

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AAA - antiaircraft artillery
AAB - Army Air Base
AAC - Alaskan Air Command
AAF - Army Air Forces
AAFld - Army Air Field
AB - Air Base
ABCCC - Airborne Battlefield Command Control and Communication
ABG - Air Base Group
ABW - Air Base Wing
AC - Symbol following some photo negative numbers, denoting a black and white negative.
AC&CS - Airborne Command and Control Squadron
ACC - Air Combat Command
ACE - Accelerated Co-Pilot Enrichment Program
ACW - Air Control Wing
ADC - Air Defense Command (see also ADCOM)
ADCOM -- Air (later, Aerospace) Defense Command (see also, ADC)
addn - additional
Adv Tn - Advanced Trainer
ADVON - advanced echelon
AEF - American Expeditionary Force
AEMS - Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron
AETC - Air Education and Training Command
AEW - Airborne Early Warning
AF - Air Force
AFB - Air Force Base
AFCON - Air Force-controlled
AFHRA - Air Force Historical Research Agency
AFLC - Air Force Logistics Command
afld - airfield
AFMC - Air Force Materiel Command
AFOEA - Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
AFOUA - Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
AFRC - Air Force Reserve Command
AFRES - Air Force Reserve
AFRTC - Air Force Reserve Training Center
AFS - Air Force Station
AFSC - Air Force Systems Command
AFSOC - Air Force Special Operations Command
AFSPC - Air Force Space Command
AIA - Air Intelligence Agency
ALCE - Airlift Control Element
ALCM - Air Launched Cruise Missile
ALCS - Airborne Launch Control System
AMC - Air Mobility Command
AMW - Air Mobility Wing
ANG - Air National Guard
ANGB - Air National Guard Base
Aprt - Airport
ARADCOM - Army Air Defense Command

ARB - Air Reserve Base
ARFC - Air Reserve Flying Center
ART - Air Reserve Technician
ARW - Air Refueling Wing
AS - Air Station
ATC - Air Training Command [1946-1993](later, AETC); Air Transport Command [1942-1948]
ATTF - Alaska Tanker Task Force
Aux - Auxiliary
AW - Airlift Wing
AWADS - Adverse Weather Aerial Delivery System

BMEWS - Ballistic Missile Early Warning System
Brig Gen - Brigadier General
BW - Bombardment/Bomb Wing

c. - circa (about or approximately)

Capt - Captain
CBI - China-Burma-India Theater
CCF - Chinese Communist Forces (Korean War)
CCTS - Combat Crew Training Squadron
CCTW - Combat Crew Training Wing
CENTAF - Central Air Force
CINCLANT - Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic
CINCPAC - Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Command
CINCPACAF - Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Air Forces
CINCSAC - Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command
CINCUSAFE - Commander-in-Chief, United States Air Forces in Europe
COB - Collocated Operating Base
Col - Colonel
CONAD - Continental Air Defense Command
CONUS - Continental United States
CSG - Combat Support Group
CTS - Combat Training Squadron
CZ - Canal Zone (in Panama)

DAF - Department of the Air Force
Det - detachment
DEW - Distant Early Warning
DFSC - Symbol denoting color photographic number
DOD - Department of Defense
DRU - Direct Reporting Unit
DUC - Distinguished Unit Citation
dy – duty

EAME - European-African-Middle Eastern
ECM - Electronic Countermeasures
ETO - European Theater of Operations
ETTF - European Tanker Task Force

FAC - Forward Air Control
FBG - Fighter Bomber Group
FEAF - Far East Air Forces (later named PACAF)

FICON - Fighter-Interceptor Carrier, Reconnaissance

Fld - Field

FMS - Field Maintenance Squadron

FOA - Field Operating Agency

FS - Fighter Squadron

Ft - Fort

FTW - Flying Training Wing

FW - Fighter Wing

GHQAF - General Headquarters Air Force

GLCM - Ground Launched Cruise Missile

HQ - Headquarters

IBC - Iceland Base Command

ICBM - intercontinental ballistic missile

ICM - intercontinental missile (i.e. the Snark)

Intl - international

IRBM - intermediate range ballistic missile

IW - Intelligence Wing

K/KE - Symbols denoting photo color negative number

KTACS - Korean Tactical Air Control System

LANTIRN - Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared System for Night

LG - Landing Ground

LGB - laser guided bomb

Lt Col - Lieutenant Colonel

MAC - Military Airlift Command (earlier called MATS)

Maj - Major

Maj Gen - Major General

MAJCOM - Major Command

MAJCON - major command controlled

MATS - Military Air Transport Service (later called MAC)

MAW - Military Airlift Wing

MDW - Medical Wing

MiG - Soviet fighter aircraft

MILSTAR - Military Strategic and Tactical Relay System

MMS - Munitions Maintenance Squadron

mph - miles per hour

MTO - Mediterranean Theater of Operations

MUC - Meritorious Unit Commendation

Muni - Municipal

MW - Missile Wing

NAF - Numbered Air Force

NAS - Naval Air Station

NASA - National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NATO - North Atlantic Treaty Organization

NAVSTAR - Navigational Satellite Timing and Ranging

NEACP - National Emergency Airborne Command Post

NORAD - North American Air Defense Command

NUC - Navy Unit Commendation

OCAC - Office of the Chief of the Air Corps

OG - Operations Group

OL - Operating Location

OMS - Organizational Maintenance Squadron

PACAF - Pacific Air Forces (earlier called FEAF)

PACCS - Post-attack Command and Control System

POMO - Production Oriented Maintenance Organization

POW - Prisoner of War

Prov - Provisional

PUC - Presidential Unit Citation

RAAF - Royal Australian Air Force

RAF - Royal Air Force (of Great Britain)

R&D - Research and Development

RCM - Electronic-countermeasure reconnaissance

RQW - Rescue Wing

RS - Reconnaissance Squadron

RTAFB - Royal Thai(land) Air Force Base

RTNAfld - Royal Thai(land) Navy Airfield

RTU - Replacement Training Unit

RW - Reconnaissance Wing

SAC - Strategic Air Command

SAGE - semi-automatic ground environment

SEA - Southeast Asia

SMS - Strategic Missile Squadron

SMW - Strategic Missile Wing

SOA - Separate Operating Agency

SOS - Special Operations Squadron

SOW - Special Operations Wing

SPTW - Support Wing

SPW - Space Wing (prior to 1994 [see also SW])

SRAM - Short Range Attack Missile

SRS - Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron

SRW - Strategic Reconnaissance Wing

Sta - Station

START - Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty

STS - Space Transportation System

SW - Strategic Wing prior to 1994/Space Wing after 1994

SWA - Southwest Asia

T/D - Table of Distribution

T/O - Table of Organization

TAC - Tactical Air Command

TAS - Tactical Airlift Squadron

TASS - Tactical Air Support Squadron

TAW - Tactical Airlift Wing

TCG - Troop Carrier Group

TCW - Troop Carrier Wing
TEWS - Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron
TFS - Tactical Fighter Squadron
TFTG - Tactical Fighter Training Group
TFTS - Tactical Fighter Training Squadron
TFTW - Tactical Fighter Training Wing
TFW - Tactical Fighter Wing
TH - Territory of Hawaii
TMW - Tactical Missile Wing
TRS - Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron
TRW - Tactical Reconnaissance Wing prior to 1992; Training Wing after 1993
TTS - Tactical Training Squadron
TUSLOG - The United States Logistics Group
TW - Test Wing

UN - United Nations
unkn - unknown
US - United States (of America)
USA - United States Army
USAF - United States Air Force
USAFA - United States Air Force Academy
USAFE - United States Air Forces in Europe
USARPAC - United States Army, Pacific
USMC - United States Marine Corps
USN - United States Navy
USNAS - United States Naval Air Station
USSTAF - United States Strategic Air Forces

VA - Veterans Administration
VHB - Very Heavy Bombardment
VIP - Very Important Person(s)
VNAF - Vietnamese Air Force (Republic of Vietnam or South Vietnam)

WD - War Department
WG - Wing