

# **ORIGINS OF AIR FORCE BASE NAMES**

U.S. OFFICE OF AIR FORCE HISTORY

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## ORIGIN OF AIR FORCE BASE NAMES

ALTUS AFB, OK (Altus) - named for Altus, OK.

ANDREWS AFB, MD (Washington, DC) - named for Lt General Frank M. Andrews (1884-1943), born in Nashville, TN. He was Commander of U.S. Forces in Europe in early part of WW2 until his death in May 1943 in the crash of a B-24 in Iceland. He served as Commander of the General HQ AF from March 1935 until March 1939. In August 1939 he returned to the General Staff of Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations and Training. The base, previously known as Camp Springs Army Airfield, was renamed for him in Feb 45.

ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CENTER, TN (Tullahoma) - named for General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, born in 1886 at Gladwyne, PA. He was appointed the first General of the Air Force (5-star rank) on 7 May 1949. He died 15 January 1950.

BARKSDALE AFB, LA (Shreveport) - named for 2Lt Eugene H. Barksdale (1885-1926), born at Goshen Springs, MS. He was a WWI pilot killed while flight testing a Douglas O-2 observation plane near Wright Field, Ohio. The base, previously known as Military Reservation, Bossier Parrish, was renamed for him in June 1937.

BEALE AFB, CA (Marysville) - named for Brigadier General Edwin F. Beale, USA (1822-1893), California pioneer and Indian agent prior to the Civil War and founder of the Camel Corps, U.S. Army.

BERGSTROM AFB, TX (Austin) - named for Capt John A.E. Bergstrom (1907-1941), born in Austin, TX. He was the first Austin serviceman killed in WW2 during the Japanese bombardment of Clark Field, 8 December 1941. At the suggestion of Congressman Lyndon B. Johnson, Del Valle Army Air Base was renamed Bergstrom Army Air Field in March 1943.

BLYTHEVILLE AFB, AR (Blytheville) - named for Blytheville.

BOLLING AFB, DC (Washington, DC) - named for Colonel Raynal C. Bolling (1877-1918), born in Hot Springs, AR. He was Assistant Chief of the Air Service in WWI and was KIA in March 1918 near Amiens, France. Anacostia Experimental Flying Field was renamed in his honor in July 1918. Col Bolling was the first American of high rank to be killed in France during WWI.

BROOKS AFB, TX (San Antonio) - named for Cadet Sidney J. Brooks, Jr, (1895-1917), a San Antonio native killed on his final solo flight in November 1917 before commissioning. He was awarded his wings and commission posthumously. The base was named for him in February 1918.

CANNON AFB, NM (Clovis) - named for General John K. Cannon (1892-1955), born at Salt Lake City, UT. He took glider training at Ft Sumner, NM in 1942. He held a variety of command positions in WW2 in Europe. He retired in 1954 as Commander of TAC. The base, then known as Clovis AFB, was renamed for him in June 1957.

- CARSWELL AFB, TX (Ft Worth) - named for Major Horace S. Carswell, Jr (1916-1944), a native of Fort Worth and WW2 pilot killed in October 1944 while attempting to crash-land a battle-damaged B-24; he was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously. The base was named for him in January 1948.
- CASTLE AFB, CA (Merced) - named for Brigadier General Frederick W. Castle (1908-1944), born at Manila, Philippines. He was a WW2 pilot killed in December 1944 when he was shot down over Liege, Belgium when seven Messerschmitts set his B-17 afaire. He remained at the controls while his crew bailed out. He and the pilot died when the aircraft exploded. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously. Merced Army Airfield was renamed for him in January 1946.
- CHANUTE AFB, IL (Champaign) - named for Octave Chanute (1832-1910), glider pilot and engineer who started flight experiments in 1896 and advisor to the Wright Brothers. The base was renamed for him in June 1917.
- CHARLESTON AFB, SC (Charleston) - named after the city of Charleston.
- CHENNAULT AFB, LA (Lake Charles) - Lake Charles AFB was renamed Chennault AFB for Major General Claire L. Chennault (1890-1958), born at Commerce, TX. He attended Louisiana State University and Louisiana State Normal College. He was the WW2 leader of the famed Flying Tigers in China. Closed.
- COLUMBUS AFB, MS (Columbus) - named for the city of Columbus.
- CRAIG AFB, AL (Selma) - named for Bruce K. Craig (1924-1941), son of a prominent Selma, AL family. While awaiting an Air Corps commission, he was killed in June 1941 while flight-testing a B-24. He was awarded his commission posthumously. Selma Army Air Base was renamed for him in August 1941. Inactivated September 1977.
- DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB, AZ (Tucson) named for two Tucson natives who were early Air Corps officers: (1) 2Lt Samuel H. Davis (1896-1921), born in Dyer County, TN; he went to Tucson at age 8 with his parents and graduated from Tucson High School in 1913; he was killed in an 1921 crash of a Curtiss JN 6 HG in which he was a passenger at Carlstrom Field, Arcadia, FL. (2) British born 2Lt Oscar Monthan (1885-1924) moved to Tucson with his parents at age 15; he was killed in March 1924 when his Martin NBS-1 bomber crashed at Luke Field, Hawaii.
- DOBBINS AFB, GA (Marietta) - named for Capt Charles M. Dobbins (1916-1943), a native of Marietta, GA and WW2 transport pilot who died near Sicily in July 1943 when U.S. Navy gunners who earlier had suffered a Luftwaffe attack mistakenly downed his C-47. The base, previously known as Marietta AFB, was renamed for him in February 1950.
- DOVER AFB, DL (Dover) - named for the city of Dover.

DYESS AFB, TX (Abilene) - named for Lt Col William E. Dyess (1916-1943), born in Albany, TX. He was a WW2 fighter pilot who escaped from the Japanese after surviving the Bataan Death March; he was killed in December 1943 near Burbank, CA when his P-38 caught fire. He refused to bail out over a populated area and died in the resulting crash. Abilene AFB was renamed for him in December 1956.

EDWARDS AFB, CA (Rosamond) - named for Capt Glen W. Edwards (1918-1948). born in Canada. He was a WW2 pilot. He became a test pilot in December 1945. He died in the crash of a Northrop YB-49 Flying Wing near Muroc Field, which was renamed in his honor in December 1949.

EGLIN AFB, FL (Valparaiso) - named for Lt Col Frederick I. Eglin (1891-1937), born in New York City. He was a WWI flyer who was killed in the crash of his Northrop A-17 pursuit aircraft while on a flight from Langley Field to Maxwell Field in January 1937. Valparaiso Bombing and Gunnery Base was renamed Eglin Field in August 1937.

EIELSON AFB, AK (Fairbanks) - named for Col Carl B. Eielson, North Dakota National Guard (1897-1929), born at Hatton, ND. He was a pioneer National Guard and Alaskan bush pilot and first to fly airmail in Alaska and to fly over the Arctic Ocean. He died in 1929 while attempting to rescue crewmen of an icebound U.S. fur trading schooner off the Siberian North Cape. Mile 26 Field was renamed for him in January 1948.

ELLINGTON AFB, TX (Houston) - named for 2Lt Eric Lamar Ellington (1889-1913), born at Olney, IL. He was a 2Lt in the 3rd Cavalry Regiment at Ft Sam Houston, TX in 1912. He died when his Wright C-Model crashed approaching the Signal Corps Aviation School landing field in San Diego, CA in November 1913. The airfield was named for him in 1917. Closed and transferred to ANG in Apr 77.

ELLSWORTH AFB, SD (Rapid City) - named for Brigadier General Richard E. Ellsworth (1911-1953), born at Erie, PA. He was a WW2 pilot with 400 missions in the China/Burma/India Theatre. He was promoted to brigadier general in September 1952 and was commander of the 28th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing at Rapid City AFB at the time of his death in an RB-36 crash in March 1953. The base was renamed for him in June 1953.

ELMENDORF AFB, AK (Anchorage) - named for Capt Hugh M. Elmendorf (1895-1933), born at Ithaca, NY. He was a pioneer high-altitude pilot and gunnery expert killed in January 1933 while testing a new two-seat P-25 near Patterson Field, OH. The base was named for him in March 1948.

ENGLAND AFB, LA (Alexandria) - named for Lt Col John B. England (1923-1954), born at Caruthersville, LA. He was a WW2 P-51 pilot and ace (19 aerial victories). He was killed in an F-86 crash in November 1954 in France. Alexandria AFB was renamed for him in May 1955.

ENT ANNEX, CO (Colorado Springs) - named for Major General Uzal G. Ent (1900-1948), born at Northumberland, PA. He was a WW2 pilot who directed and executed the low-level mass bomber attack (Operation Tidalwave) on the Ploesti oil complex in Romania in August 1943. He was seriously injured when his B-25 crashed in October 1944 at Colorado Springs where he was commander of the Second Air Force. The was renamed for him in June 1949.

ERNEST E. HARMON AFB, Newfoundland - named for Capt Ernest E. Harmon (1893-1933), a native of Dallas, TX and one of the men who flew the "Round-the-Rim" flight in 1919 in which an army bomber would circle the country, flying over every border and coastal state. He was killed in the crash of his Douglas O-25C observation plane upon returning to Mitchell Field from Washington, DC. The base was named for him in August 1949. Closed.

FAIRCHILD AFB, WA (Spokane) - named for General Muir S. Fairchild (1894-1950), born at Bellingham, WA. He was Air Force Vice Chief of Staff at the time of his death in March 1950. Spokane AFB was renamed for him in November 1950.

FORBES AFB, KS (Topeka) - named for Major Daniel H. Forbes, Jr (1920-1948), born at Carbondale, KS. He was a WW2 reconnaissance pilot killed when his YB-49 Flying Wing exploded during a test flight at Muroc Field (later Edwards AFB) in June 1948. The base was named for him in June 1949. Closed.

FRANCIS E. WARREN AFB, WY (Cheyenne)- named for Francis E. Warren (1844-1929), an early Wyoming governor and Wyoming's first U.S. Senator and Medal of Honor winner for action during the Civil War. The installation was named Fort David A. Russell in 1867 for a union general. It was renamed Fort Francis E. Warren in 1930 and became an Air Force Base in October 1949.

GEORGE AFB, CA (Victorville) - named for Brigadier General Harold H. George (1892-1942), born at Lockport, NY. He was a WWI ace (5 victories) and in November 1919 he became Flight Commander and Commanding Officer of the 19th Pursuit Squadron at March Field, CA until March 1922. He was killed in an aircraft crash in April 1942 near Darwin, Australia. The base, then known as Victorville AFB, was renamed for him in June 1950.

GLASGOW AFB, MT (Glasgow) - named for the city of Glasgow. Closed Jul 76.

GOODFELLOW AFB, TX (San Angelo) - named for 2Lt John J. Goodfellow, Jr (1891-1918), a Fort Worth native. He was a WWI fighter pilot killed in aerial combat with a group of Fokkers. His plane crashed near Thiaucourt, France in September 1918. The base was named Goodfellow Field in June 1941.

GRAND FORKS AFB, ND (Grand Forks) - named for the city of Grand Forks.

GRENIER AFB, NH (Manchester) - named for 2Lt Jean Donat Grenier (1909-1933), born in Manchester, NH. On 16 February 1933, he and Lt Edwin White became the first casualties of the airmail service when

their Curtiss A-12 Shrike crashed in Utah. Closed.

GRIFFISS AFB, NY (Rome) - named for Lt Col Townsend E. Griffiss (1900-1942), born in Buffalo, NY. He was killed in WW2 on a flight to England from the Soviet Union. RAF pilots mistook him for an enemy aircraft and shot him down southwest of Plymouth in February 1942. Rome AFB was renamed for him in 1948.

GRISSOM AFB, IN (Peru) - named for Lt Col Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom (1926-1967), born in Mitchell, IN. He was one of the original seven U.S. astronauts. He was the second Project Mercury astronaut on 21 July 1961; Commander Alan B. Shepard Jr, USN, was the first man into space on 5 May 1961. He was killed 27 January 1967 with astronauts Edward White and Roger Chafee in an Apollo capsule fire at Kennedy Space Center. Bunker Hill AFB was renamed for him in May 1968.

GUNTER AFS, AL (Montgomery) - named for William A. Gunter (1871-1940), mayor of Montgomery for 27 years and ardent airpower advocate. He was instrumental in the development of Maxwell Field for Air Corps training and the establishment of the Municipal Airport that was renamed Gunter Field in April 1941.

HAMILTON AFB, CA (San Rafael) - named for 1Lt Lloyd Andrews Hamilton (1884-1918), born at Troy, NY. He was a leading WWI ace and the first American to fly with Britain's Royal Flying Corps. He was killed while leading a low-level bombing mission against German air bases at Lagincourt, France in August 1918. He was flying a Sopwith Camel. Marin Meadows Air Field was renamed in his honor in 1932. Now in caretaker status.

HANCOCK Field, NY (Syracuse) - named for former Congressman Clarence E. Hancock from New York. Hancock Field is now closed.

HANSCOM AFB, MA (Bedford) - named for Laurence G. Hanscom (1906-1941), a Boston and Worcester newspaper reporter and pre-war advocate of flying. He founded the Massachusetts Civil Air Reserve. He was killed in February 1941 when his Fleet biplane crashed while he was giving private flying lessons.

HICKAM AFB, HI (Honolulu) - named for Lt Col Horace M. Hickam (1885-1934), born at Spencer, IN. He was a pioneer Air Service aviator who was killed in November 1935 when his A-12 crashed at Fort Crockett, TX. The base was named for him in 1935.

HILL AFB, UT (Ogden) - named for Major Ployer P. Hill (1894-1935), born at Newburyport, MA. He was an early military aviator and test pilot who was killed in October 1935 while testing the first B-17 Flying Fortress at Wright Field, OH. The base was named for him in 1939.

HOLLOMAN AFB, NM (Alamogordo) - named for Col George V. Holloman (1902-1946), born at Rich Square, NC. He was a guided missile pioneer who was killed in March 1946 in a B-17 crash on Formosa (Taiwan). The base was named for him in 1949.

HOMESTEAD AFB, FL (Homestead) - named for the city of Homestead.

HURLBURT FIELD, FL (Ft Walton Beach) - officially designated Eglin Air Force Auxiliary Field 9 and named for 1Lt Donald W. Hurlburt (1919-1943). He was a WWII bomber pilot who received the DFC after flying combat missions from Great Britain. He was assigned to Eglin Field in mid-1943. He died in October 1943 when his AT-18 crashed at Eglin.

KEESLER AFB, MS (Biloxi) - named for 2Lt Samuel R. Keesler, Jr (1896-1918), born at Greenwood, MS. He was a WWI aerial observer who was killed in October 1918 when his Sopwith Camel was shot down by German Fokkers. He received the DSC posthumously for bravery in action.

KELLY AFB, TX (San Antonio) - named for 2Lt George M. Kelly (1878-1911), born in London, England. He became an American citizen in 1902. He became the U.S. Army's first pilot and second officer casualty when his Curtiss Type IV biplane lost a wheel brace while landing at Ft Sam Houston, TX. The plane veered toward the camp so Lt Kelly banked sharply and dove into the ground on 10 May 1911. Camp Kelly, near Ft Sam Houston, was redesignated Kelly Field on 30 July 1917.

KINCHELOE AFB, MI (Sault Ste Marie) - named for Capt Iven C. Kincheloe (1928-1958), born at Detroit, MI. He was a double jet ace of the Korean War and an X-2 research rocket airplane test pilot who was killed in July 1958 when his F-104 crashed near Edwards AFB, CA. Closed Sep 77.

KING SALMON AIRPORT, AK - named for the adjacent hunting and fishing area.

KIRTLAND AFB, NM (Albuquerque) - named for Col Roy S. Kirtland (1874-1941), born Ft Benton, MT. He was an air pioneer who learned to fly in 1911 at Dayton, OH in a Wright airplane. He retired in 1938 but returned to active duty with the West Coast AAF Training Center as the WWII buildup began. He died of a heart attack in May 1941 at Moffett Field, CA. Albuquerque Army Air Base was renamed Kirtland Field in 1942.

K.I. SAWYER AFB, MI (Gwinn) - named for Kenneth I. Sawyer (1884-1944). He was a local county road commissioner; in 1941 he presented the plan for the county airport that became K.I. Sawyer AFB.

LACKLAND AFB, TX (San Antonio) - named for Brigadier General Frank D. Lackland (1884-1943), born in Fauquier County, VA. He was Commandant of the Advanced Flying School from 1938-1939. He died at Walter Reed Hospital. The Aviation Cadet School, separated from Kelly Field in June 1942, was renamed Lackland AFB in July 1947.

LANGLEY AFB, VA (Hampton) - named for Professor Samuel Pierpont Langley (1834-1906), aviation pioneer, astronomer, physicist, and Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. He successfully flew powered models as early as 1896 and encouraged aviation pioneers such as the Wright brothers. Activated in 1916, Langley is the oldest continuously

active base in the Air Force.

LAREDO AFB, TX (Laredo) - named for the city of Laredo. Closed in October 1973.

LAUGHLIN AFB, TX (Del Rio) - named for 1Lt Jack T. Laughlin (1914-1942) a Del Rio native. He became the first combat casualty of Del Rio in WWI when the B-17 he was piloting was downed by enemy groundfire over Java on 19 Jan 42.

LITTLE ROCK AFB, AR (Jacksonville) - named for the city of Little Rock. Established in early 1955.

LORING AFB, ME (Limestone) - named for Major Charles J. Loring, Jr, (1918-1952), a Portland, ME native killed in Korea in November 1952 when he deliberately crashed his damaged F-80 into enemy gun emplacements near Sniper Ridge. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Limestone AFB was renamed for him in October 1954.

LOS ANGELES AFS, CA (Los Angeles) - named for the city of Los Angeles.

LOWRY AFB, CO (Denver) - named for 1Lt Francis B. Lowry (1895-1918), a Denver native. He was the only Colorado airman killed in WWI. He died in action near Crepion, France in September 1918, when anti-aircraft fire destroyed the Salmson 2A2 aircraft in which he was an observer.

LUKE AFB, AZ (Litchfield Park) - named for 1Lt Frank Luke, Jr (1897-1918), a native of Phoenix. He was known as the "Balloon Buster" and was the second ranked ace among American airmen in WWI; he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for shooting down 18 airplanes and balloons between 16 Aug and 29 Sep 1918. Litchfield Park Air Base was renamed Luke Field in 1941.

MacDILL AFB, FL (Tampa) - named for Col Leslie MacDill (1889-1938), born at Monmouth, IL. He commanded an aerial gunnery school in France during WWI. He was killed in November 1938 when his North American BC-1 crashed at Anacostia, DC. The base was renamed for him in 1939.

MALMSTROM AFB, MT (Great Falls) - named for Col Einar A. Malmstrom (1907-1954), born at Chicago, IL. In April 1944 he was shot down over France on his 58th combat fighter mission. He was taken prisoner and became the American commander of Stalag Luft I South Compound at Barth, Germany. In 1954 Col Malmstrom went to Great Falls Air Force Base as Deputy Commander of the 407th Strategic Fighter Wing. He died in the crash of his T-33 near the base. The base was renamed Malmstrom AFB in October 1955.

MARCH AFB, CA (Riverside) - named for 2Lt Peyton C. March, Jr (1896-1918), born at Ft Monroe, VA. He was the son of WWI the Army Chief of Staff. He died of injuries received in the crash of his Curtiss JN-4 in February 1918 at San Antonio, TX. Mesandro Avia-

tion Field was renamed March Field in March 1918.

**MATHER AFB, CA (Sacramento)** - named for 2Lt Carl S. Mather (1894-1918), born at Paw Paw, MI. He was a pioneer aviation instructor who was killed in January 1918 in a midair collision near Ellington Field, TX while on a training flight. Base renamed in May 1918.

**MAXWELL AFB, AL (Montgomery)** - named for 2Lt William C. Maxwell (1892-1920), born at Natchez, MS. He grew up in Atmore, Alabama. He died in August 1920 during an emergency landing in the Philippines when his DH-4 struck a glagpole after he had swerved to avoid striking several children at play. Montgomery Air Intermediate Depot was renamed Maxwell Field in 1922.

**McCHORD AFB, WA (Tacoma)** - named for Col William C. McChord (1881-1937), born at Lebanon, KY. Col McChord was killed when his A-17 crashed near Maidens, VA in August 1937. He was Chief of the Training and Operations Division, Headquarters Air Corps at the time of his death. Pierce County Airport was renamed McChord Field in 1937.

**McCLELLAN AFB, CA (Sacramento)** - named for Major Hezekiah McClellan (1894-1936), born at Hall, IN. He was an Arctic aeronautical pioneer and posthumous recipient of the DFC. He died in May 1936 while on a flight-test near Centerville, OH. Sacramento Air Depot was renamed McClellan Field in December 1939.

**McCONNELL AFB, KS (Wichita)** - named for two brothers from a Wichita family. Both were WWI bomber pilots. 2Lt Thomas L. McConnell (1923-1943) was killed during an attack on Bougainville Island in the Pacific in July 1943. His brother, Capt Fred J. McConnell (1918-1945), survivor of 65 combat missions, died in the crash of his private biplane at the Garden Plain Airport in Kansas in October 1945. Wichita AFB was renamed McConnell AFB in April 1954.

**McCOY AFB, FL (Pinecastle)** - named for Col Michael N.W. McCoy (1905-1957), born at Orleans, IN. He was a pioneer long-distance flyer. Col McCoy was commander of the 306th Bomb Wing at MacDill AFB from 1951-1953. He became commander of the 321st Bomb Wing at Pinecastle AFB, FL in 1953. He died at Pinecastle in October 1957 when his B-47 exploded in the air. Pinecastle AFB was renamed McCoy AFB in May 1958. The base closed in August 1974.

**McGUIRE AFB, NJ (Wrightstown)** - named for Major Thomas B. McGuire, Jr (1920-1945), a Ridgway, NJ native. He is the second ranked ace of WWII, credited with 38 victories in the South Pacific. He was killed in January 1945 while leading a P-38 attack over an enemy airstrip in the Philippines. He was awarded the Medal of Honor posthumously. The base at Ft Dix was renamed in his honor.

**MINOT AFB, ND (Minot)** - named for the city of Minot.

**MOODY AFB, GA (Valdosta)** - named for Major George P. Moody (1908-1941), born at Manila, P.I. As an Army Air Corps member, he flew the U.S. airmail in 1934. He was killed in May 1941 while flight-testing an AT-10 transitional trainer at Wichita, KS.

Valdosta Airfield was renamed Moody Field in December 1941.

MOUNTAIN HOME AFB, ID (Mt Home) - named for the city of Mt Home.

MYRTLE BEACH AFB, SC (Myrtle Beach) - named for the city of Myrtle Beach.

NELLIS AFB, NV (Las Vegas) - named for 1Lt William H. Nellis (1916-1944), born at Santa Rita, NM. He grew up in Searchlight and graduated from Las Vegas High School. Nellis was a WWII fighter pilot who was killed in December 1944 on his 70th mission, while flying his P-47 over Bastogne, Belgium. Las Vegas AFB was renamed for him in 1950.

NORTON AFB, CA (San Bernardino) - named for Capt Leland F. Norton (1920-1944), born at San Bernardino, CA. He was a WWII bomber pilot; on his 16th combat mission, his A-20 was hit by anti-aircraft fire in May 1944 near Amiens, France. He ordered his crew to bail out and went down with his aircraft. San Bernardino AFB was named after him in March 1950.

OFFUTT AFB, NE (Omaha) - named for 1Lt Jarvis J. Offutt (1884-1918), born at Omaha and Omaha's first casualty of WWI. He died of injuries sustained when the SE 5 he was ferrying crashed as a result of enemy fire over Valheureux, France.

OTIS AFB, MA (Falmouth) - named for 1Lt Frank J. Otis (1905-1937), born at Chicago, IL. He was a lieutenant in the Massachusetts National Guard and a resident surgeon at Boston City Hospital. On a flight for the Guard from Boston to Moline, IL, his Douglas O-46A crashed due to engine failure into the Illinois River near Peoria, IL. Closed.

PATRICK AFB, FL (Cocoa Beach, FL) - named for Major General Mason M. Patrick (1863-1942), born in WV. He was WWI Chief of Air Service in the Army Expeditionary Corps and postwar Chief of Air Service. He recommended the legislation in 1926 that changed the Air Service to the Air Corps, and eventually led to an independent Air Force.

PEASE AFB, NH (Portsmouth) - named for Capt Harl Pease, Jr (1917-1942), born at Plymouth, NH. His B-17 failed to return to base after attacking an enemy airfield on New Britain. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. Portsmouth AFB was renamed for him in 1957.

PETERSON AFB, CO (Colorado Springs) - named for 1Lt Edward J. Peterson (1917-1942), a Colorado native killed when his F-4 (P-51) experienced engine failure upon takeoff and crashed at the field that bears his name.

PLATTSBURGH AFB, NY (Plattsburgh) - named for the city of Plattsburgh.

POPE AFB, NC (Fayetteville) - named for 1Lt Harley H. Pope (1879-1919), born in Indiana. He was a WWI pilot. In early 1919 he was assigned to locate landing fields for an airmail route between

Virginia and South Carolina, without benefit of navigational aids. His JN-4 ran out of fuel and crashed near Fayetteville. Camp Bragg Flying Field was named for him.

RANDOLPH AFB, TX (San Antonio) - named for Capt William M. Randolph, (1893-1928), an Austin, TX native. He died in February 1928 when his AT-4 crashed on takeoff at Gorman, TX. The training base at San Antonio was named for him in September 1928.

REESE AFB, TX (Lubbock) - named for 1Lt Augustus F. Reese, Jr (1917-1943), a Josephine, TX native. He was killed in May 1943 when his plane struck the ground after a strafing run over Sardinia. Lubbock AFB was renamed for him.

RICHARDS-GEBAUR AFB, MO (Grandview) - named for two Kansas City natives, 1Lt John F. Richards (1894-1918), killed the first day of the Argonne offensive in September 1918 on an artillery spotting mission, and Lt Col Arthur W. Gebaur, Jr (1919-1952), killed during the Korean War on his 99th mission in an F-84 Thunderjet in August 1952 during a low-level bombing run. Grandview AFB was renamed for them in 1957.

RICKENBACKER ANGB, OH (Lockbourne) - named for Capt Edward "Eddie" Rickenbacker (1890-1973), Medal of Honor winner and leading American ace of WWI. The base, previously known as Lockbourne AFB and named for the nearby community, was renamed for him in May 1974. Rickenbacker was born at Columbus, OH.

ROBINS AFB, GA (Macon) - named for Brigadier General Augustine Warner Robins (1882-1940), born in Virginia. He was an early chief of the Materiel Division of the U.S. Army Air Corps. He died while serving as commandant of the Air Corps Training Center at Randolph Field, TX in June 1940. Robins Field was renamed for him in 1948.

SCOTT AFB, IL (Belleville) - named for Corporal Frank S. Scott (1884-1912), born in Pennsylvania. He was the first enlisted man to lose his life in an air accident in a crash of a Wright Type B Flyer on 28 September 1912 at College Park, MD. Scott Field was named for him in 1917.

SCHILLING AFB, KS (Salina) - named for Col David C. Schilling (1918-1956), born at Leavenworth, KS. He was a top fighter ace of WWII (10th for all-time aces with 22½ enemy planes to his credit) and leader of the first nonstop transatlantic flight of jet planes. He was killed in August 1956 in a car crash near Mildenhall, England. In March 1957 Smoky Hill AFB was renamed for him. Closed.

SELFRIDGE AFB, MI (Mount Clemens) - named for 1Lt Thomas E. Selfridge (1882-1908), born in San Francisco, CA. He was the first of the "firsts" (the first military office to design a powered aircraft; the first to pilot such an aircraft on 19 May 1908; and the first Army officer to be killed in an airplane crash during a trial flight at Ft Myer on 17 September 1908. This was the World's first fatal airplane accident. The base, named for him in 1949, is now closed.

SEYMOUR JOHNSON AFB, NC (Goldsboro) - named for Navy Lt Seymour A. Johnson (1904-1941), a native of Goldsboro, NC. He was killed in March 1941 when his Grumman monoplane crashed near Norbeck, MD during flight tests. The field at Goldsboro was renamed for him in October 1942.

SHAW AFB, SC (Sumter) - named for 2Lt Erwin D. Shaw (1894-1918), born at Alcolu, SC. He graduated from Sumter High School. He was one of the first Americans to see air action in WWI, and was killed in July 1918. His Bristol airplane was shot down by three enemy planes on his return from a reconnaissance mission over France. He was able to down one of his attackers.

SHEMYA AFB, AK (Shemya Island) - named for the island off the coast of Alaska.

SHEPPARD AFB, TX (Wichita Falls) - named for Morris E. Sheppard, U.S. Senator from Texas. He was Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee from 1933 until his death in April 1941. He helped lead the fight for military preparedness before Pearl Harbor. The base was named for him six days after his death on 9 April.

SUNNYVALE AFS, CA (San José) - named for the area.

TINKER AFB, OK (Oklahoma City) - named for Major General Clarence L. Tinker (1887-1942), born in Kansas, but grew up in Pawhuska, Oklahoma, Indian Territory. He was part Osage Indian. He led a pre-dawn attack on Wake Island in June 1942. His LB-30 bomber failed to return from the mission. Oklahoma City Air Depot was named for him in 1943.

TRAVIS AFB, CA (Fairfield) - named for Brigadier General Robert E. Travis (1904-1950), born at Savannah, GA. He was commander of the 9th Heavy Bombardment Wing, 15th Air Force, at Fairfield-Suisun AFB, CA when he died in a B-29 crash there in August 1950. The base was renamed for him in October 1950.

TYNDALL AFB, FL (Panama City) - named for 1Lt Frank B. Tyndall (1894-1930), a Florida native. He was a WWI fighter pilot and Silver Star recipient who was killed in a P-1 crash in North Carolina. The base was named for him in 1941.

VANCE AFB, OK (Enid) - named for Lt Col Leon R. Vance, Jr (1916-1944), born at Enid, OK. He was a WWII Medal of Honor recipient whose evacuation aircraft disappeared upon returning to the U.S between Iceland and Newfoundland. Enid AFB was renamed for him in 1949.

VANDENBERG AFB, CA (Santa Barbara) - named for General Hoyt S. Vandenberg (1899-1954), born in Milwaukee. He helped plan the Normandy landing on 6 June 1944. He became the second USAF Chief of Staff (30 Apr 48-30 Jun 53). He was an instructor pilot at March Field in the late 1920s. Cooke AFB was renamed for him in October 1958.

WEBB AFB, TX (Big Spring) - named for 1Lt James L. Webb (1924-1949), born at Sweetwater, TX. He flew 49 combat missions during WWII.

He died when his F-51 crashed into Hokkaido Bay, Japan in June 1949 during a storm. Big Spring AFB was renamed for him in May 1952. The base was closed in March 1979.

WESTOVER AFB, MA (Springfield) - named for Maj General Oscar Westover (1883-1938), born in Michigan. He was Chief of the Air Corps from 1935 until his death in September 1938 when his Northrop A-17AS attack airplane crashed and burned near the Lockheed plant in Burbank, CA. Northeast Air Base was renamed for him in 1939. Westover AFB was transferred to the Reserves in 1974.

WHEELER AFB, HI (Wahiawa, Oahu) - named for Major Sheldon H. Wheeler (1889-1921), born in New York City. He was a WWI pilot who was killed in an Army observation biplane when it nose-dived onto Luke Field in Hawaii in July 1921. Wheeler Field was named for him in 1923. The base closed in the late 1970s.

WHITEMAN AFB, MO (Knob Noster) - named for 2Lt George H. Whiteman (1919-1941), born at Sedalia, MO. He died on 7 December 1941 while attempting to take off from Wheeler Field during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. He was the first member of the U.S. armed forces to die in aerial combat during WWII. Sedalia AFB was named for him in October 1955.

WILLIAMS AFB, AZ (Chandler) - named for 1Lt Charles L. Williams (1898-1927), born at Fort Huachuca, AZ. He died when his Boeing PW-9A pursuit aircraft crashed near Ft DeRussy, Hawaii in July 1927 during an aerial demonstration. Higley Field was renamed for him in 1942.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OH (Dayton) - named for aviation pioneers Orville (1871-1948) and Wilbur (1867-1912) Wright, and 1Lt Frank S. Patterson (1897-1918) who was killed in an aircraft crash near the Fairfield Aviation General Supply Depot while testing fixed machine guns synchronized to fire through the propeller of a DH-4. Fairfield Depot was renamed for Lt Patterson in July 1931. In January 1948 Wright Field merged with Patterson Field, to become Wright-Patterson AFB.

WURTSMITH AFB, MI (Oscoda) - named for Major General Paul B. Wurtsmith (1906-1946), born at Detroit, MI. He commanded the 13AF in the Southwest Pacific during WWII. From March 1942 to January 1943 he shot down 78 enemy aircraft. He died when his B-25 crashed into Cold Mountain near Asheville, NC in September 1946. Oscoda AFB was renamed for him in February 1953.