Snowbirds' aircraft, resulting in a mishap that killed the pilot of Snowbird 2.

Recently Malmstrom has been used for the site of an experimental coal to synthetic fuel plant for potential use in USAF aircraft.[14]

On May 6, 2008, *NBC Today Show* personality Al Roker broadcasted live from Malmstrom AFB as part of an "Access Granted" series centered on places the American public doesn't get to see firsthand. Roker and his crew were permitted access to a missile silo and he interviewed various squadron members about the policies and procedures should a nuclear response ever be directed by the President of the United States.

On July 1, 2008, the 341st Space Wing was re-established as the 341st Missile Wing.

(U) Nine USAF Officers Fired, 341st Missile Wing Commander Retires, March 2014

(U) The Pentagon announced on Thursday 27 March 2014 that, following an extensive investigation of an alleged "cheating ring" at Malmstrom Air Base, the Air Force fired nine mid-level commanders at Malmstrom and announced it will pursue a range of disciplinary action against the accused 82 missile launch officiers, possibly to include courts-martial. A 10th commander, the colonel who was the senior officer at the base, resigned and will retire from the Air Force. Air Force officials called the discipline unprecedented in the history of America's intercontinental ballistic missile force. Separately, another of the Air Force's nuclear missile units — the 90th Missile Wing at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming — announced that it had fired the officer overseeing its missile squadrons (the operations group commander, a colonel.) The cheating at Malmstrom was discovered in early January 2014 during the course of an unrelated drug investigation that included two launch officers at Malmstrom and others at several other bases. The drug probe is continuing. At the 27 March Pentagon press conference to announce the firings, the general commanding Air Force Global Strike Command said investigators determined that the cheating, which officials originally said happened in August or September 2013, began as early as November 2011 and continued until November 2013. The cheating involved unauthorized passing of answers to exams designed to test missile launch officers' proficiency in handling "emergency war orders," which are messages involving the targeting and launching of missiles. Nine key commanders below the base commander were fired, including the commanders of the 341st Wing's three missile squadrons, each of which is responsible for 50 Minuteman 3 nuclear missiles. Also sacked were the commander and deputy commander of the 341st Operations Group, which oversees all three missile squadrons as well as a helicopter unit and a support squadron responsible for administering monthly proficiency tests to Malmstrom's launch crews and evaluating their performance. The *Associated Press* reported that no generals were being punished.

Geography

Malmstrom AFB is located at 47°30}'31}"N 111°12}'20}"WCoordinates: 47°30}'31}"N 111°12}'20}"W (47.508604, -111.205580).Template:GR

According to the United States Census Bureau, the base CDP has a total area of 13.4 km² (5.2 mi²), all land.

Demographics

As of the censusTemplate:GR of 2000, there were 4,544 people, 1,310 households, and 1,151 families residing on the base. The population density was 340.0/km^2 (879.9/mi^2). There were 1,405 housing units at an average density of 105.1/km^2 (272.1/mi^2). The racial makeup of the base is 83.19% White, 6.58% African American, 0.59% Native American, 2.33% Asian, 0.15% Pacific Islander, 3.30% from other races, and 3.85% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 7.83% of the population.

There were 1,310 households out of which 66.6% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 82.0% were married couples living together, 4.0% had a female householder with no husband present, and 12.1% were non-families. 10.7% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 3.16 and the average family size was 3.41.

On the base the population was spread out with 36.8% under the age of 18, 23.2% from 18 to 24, 38.1% from 25 to 44, 1.8% from 45 to 64, and 0.2% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 22 years. For every 100 females there were 118.4 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 125.3 males.

The median income for a household on the base was $31,775, and the median income for a family was $33,125. Males had a median income of $24,009 versus $19,393 for females. The per capita income for the base was $11,450. About 4.9% of families and 6.2% of the population were below the poverty line, including 6.0% of those under the age of 18 and none of those 65 and older.

References

Template:AFHRA

- This article incorporates text from the Malmstrom Air Force Base history office website (http://www.malmstrom.af.mil/library/history/malmstromhistory.asp) , which, as a United States government publication, is in the public domain.

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2. ↑ Malmstrom Air Force Base (http://www.malmstrom.af.mil/) , official website
3. ↑ [3.0] [3.1] USAF Malmstrom Air Force Base Website (http://www.malmstrom.af.mil)
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(U) Malmstrom Air Force Base

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Location: Map | Coordinates | About

Malmstrom Air Force Base (IATA: **GFA**, ICAO: **KGFA**, FAA LID: **GFA**) is a United States Air Force base and census-designated place (CDP) in Cascade County, Montana, United States. It was named in honor of World War II POW Colonel Einar Axel Malmstrom. It is the home of the 341st Missile Wing (341 MW) of the Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC). As of the 2000 United States Census, the base had a total population of 4,544. It is part of the "Great Falls, Montana Metropolitan Statistical Area".

Malmstrom Air Force Base	
Air Force Global Strike Command	
IATA: GFA – ICAO: KGFA – FAA: GFA	
Summary	
Airport type	Military: Air Force Base
Owner	United States Air Force
Operator	Air Force Global Strike Command
Location	Great Falls, Montana
Built	1941
In use	1941 - Present
Occupants	341st Missile Wing
Elevation AMSL	3,472 ft / 1,058 m
Coordinates	47°30'17"N,111°11'14"W
Website	www.malmstrom.af.mil

Helipads

Number	Length		Surface
	ft	m	
H1	100	30	Asphalt

Sources: Federal Aviation Administration[1] and official site[2]

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Overview

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Malmstrom AFB is one of three US Air Force Bases that maintains and operates the Minuteman III Inter-Continental Ballistic Missile. The 341st Missile Wing reports directly to Twentieth Air Force at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. It is part of Global Strike Command headquartered at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. [3]

Units

- 341st Missile Wing

  341st Operations Group
  341st Security Forces Group
  341st Mission Support Group
  341st Maintenance Group
  341st Medical Group
  341st Staff Agencies

- 819th RED HORSE Squadron

The base's runway was closed on 31 December 1996 for aircraft operations. However, helicopter operations at Malmstrom continue in support of the base's missile mission.[3]

History

Name

Originally named Great Falls Army Air Base, later Great Falls Air Force Base, the facility was renamed **Malmstrom Air Force Base** on 1 October 1955 in honor of Colonel Einar Axel Malmstrom (1907-1954). Colonel Malmstrom, shot down on his 58th combat fighter mission in World War II, became the US commander of Luftwaffe Stalag Luft 1 South Compound, at Barth, Germany. After his release and return to active Air Force service, he died in the crash of a T-33 Shooting Star trainer on 21 August 1954 near Great Falls Air Force Base. In the short period of his tenure as vice wing commander, Colonel Malmstrom endeared himself to the local community. Saddened by the loss, the people of Great Falls began a drive to rename the base after him.

Major commands to which assigned

- Second Air Force, 6 Jul 1942
- AAF Air Service Command, 15 Oct 1943
- Air Transport Command, 1 Jan 1944
- Military Air Transport Service, 1 Jun 1948
- Air Defense Command|Air/Aerospace Defense Command (Attached) (8 Nov 1953 - 30 Jun 1972)

  Western Air Defense Force, 1 Aug 1951 - 16 Feb 1953
  Central Air Defense Force, 16 Feb 1953 - 1 Jan 1960
  Great Falls Air Defense Sector, 1 Mar 1959 - 1 Apr 1966

- Strategic Air Command, 1 Feb 1954 - 1 Jun 1992

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- Air Mobility Command, 1 Jun 1992 - 1 Jul 1993
- Air Force Space Command, 1 Jul 1993 - 7 August 2009
- Air Force Global Strike Command, 9 August 2009 - Present

Major units assigned

- 352d Base HQ and Air Base Squadron*, 20 Aug 1942 - 4 May 1944
- 2d Bombardment Group, 27 Nov 1942 - 13 Mar 1943
- 385th Bombardment Group, 11 Apr - 7 Jun 1943
- 390th Bombardment Group, 6 Jun - 4 Jul 1943
- 401st Bombardment Group, 6 Jul - 10 Oct 1943
- 90th Ferrying Squadron, 15 Apr 1943 - 1 Apr 1945
- 1455th Army Air Force (later Air Force) Base Unit*, 1 Aug 1943 - 4 Jun 1948
- 517th Air Base Group*, 1 Jun 1948 - 1 May 1953
- 517th Air Transport Wing, 1 Jun 1948 - 1 May 1953
- 29th Air Division, 1 Mar 1951 - 1 Feb 1952
- 29th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 8 Nov 1953 - 1 Jul 1968
- 407th Strategic Fighter Wing, 18 Dec 1953 - 1 Jul 1957
- 582nd Air Resupply and Communications Wing, 1 May - 14 Aug 1953
- 1300th Air Base Wing*, 1 May 1953 - 1 Feb 1954
- 407th Air Base Group*, 1 Feb 1954 - 1 Jul 1957
- 91st Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, 20 Dec 1954 - 17 Jul 1955
- 4061st Air Refueling Wing*, 1 Jul 1957 - 15 Jul 1961
- HQ, Great Falls Air Defense Sector, 1 Mar 1959 - 1 Apr 1966
- 22d Air Division, 9 Sep 1960 - 1 Jul 1962
- 24th Air Division 19 Nov 1969 - 1 Dec 1983
  - 17th Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron, 1 Jul 1974 - 13 Jul 1979 (EB-57 Canberras)
  - 4677th Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron: 2 Oct 1972 – 1 Jul 1974 (detached 2 Oct 1972 – 1 Jul 1974 (EB-57 Canberraa)
- 341st Strategic Missile Wing*, 15 Jul 1961 - 1 Sep 1991

  Redesignated: 341st Missile Wing, 1 Sep 1991 - 1 Oct 1997
  Redesignated: 341st Space Wing, 1 Oct 1997 - 1 Jul 2008
  Redesignated: 341st Missile Wing, 1 Jul 2008 - Present

- 71st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 1 Jul 1968 - 30 Jun 1971
- 319th Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, 1 Jul 1971 - 30 Jun 1972
- 43d Air Refueling Wing / 43d Air Refueling Group, 1992 - 1 Oct 1996

references for base name, major commands, major units[4]

* Base operating unit

Operational history

World War II

Malmstrom Air Force Base traces its beginnings back to 1939 when World War II broke out in Europe. Concern about the war caused the local Chamber of Commerce to contact two Montana senators, Burton K. Wheeler and James E. Murray and request they consider development of a military installation in Great Falls. In addition, appeals were made to the Secretary of War, Harry H. Woodring. In 1941, the Civil Aeronautics Authority provided the money for the development of the Great Falls Municipal

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Airport. In May 1942, construction began on an Army Air Corps base six miles (10 km) east of Great Falls. The base was known as East Base. [5]

In November 1942, a survey team evaluated an area near the Green Mill Dance Club and Rainbow Dam Road approximately six miles east of Great Falls. Great Falls, along with ten other northern tier sparsely populated sites, was considered for a heavy bomber training base. Construction began on Great Falls Army Air Base (AAB) on 8 June 1942. The base was informally known as East Base since the 7th Ferrying Group was stationed at Great Falls Municipal Airport on Gore Hill (known as Gore Field during its military use). Its mission was to establish an air route between Great Falls and Ladd Field, Fairbanks, Alaska, as part of the United States Lend-Lease Program that supplied the Soviet Union with aircraft and supplies needed to fight the German Army.[4][5]

Great Falls AAB was assigned to II Bomber Command, Second Air Force. Its initial base operating unit was the 352d Base HQ and Air Base Squadron. Airfield operations began on 30 November 1942 when the first B-17 Flying Fortress landed at the new base. Four Bombardment Groups, the 2nd, 385th, 390th, and 401st, trained at Great Falls AAB from November 1942 to October 1943 under Army Air Force Training Command. Group Headquarters and one of the Groups' four squadrons were stationed in Great Falls with the other squadrons stationed on sub-bases at Cut Bank, Glasgow, and Lewistown, Montana. Aircraft would take off at a predetermined time, form up in squadron formation over their respective location, and later, over central Montana, join up in group formation. These bombardment groups went on to participate in decisive raids over Germany as part of Eighth Air Force opening the door for Allied daylight precision bombing.[5][6]

Upon completion of the B-17 training program, in October 1943, Great Falls Army Air Base was transferred to the Air Transport Command (ATC) and units from Gore Field were transferred to the base. The base was considerably expanded with more buildings were constructed including a consolidated mess, a Post Exchange, a theater, and a 400-bed hospital. Air Transport Command also established aerial port facilities for passengers and cargo, as well as a flight service center. The ATC 90th Ferrying Squadron was assigned to the base which performed operations in support of the Lend Lease Program with the Soviet Union.[4][5]

At Great Falls, P-39 Airacobra, C-47 Skytrain, B-25 Mitchell, and A-20 Havoc aircraft. B-25 Mitchell Bombers arrived by rail and were assembled on base, along with others that were flown in by both military and Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs). These aircraft were later flown by U.S. pilots by way of the Alaskan-Siberian Route (ALSIB) through Canada, to Fairbanks, Alaska, and transferred to Soviet pilots who in turn flew them into Siberia. A total of 1,717,712 pounds of cargo containing aircraft parts, tools miscellaneous equipment, explosives and medical supplies were shipped through Great Falls Army Air Base to the Soviet Union.

This included one of the greatest technology transfers (and espionage operations) in the history of the world. According to Richard Rhodes the plans for the atomic bomb, hundreds of tons of nuclear weapons materials, strategic intelligence reports, and the plans for much of the most advanced aviation, electronic, and heavy industrial technology was transferred through Gore Field and East Base in sealed diplomatic containers. Dozens, if not hundreds, of Soviet agents also entered the U.S. through Great Falls as part of the Soviet Lend-lease delegation and staff.[7]

Aircraft shipments to the Soviet Union stopped in September 1945, when World War II ended, with approximately 8,000 aircraft having been processed in a 21-month period.[5]

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Cold War

Following World War II, Great Falls Army Air Base (later Great Falls Air Force Base and Malmstrom Air Force Base) played an important role in US defense during the Cold War era (1948-1991). The base was assigned or attached to several Major Commands, and its assigned units performed a wide variety of missions.

Military Air Transport Service

> *Further information: United States Air Forces in Europe for additional information about the Berlin Airlift.*

After World War II ended Great Falls AAB assumed a support mission for military personnel assigned to Alaskan military installations. A reserve training unit was established by the Continental Air Forces Fourth Air Force under the 418th Army Air Force Base Unit on 10 October 1946. In September 1947, the United States Air Force became a separate service and the base's name was changed to **Great Falls Air Force Base.** [5]

Tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union increased dramatically when the Soviet Union closed all land travel between the western occupation sectors of Germany and the American, French and British sectors of Berlin. The United States and Britain vowed not to abandon West Berliners to the Soviet Blockade. On 25 June 1948 "Operation Vittles," the strategic airlift of supplies to Berlin's 2,000,000 inhabitants, was initiated. Great Falls AFB played a critical role in assuring the success of this vital operation. Officials selected the base as the only replacement aircrew training site for Berlin Airlift-bound C-54 Skymasters, officially activating the 517th Air Transport Wing. Using radio beacons, Great Falls AFB was transformed to resemble Tempelhof Airport in Berlin, Germany. Hundreds of pilots and Flight Engineers, many of whom were recalled to active duty, were qualified on the C-54 aircraft and on flight procedures to and from Berlin by practicing on ground mock-ups and flying simulated airlift missions. [5]

Later, the 517th Air Transport Wing was redesginated the 1701st Air Transport Wing on 1 Jun 1948 when Air Transport Command was redesignated the Military Air Transport Service (MATS). Great Falls was assigned to the MATS Pacific Division. Transport units assigned to Great Falls were the 5th, 6th and 7th Air Transport Squadrons (later redesignated 1270th, 1271st and 1272d ATS) which flew C-54 Skymasters.[5][8]

MATS reopened the C-54 Flight Training School as the 1272 Medium Transition Training Unit (Squadron) in May 1950, one month before the Korean War began. The unit's primary mission was the routing and scheduling of flights throughout the Pacific Ocean region and in support of allied forces in the conflict. The 1701st ATW was later replaced by the 1300th Air Base Wing. [5]

Also in the summer of 1950, the base was visited by several members of the newly-formed Project Blue Book, a government agency which studied the appearance of unidentified flying objects. While there, they studied the Mariana UFO film, which had been receiving massive media attention for the previous few months. They returned in 1952 to study the tape once more.[9]

Great Falls became the temporary home of the 582nd Air Resupply and Communications Wing on 1

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May 1953 which was transferred from Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. The 582d was a special operations unit which focused on PSYWAR missions. it deployed from Great Falls to RAF Molesworth, United Kingdom (UK), and set up operations as part of USAFE's Third Air Force in February 1954.[10]

Air Defense Command

Great Falls (later Malmstrom AFB) played a major aerial defense role in North American Air Defense mission. Although the base was not assigned to Air Defense Command, the attached 29th Air Division was activated at Great Falls AFB in early 1950, bringing with them command and control authority of fighter interceptor squadrons, an aircraft control and warning squadron, and ground observer detachments in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and parts of Nevada, Utah, and Colorado as part of the Air Defense Command Western Air Defense Force. The 29th Fighter Interceptor Squadron was activated in 1953 and remained at Malmstrom until 1968, initially flying F-94C Starfire and later F-101 Voodoo interceptors.[5][11]

Great Falls was reassigned to the Central Air Defense Force at Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base in 1953. The 29th Air Division's area of responsibility changed to include Montana, North and South Dakota and Nebraska. The 29th supervised the training of its units, and participated in numerous training exercises. On 1 July 1961, the 29th AD was relocated to Richards Gebaur AFB, Missouri. [12]

The North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) was created in 1957. Malmstrom AFB was responsible for the 24th NORAD region, which covered the western half of the North America. This comprised four fighter/interceptor squadrons and radar sites stretching from the Rocky Mountains, halfway across North Dakota and north to the north border of Canada. The 24th also served as the NORAD alternate command post, which remained active until 1983.[5] Beginning in 1959, Malmstrom was the headquarters of the Great Falls Air Defense Sector, until inactivated in 1966.[4]
* Base operating unit</small>

On 1 July 1968, the F-101B equipped 29th FIS was inactivated and replaced by the F-106 Delta Dart equipped 71st Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, which was reassigned from Richards Gebaur AFB when its ADC mission was eliminated. Three years later, the 71st was redesignated as the 319th FIS, which remained on alert until 30 Jun 1972 when the active duty Air Defense interceptor mission at Malmstrom was phased down and inactivated. [11]

Strategic Air Command

On 18 December 1953, Great Falls AFB was transferred from Military Air Transport Service to Strategic Air Command (SAC), although MATS units remained at the base for several years. SAC activated the 407th Strategic Fighter Wing]] at Great Falls with a mission to provide fighter escort for SAC's long-range B-36 Peacemaker The 407th SFW was assigned to Fifteenth Air Force, 39th Air Division and flew F-84 Thunderjets.[5][13]

On 21 August 1954 the 407th SFW Vice Commander, Col. Einar Axel Malmstrom, died when his T-33 Shooting Star trainer crashed approximately one mile west of the Great Falls Municipal Airport. Although his tenure was short, he was well liked by the local community. It was the local civilian community that led the efforts to rename Great Falls AFB for Col. Malmstrom. On June 15, 1956, the base was officially dedicated as Malmstrom Air Force Base. [5]

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With the phaseout of the B-36 from the inventory in the late 1950s, the need for fighter escorts of SAC bombers was eliminated. The new B-52 Stratofortress and B-47 Stratojet bombers flew higher and faster than the F-84 escort fighters and instead of flying in formations, SAC's bombers flew individually to their selected targets. The 407th SFW was inactivated in 1957 and replaced by the 4061st Air Refueling Wing (ARW) was activated flying KB-29J Superfortresss re-engineered into aerial tankers. The 407th Air Refueling Squadron (ARS) were joined by the 97th ARS and their KC-97 Stratotankers to form the wing. The 4061st ARW flew their missions from Malmstrom AFB until July 1961. [5][13]

341st Strategic Missile Wing

With the development of the three-stage, solid-fuel Minuteman I missile in the late 1950s SAC began searching for sites to deploy this revolutionary weapon. Because Malmstrom's location placed most strategic targets in the Soviet Union within range of Minuteman, the base was selected to become a command and control center for ICBMs located in central Montana.

On December 23, 1959, the Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee approved the selection of Malmstrom AFB to host the first Minuteman ICBM base. A change of mission for the base occurred on 15 July 1961 when the 341st Strategic Missile Wing was reassigned to Malmstrom. [5] The 341st was previously assigned to Dyess AFB, Texas, where it was designated as the 341st Bombardment Wing. With the reassignment of the 341st SMW to Malmstrom, the tankers of the 407th ARW were reassigned or retired and the runway at the base was used by the Air Defense Command F-101 and F-106 interceptors along with transient aircraft.

Construction of the wing's first launch facility began in March 1961 and was completed in December. The 10th Strategic Missile Squadron (SMS) was activated on 1 November 1961 and Alpha-01, the first launch control facility, was completed in July 1962. The first Minuteman I ICBM arrived on base by rail July 23, 1962. Just four days after the missile's arrival, Launch Facility Alpha-09 gained the title of the first Minuteman missile site. The 12th SMS and 490th SMS activated in March and May 1962. [5]

On July 3, 1963, following 28 months of construction, the wing and its three squadrons became operational. Each squadron controlled 50 missiles, bringing the total wing strength to 150 Minuteman I missiles. Two years later, construction began on the fourth and final squadron, the 564th SMS. This squadron was equipped with the more modern Minuteman II missiles. On May 5, 1967, the 564th SMS was declared fully operational. Malmstrom's missile field was now the largest in the United States, covering 23,500 square miles. Two years later, the 10th, 12th and 490th SMSs were also upgraded to the Minuteman II missiles, increasing the wing's capabilities to four missile squadrons equipped with a total of 200 Minuteman II missiles.[5]

In late 1962 missiles assigned to 341st would play a major role in the Cuban Missile Crisis. On 26 October, at 11:16 am, the 10th SMS's launch facility Alpha-06 went on "strategic alert" after it was discovered the Soviet Union had placed nuclear missiles in Cuba to counter the threat to Moscow and most of the Soviet Union east of the Urals posed by American nuclear-armed Jupiter and Thor missiles based in Turkey. Over the next four days the wing placed four more missiles on alert, with the last missile from Alpha flight achieving alert status on 10 November The Soviets eventually removed their missiles from Cuba. Later President John F. Kennedy said the Soviets backed down because they knew he had an " Ace in the Hole," referring directly to the Minuteman missiles of the 10th SMS.[5] In fact, the Minuteman missiles at Malmstrom were able to substitute for Jupiter and Thor missiles based in Turkey,

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which were removed under a secret accord, thus allowing the Soviets to remove their missiles from Cuba, and replace them with submarine-based missiles and longer-range ICBM's based on Soviet territory. The overall effect of the Cuban Missile Crisis was to greatly expand and extend the nuclear arms race, in which Malmstrom played (and continues to play) a leading role.

Throughout the Cold War era, the wing' s missiles remained on alert and underwent extensive weapons systems upgrades. The 17th Defense Systems Evaluation Squadron, equipped with EB-57 Canberras, was activated in the 1970s to train NORAD air defense personnel in electronic countermeasures. In 1988 the Hardened Mobile Launcher for the Small ICBM was tested at Malmstrom AFB to verify its ability to operate in harsh winter conditions. [5]

On January 5, 1988, Malmstrom gained its first SAC flying wing since the 4061st Air Refueling Wing had been inactivated in 1961. SAC's 301st Air Refueling Wing arrived from Rickenbacker AFB, Ohio and was responsible for the operation of KC-135R Stratotankers, refueling fighter, bomber, airlift, special operations and strategic reconnaissance aircraft worldwide. [5]

A major restructuring occurred in 1989 when SAC relocated the 40th Air Division to Malmstrom AFB and assigned it host responsibilities for both the newly activated 301st ARW and the 341st Strategic Missile Wing.[5]

The 301st ARW deployed to Moon Island in the Persian Gulf during Operation Desert Storm. During this time period the 301st flew 443 Combat Sorties refueling 936 coalition aircraft, and transferring 33.5 Million pounds of fuel. The 341st Stragetic Missile Wing deployed security, civil engineering, services and support personnel in support of the action. On June 14, 1991, the 40th Air Division deactivated, returning host responsibilities back to the 341st SMW with the 301st ARW remaining as a tenant unit. [5]

Modern era

On 1 September 1991, the 341 SMW became the 341st Missile Wing. Also in 1991, the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, or START, was officially formalized. President Bush took all Minuteman II missiles, bombers and tankers off alert status on 27 September. In November 1991, the 12th Missile Squadron's Launch Facility J-03 became the first to have its missile removed in compliance with the order. It would be three and one half years, until the last Minuteman II in the Air Force inventory was removed from Kilo-11 on 10 August 1995. As Minuteman II missiles were removed, a new program called Rivet Add was launched, modifying the 150 Minuteman II launch facilities to accommodate the newer Minuteman III.

With the deactivation of the Strategic Air Command on June 1, 1992, Malmstrom temporarily became an Air Mobility Command (AMC) base with the 341st Strategic Missile Wing as an Air Combat Command (ACC) tenant unit.

The 301 ARW was subsequently inactivated and replaced by the 43d Air Refueling Wing (43 ARW) as a KC-135R unit reporting to Fifteenth Air Force (15 AF), then located at March Air Force Base, California. The 341 SMW was redesignated as the 341st Missile Wing (341 MW), reporting to ACC's Twentieth Air Force (20 AF) located at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. Following an Air Force decision to divest ACC of all ICBM units and assets, the 341 MW was subsequently transferred to Air Force Space Command located at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado. This mid-1993 move merged all

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missile and space operations under one command. In October 1997, the 341 MW, along with all other missile wings, was redesignated as the 341st Space Wing (341 SW).

In 1994, the 43 ARW was downgraded in status and redesignated as the 43rd Air Refueling Group (43 ARG). In 1996, the 43 ARG and its KC-135R aircraft were transferred from Malmstrom to MacDill AFB, Florida as part of a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action, merging with MacDill's 6th Air Base Wing to form the current 6th Air Mobility Wing. With the loss of its only fixed-wing flying unit, Malmstrom's runway was decommissioned as a cost-savings measure following departure of the last KC-135R aircraft in 1997. Malmstrom's air traffic control tower was leveled, the navigational aids were turned off and runway was closed. It remains inactive as of 2008. One hangar and a portion of the Malmstrom flight line remain operational for aviation purposes as heliport for Malmstrom's 40th Helicopter Squadron (40 HS) and its UH-1N Twin Huey helicopters supporting the 341st Space Wing's Minuteman III ICBM sites.

On May 18, 2007 there was an incident involving the visiting Canadian Forces aerial demonstration squadron, the "Snowbirds". While practicing, a lap belt failed in one of the Snowbirds' aircraft, resulting in a mishap that killed the pilot of Snowbird 2.

Recently Malmstrom has been used for the site of an experimental coal to synthetic fuel plant for potential use in USAF aircraft.[14]

On May 6, 2008, *NBC Today Show* personality Al Roker broadcasted live from Malmstrom AFB as part of an "Access Granted" series centered on places the American public doesn't get to see firsthand. Roker and his crew were permitted access to a missile silo and he interviewed various squadron members about the policies and procedures should a nuclear response ever be directed by the President of the United States.

On July 1, 2008, the 341st Space Wing was re-established as the 341st Missile Wing.

Geography

Malmstrom AFB is located at 47.508604°-111.205580'type:city_region:US"{{{4}}},{{{5}}}° {{{6}}}'{{{7}}}"{{{8}}} (47.508604, -111.205580).Template:GR

According to the United States Census Bureau, the base CDP has a total area of 13.4 km² (5.2 mi²), all land.

Demographics

As of the censusTemplate:GR of 2000, there were 4,544 people, 1,310 households, and 1,151 families residing on the base. The population density was 340.0/km^2 (879.9/mi^2). There were 1,405 housing units at an average density of 105.1/km^2 (272.1/mi^2). The racial makeup of the base is 83.19% White, 6.58% African American, 0.59% Native American, 2.33% Asian, 0.15% Pacific Islander, 3.30% from other races, and 3.85% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 7.83% of the population.

There were 1,310 households out of which 66.6% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 82.0% were married couples living together, 4.0% had a female householder with no husband present,

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and 12.1% were non-families. 10.7% of all households were made up of individuals. The average household size was 3.16 and the average family size was 3.41.

On the base the population was spread out with 36.8% under the age of 18, 23.2% from 18 to 24, 38.1% from 25 to 44, 1.8% from 45 to 64, and 0.2% who were 65 years of age or older. The median age was 22 years. For every 100 females there were 118.4 males. For every 100 females age 18 and over, there were 125.3 males.

The median income for a household on the base was $31,775, and the median income for a family was $33,125. Males had a median income of $24,009 versus $19,393 for females. The per capita income for the base was $11,450. About 4.9% of families and 6.2% of the population were below the poverty line, including 6.0% of those under the age of 18 and none of those 65 and older.

See also

- Montana World War II Army Airfields

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- Malmstrom AFB Museum and Air Park
- Template:FAA-procedures
- Template:AirNav
- Template:ASN
- Template:SkyVector

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(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

FOIA Case: 101326A
24 September 2018

JOHN GREENEWALD
27305 W LIVE OAK ROAD
SUITE 1203
CASTAIC CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of 11 April 2017, which was received by this office on 12 April 2017 for Intellipedia records on Unidentified Flying Object, Unidentified Flying Objects, UFO, UFOs, Flying Saucer, Flying Saucers, Project Sign, Project Grudge, and Project Saucer. As stated in our initial response to you, dated 12 April 2017, your request was assigned Case Number 101326. For purposes of this request and based on the information you provided in your letter, you are considered an "all other" requester. As such, you are allowed 2 hours of search time and the duplication of 100 pages at no cost. There are no assessable fees for this request. Your request has been processed under the provisions of the FOIA.

For your information, NSA provides a service of common concern for the Intelligence Community (IC) by serving as the executive agent for Intelink. As such, NSA provides technical services that enable users to access and share information with peers and stakeholders across the IC and DoD. Intellipedia pages are living documents that may be originated by any user organization, and any user organization may contribute to or edit pages after their origination. Intellipedia pages should not be considered the final, coordinated position of the IC on any particular subject. The views and opinions of authors do not necessarily state or reflect those of the U.S. Government.

We conducted a search across all three levels of Intellipedia and located documents responsive to your request. The documents are enclosed. Certain information, however, has been deleted from the documents. One responsive document has already been provided to you in case 103173, closed on 14 September 2018.

This Agency is authorized by statute to protect certain information concerning its activities (in this case, internal URLs), as well as the names of its employees. Such information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the third exemption of the FOIA, which provides for the withholding of information

specifically protected from disclosure by statute. The specific statute applicable in this case is Section 6, Public Law 86-36 (50 U.S. Code 3605). We have determined that such information exists in this record, and we have excised it accordingly.

In addition, personal information regarding individuals has been deleted from the enclosure in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552 (b)(6). This exemption protects from disclosure information that would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. In balancing the public interest for the information you requested against the privacy interests involved, we have determined that the privacy interests sufficiently satisfy the requirements for the application of the (b)(6) exemption.

Since these deletions may be construed as a partial denial of your request, you are hereby advised of this Agency's appeal procedures. If you decide to appeal, you should do so in the manner outlined below.

- The appeal must be in sent via U.S. postal mail, fax, or electronic delivery (e-mail) and addressed to:

  NSA FOIA/PA Appeal Authority (P132)
  National Security Agency
  9800 Savage Road STE 6932
  Fort George G. Meade, MD 20755-6932

  The facsimile number is (443)479-3612.
  The appropriate email address to submit an appeal is FOIARSC@nsa.gov.
- It must be postmarked or delivered electronically no later than 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. Decisions appealed after 90 days will not be addressed.
- Please include the case number provided above.
- Please describe with sufficient detail why you believe the denial was unwarranted.
- NSA will endeavor to respond within 20 working days of receiving your appeal, absent any unusual circumstances.

For further assistance or to discuss your request, you may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at foialo@nsa.gov. You may also contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer: Office of Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, MD 20740-6001; e-mail: ogis@nara.gov; main: 202-741-5770; toll free: 1-877-684-6448; or fax: 202-741-5769.

FOIA Case: 101326A

Some responsive material contains the equities of another government agency. Because we are unable to make determinations as to the releasability of another agency's information, the subject material has been referred to the appropriate agency for review and direct response to you.

Sincerely,

Paul K

for

John R. Chapman
Chief, FOIA/PA Office
NSA Initial Denial Authority

Encls:
a/s