

First in Flight



A log book of
“Firsts,” “Lasts”
and other aviation
milestones at
Selfridge Air
National Guard Base

Depending on the criteria one chooses to use, Selfridge Air National Guard Base ranks somewhere in the middle of the pack in the list of the 10 oldest military air fields in the U.S. Since the first military unit – Company G, 33rd Infantry of the Michigan National Guard -- arrived at the air field in Macomb County’s Harrison Township and the first Curtiss JN-4 Jenny wobbled into the air in the summer of 1917, Selfridge has time and time again been the location from which America’s sons and daughters have answered their nation’s call.

Through every decade, Americans have served at Selfridge, flying dozens of different types of aircraft on missions so numerous that no one book could ever contain them all. Selfridge Airmen have served in wars and battles, flown countless test flights and experimental missions and embarked on deployments to all corners of the globe. Still fresh in recent memory were missions flown on one of the darkest days in modern U.S. history: Selfridge Airmen flew armed combat patrols over the Detroit region to protect their neighbors on Sept. 11, 2001, when America came under attack.

Over the years, many things have changed at Selfridge. Aircraft, squadrons, buildings, uniform styles. They have all come and gone. But one thing has remained rock steady: the dedication and pride of the men and women who have served and are serving today at Selfridge. That has remained rock steady since the day Capt. Byron Q. Jones first rolled down a grass runway in a brand-new Jenny on July 8, 1917, and Selfridge Field got down to business.

This booklet features many of the “firsts,” “lasts” and other milestones related to Selfridge Air National Guard Base, the Michigan Air National Guard and to military-related aviation in Michigan in general. While many of these records are from official sources, some are difficult to verify with certainty. All information included in this booklet is current as of June 1, 2014.

— TSgt. Dan Heaton
127th Wing Public Affairs
Editor



Two Airmen, rank & duty assignment unknown, stand with an aircraft bearing the Red Devils insignia which has been a part of the 107th Fighter Squadron identity since 1926.

Yesterday & Today

The Michigan Air National Guard and Selfridge Air National Guard Base represent a proud heritage of military flight operations, based in metropolitan Detroit and serving America. Today's Michigan Air National Guard operates the A-10 Thunderbolt II and KC-135 Stratotanker, seen above following the conclusion of an aerial refueling operation. The Michigan Air National Guard got its start in 1926, when the 107th Observation Squadron received federal recognition from the War Department (today's Department of Defense), the fifth such unit to be so recognized.

Congress Approves Acquisition of Selfridge Field: May 7, 1917. (Property leased from Henry B. Joy, president of Packard Automobile), who previously operated the property as Joy Aviation Field.)

First Military Unit at Selfridge: Company G, 33rd Infantry, 125th Infantry Regiment (Michigan National Guard) took possession of Selfridge Field, July 1, 1917. Replaced by active-duty Army shortly thereafter.

First base commander: Capt. Byron Q. Jones.

First Flight at Selfridge Field: July 8, 1917. Capt. Byron Q. Jones, in a Curtiss JN-4 Jenny.



Joy

The First “First”

Oct. 15, 1911. Capt. George W. McKay, Michigan National Guard, at Mineola, New York, flies a Moissant monoplane. McKay is the first pilot in any state’s National Guard to pilot an aircraft while in duty status. He was awarded the Aero Club of America’s Aviator Certificate (the forerunner of today’s pilot license) #67 three days later.



Jones

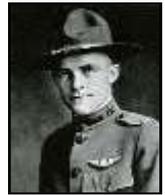
Beginning of Pilot Training at Selfridge Field: July 16, 1917.

First Aircraft Assigned to Selfridge: Curtiss JN-4 Jenny

First Flying Units Assigned to Base: 8th Aero Squadron and 9th Aero Squadron, July, 1917.

First Fatal Crash: June 26, 1918. Pilot 2nd Lt. John Patton Boyle dies, 2nd Lt.

Allen D. Eby is injured



Boyle

but survives, when their Curtiss JN-4 Jenny crashes in a farmer’s field (owned by a Mr. Lenfesty) near the base.

Most Number of Aircraft Launched: At one point in 1918, during World War I pilot training, 52 aircraft were aloft over Selfridge Field at one time. Unofficial record.

Thomas Selfridge

In 1917, with America about to enter World War I, a number of military airfields were quickly created around the country to begin training a new American air force. One of those bases, located near Mount Clemens, Mich., was named for early aviation pioneer Thomas E. Selfridge, a 1903 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy.



Dec. 6, 1907: Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge flew strapped on to Alexander Graham Bell's kite, Cygnet I. It was towed by a motorboat tug and stayed aloft for 7 minutes over Bras d'Or Lake, Nova Scotia.

March 12, 1908: Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge's Red Wing, the first Aerial Experiment Association airplane, made its first flight at Lake Keuka, Hammondsport, N. Y., with Frederick

W. "Casey" Baldwin at the controls.

May 19, 1908: Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, the first US Army officer to fly an airplane, flew the White Wing at Hammondsport. It was Dr. Alexander Graham Bell's second Aerial Experiment Association plane, and it had hinged ailerons.

Aug. 12, 1908: Lts. Frank P. Lahm, Benjamin D. Foulois, and Thomas E. Selfridge began the first, official American airship tests at Fort Myer, Virg.

Sept. 17, 1908: Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, flying as a passenger with Orville Wright, died when the Wright Flyer crashed at Fort Myer, Virg. This event was the world's first fatal airplane accident. Wright also received serious injuries, but survived.

First Airplane To Exceed 200

Miles Per Hour: Oct. 14, 1922. 1st Lt. Russell Maughan, First Pursuit Group, Curtiss R-6 Racer. Speed was recorded at 205.8 mph. Russell, who flew 248.5 mph two days later,

set the mark before the "official" international time keepers arrived. This allowed Brig. Gen. William "Billy" Mitchell to set the



Maughan



FIRST FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF A MICHIGAN FLYING UNIT: On May 7, 1926, 107th Observation Squadron, though not equipped with any aircraft at the time, is recognized, along with the 107th Photo Section and the 107th **Medical Section, as part of the Michigan National Guard's 32nd** Division. With this, Michigan becomes the fifth state National Guard with an officially recognized flying unit.

official record on Oct. 18, 1922.
(Believed to be a “world’s first.”)

First (Certified) Aerial Speed Record: Oct. 18, 1922. Brig. Gen. William (Billy) Mitchell flies a Curtiss R-6 racer 222.96 miles per hour. **This is the first aerial speed record certified outside of France.**



Mitchell

First Distinguished Flying Cross Awarded, in State of Michigan: Rescue of injured boy, Beaver Island, by Lt. Russell “Luff” Meredith, Selfridge Field, Feb. 7, 1923. Medal awarded in 1934.



Meredith

First Use of a Drop Tank: (First in the Air Force) March 5, 1923. An MB3A airplane at Selfridge Field,

equipped with a releasable gas tank containing 37 gallons of gasoline. This tank is suspended from the bomb rack under the fuselage. The releasing device is controlled from the cockpit. This added supply of gasoline will increase the flying radius of an MB3A to about 400 miles.

First “Permanent” Housing Built at Selfridge:

1927, NCO housing in the “200” area. First permanent officers housing (Bldgs 438, 440, 442, 444, , 448. 450. 452 & 454) completed December 1931. NCO housing demolished, 2011.

First Runway Lights/Flight:

April, 1927.

Series of touch & goes by future



Hunter

Major Gen.

(and WWI ace) Frank O’D. Hunter.

First “night” mission:

June 24, 1927, Lt. George Fince.

3 CHIEFS

GEN. CARL SPAATZ (later Spatz) was the first of three future chiefs of staff to serve a key portion of their careers at Selfridge.



Spaatz was the commander of the 1st

Pursuit Group at Selfridge, his first major command, 1922-24. He was the first chief of staff of the Air Force in 1947. After he served at Selfridge, he changed the spelling of his last name to include only one “a.”

GEN. CURTIS LEMAY was at Selfridge in 1929 for his first duty assignment after pilot training. He was the chief of staff



1961-65 and will forever be known as the driving force behind the nation’s nuclear bomber force.

GEN. GEORGE S. BROWN first became a Wing commander at Selfridge in 1951.



He was chief of staff of the Air Force 1973-74 and then chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1974-78.



FIRST “TUSKEGEE AIRMEN” FLIGHT AT SELFRIDGE: March 28, 1943. The 332nd Fighter Group flies in to the base for permanent assignment and training. Photo shows maintenance training at Selfridge Field, c. 1943.

Charles Lindbergh at Selfridge: Landed July 1, 1927 in “Spirit of St. Louis” for Reserve training.



Lindbergh

First Navy Aircraft at Selfridge: Consolidated NY-1, operated by Torpedo Squadron 31 (VT-31) in 1927. By end of 1927, VT-31 was assigned to Naval Station Grosse Ile. Navy aviation returned to Selfridge in 1969 when Naval Air Station Grosse Ile closed.

First “Arctic Patrol” Flight: Major Ralph Royce, commander, 1st Pursuit Group, was awarded the 1930 Mackay Trophy “for the “Arctic Patrol” flight from Selfridge Field to Spokane, Washington and return in January 1930 during a period of extreme cold (up to 45 degrees below zero while airborne), snow and other bad flying and operating conditions, which resulted in valuable information being gathered concerning airplanes, equipment, and flying personnel carrying on under severe winter operating conditions.

RALPH ROYCE, a Michigan native, served in the Air Corps for 32 years, retiring as a major general. He



served with the 1st Aero Squadron in the Mexican Expedition of 1915 and saw extensive combat duty with the 1st Observation Squadron during World War I. During World War II, he was commander of First Air Force, among other assignments.

First Night Deployment. Feb. 15, 1931. A flight of 19 aircraft take off from Selfridge and eventually land at Bolling Field, Washington D.C. (This may have been the first large formation night flight in the Air Force)

First DFC Awarded, Member of Michigan ANG: 1Lt Robert D. Moor, an active duty pilot assigned as a member of the 107th Observation Squadron, Aug. 23, 1931. Remained in disabled aircraft to allow crew member to safely bail out. Moor died in subsequent crash.

First Use of Liquid Oxygen on an aircraft flight: Nov. 3, 1931, on 12 Pursuit aircraft flown by the 94th Pursuit Squadron on a flight from Selfridge to Washington D.C. This is the first operational use of LOX in the Air Force.

First Remotely-Piloted Aircraft flight at Selfridge: Jan. 11, 1941. Called a “robot plane,” a Douglas BT-2 is flown by remote control by the Sixth Pursuit Wing at Selfridge.

Oldest person to enlist at Selfridge: Master Sgt. John W. Westervelt, Army Air Corps, Aug. 9, 1941, age 73. (Possibly the oldest person ever allowed to enlist in U.S. Army)



Westervelt

First Commander, Michigan ANG: Maj. Urban

L. “Ben” Drew. Served as assistant adjutant for air/ commander of Michigan ANG, when Air Force/ ANG separated from the Army in September 1947. Drew was a World War II ace who became



Drew



FIRST JET-POWERED AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO SELFRIDGE: P-80 Shooting Star, 1947. (Later designated as F-80).

the only Allied pilot to shoot down two German jet aircraft (Me-262) in aerial combat. During the Oct. 7, 1944, action, Drew was flying a propeller-driven P-51 Mustang.

First Air Force Reserve aircraft assigned to Selfridge: C-46 Commando, 1949, assigned to 439th Troop Carrier Wing, Medium.

First Trans-Atlantic Flight by Fighter Aircraft: Launched from Selfridge AFB July 20, 1948. A flight of 16 F-80 Shooting Stars led by Col. David C. Schilling. Eventual destination: West Germany, during Berlin Air-lift. **First such Trans-Atlantic flight in Air Force history.**



Schilling



FIRST NIKE MISSILE UNIT AT SELFRIDGE: 1955-June 1971, operated during most of that time by U.S. Army 3d Battalion, 517th Artillery.

First female member of Michigan Air National Guard: Lt. Col. Rosemary Charboneau. 1957. Lt. Col.

Charboneau served as a nurse.

First Air Force Reserve units assigned to Selfridge: 439th Troop Carrier Wing, Medium assigned to Selfridge June 1949. 403rd Tactical Airlift Wing assigned to Selfridge Nov. 16, 1957. 305th Aerospace Rescue Squadron assigned to Selfridge, April 8, 1958.

First Numbered Air Force headquartered at Selfridge: 10th Air Force, January 1950 – Sept. 1, 1960. At the time, 10th Air Force was assigned combat-coded Air Force Reserve units.



First Strategic Air Command Unit Assigned to Selfridge AFB: 500th Air Refueling Wing, Nov. 15, 1962. Unit was assigned KC-97 Strato-tanker aircraft.

First Coast Guard flight at Selfridge: HH-52A Sea Guard helicopter, exact date unknown, 1966.

First enlisted female member of Michigan Air National Guard: Amn. Marie Stabile. January 1970.

Last active duty aircraft assigned to Selfridge: F-106 Delta Dart, 1971.

Last USAFR unit/aircraft assigned to Selfridge: 927th Air Refueling Wing, equipped with KC-135 Strato-tankers, departs 1 May 2008. Unit was established as the 927th Troop Carrier Group, Medium, on 15 January 1963 and organized in the Reserve on 11 February 1963, both at Selfridge AFB.



ANG Arrives at Selfridge: The first large-scale units of the Michigan Air National Guard to be assigned at Selfridge occurred in December 1970 when the 127th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing relocated all operations from Detroit Metro Airport to Selfridge.

FIRST JET-POWERED AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO MICHIGAN AIR NATIONAL GUARD: F-84 Thunderjet, 1950.



First ANG commander of Selfridge ANGB: Lt. Col. (later Brig. Gen.) Rudolph D. Bartholomew, assumed command of the newly-re-named Selfridge ANGB on July 1, 1971. (Change of



Bartholomew

command ceremony was on June 30, 1971) Command passes from the Air Force's Air Defense Command to the Michigan ANG. This was the first active, major Air Force Base to come under ANG control.



2014 version of the Michigan Six-Pack, featuring KC-135 Stratotanker.

First Michigan "Six-Pack": 191st Fighter Interceptor Group begins operation of F-106 Delta Dart, March 1, 1973, and the 191st becomes known as the Michigan Six-Pack.



LAST NAVY FLYING UNIT ASSIGNED TO SELFRIDGE: VP-93. Began operations at Selfridge, 1 July 1976, equipped with P-3 Orions. Dis-established 30 September 1994. In the photo, a P-3 flies over the Naval Air Facility Detroit at Selfridge in the early 1990s.



FIRST AMERICAN FIGHTER AIRCRAFT OPERATING FROM BASE IN IRAQ: The 107 FS, Michigan ANG, deployed 10 F-16Cs on an Air Expeditionary Force rotation to Iraq. Thus, the 107th became the first F-16 unit under the Total Air Force concept to operate from Kirkuk AB, a former Iraqi **Air Force installation. The unit became the first to employ the ANG's** Theater Airborne Reconnaissance System pod in actual combat conditions.

First ANG officer to serve as Adjutant General of Michigan: Major Gen. John A. Johnston, Dec. 13, 1974.

First Female Pilot, Michigan Air National Guard: Capt. Christina Kozhegy. December 1993.

Consolidation of 127th & 191st: The Michigan Air National Guard's 127th Tactical



Fighter Wing and the 191st Airlift Group were merged to create the 127th Wing, April 1, 1966.

First Female General, Michigan ANG: Brig. Gen. Carol Ann Fausone, April 2003.



Fausone

Last Occupied Housing Unit on Selfridge: 2006

Lt. Col.
Doug Cham-
pagne, 107th
Fighter
Squadron
commander,
talks about
the A-10
Thunderbolt
II mission at
Selfridge,
May 3, 2009.



First A-10 Launch by 127th Wing: May 3, 2009.

First KC-135 Launch by 127th Wing: Fall 2008

First Starbase program: Spring 1989. The Selfridge Starbase is designat-
ed as Starbase One. Starbase provides math, science and related education-
al opportunities for children. **(First in Dept. of Defense)**

First armed, combat air patrol flown over Detroit area: Sept. 11, 2001.
Two F-16 Fighting Falcons. Pilots: Major Douglas Champagne & Col.
Robert Johnston, 107th Fighter Squadron.

Other Michigan Firsts

First flight in Michigan (*Source: Michigan Historical Center*)

Wilbur and Orville Wright made their famous first powered, controlled
flight on December 17, 1903, at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. However,
Michigan's first flight took place five years earlier.

August Herring built models of flying machines as a boy in Georgia.
Later, he built gliders while working in Chicago. In 1897 he moved to St.
Joseph, Michigan.

He built a motorized biplane glider and flew it on a Lake Michigan
beach on October 22, 1898. Herring continued to try to improve the air-
craft, but a fire destroyed his work in 1899. Four years later he moved to
New York, where he started the first company to make airplanes for sale.

So, why are the Wright brothers in our history books instead of Augus-



August Herring with a glider in St. Joseph, Mich. Date unknown.

tus Herring? First, while people saw Herring's flight, the only photograph taken was of his landing. Many years later when proof was needed, there were no pictures of the plane in the air. Second, Herring controlled his plane by shifting his body weight. The Wright brothers used mechanical controls for their flight. Third, Herring believed that there was much more to be learned before flights would be successful and reliable. He hesitated to say that he "flew." He said that he achieved an "airborne condition." The phrase did not attract the media's attention.

First airplanes built in mass production (in the U.S., possibly the world): The Ford Tri-Motor, 1926. (*Source: Michigan Historical Center*)

First paved runway (in the world): Ford Airport, Dearborn. 1928
(*Source: Michigan Historical Center*)

First state-owned airport: Aug. 31, 1931, state officially opens Captain Phelps Collins Field in Alpena County. Today, this field is known Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. Collins was the first pilot with a U.S. Army unit to die while engaged in aerial combat in World War I.

127th Wing campaign streamers

- AF Outstanding Unit Award 1Jan 2000- 31Dec 2001
- AF Outstanding Unit Award 1983-84
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater 5 Dec 1945
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Central Europe 1945
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Normandy 1944
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Ardennes - Alsace 1944-1945
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Rhineland 1944-45
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Northern France 1944
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater Air Offensive, Eu-



- rope 1942-44
- WWII European -African-Middle Eastern Theater LeHavre and Straits of Dover
- WWII American Theater - Anti-Submarine 1941-45
- Presidential Unit Citation, 5 Dec 1945

**Capt. Eddie Rick-
enbacker, center,
America's Ace of
Aces in World
War I, poses with
other members of
the 94th Pursuit
Squadron, the
famous "Hat in
the Ring" squad-
ron, while at
Selfridge Field
following the close
of World War I.**



Units Assigned to Selfridge

(Current as of 1 June 2014)

Michigan Air National Guard

127th Wing

107th Weather Flight

127th Air Refueling Group

171st Air Refueling Squadron

191st Operation Support

Flight

191st Maintenance Squadron

191st Aircraft Maintenance

Squadron

191st Maintenance Operations Flight

127th Operations Group

107th Fighter Squadron

127th Operation Support

Flight

127th Mission Support Group

127th Civil Engineer Squadron

127th Security Forces Squadron

127th Logistics Readiness Squadron

127th Services Flight

127th Mission Support Flight

171st Aerial Port Flight

127th Maintenance Group

127th Maintenance Squadron

127th Aircraft Maintenance

Squadron

127th Maintenance Operations Flight

127th Medical Group



127th Medical Operations

Flight

127th Medical Support

Flight

Major Tenant Units

- Coast Guard Air Station Detroit
- Navy Operations Support Center
- Marine Wing Support Squadron 471-Det B
- Border Patrol Sector Detroit
- DRMO
- J-RISE, EUCOM
- Joint Combat Support Systems (JCSS)
- Army Aviation Support Facility #2
- 1st Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment
- US Customs and Border Protection Northern Air and Marine Wing

Selfridge Aircraft

1917-2014

List of aircraft assigned to Selfridge Field Air National Guard Base from the inception of the base as Selfridge Field in 1917. The list includes aircraft assigned to Air Force, Navy, Army and Coast Guard units, as well as NASA. The list is unofficial. It is current as of 1 June 2014.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
A-4	Skyhawk	1969	1972	VC-12
A-10	Thunderbolt II	2009	present	107 Sqdn
A-7	Corsair II	1978	1989	107 Sqdn
Albatross D-V			1919	???? 94 Sqdn
B-10	Bolo	????	????	
B-25	Mitchell	1944	????	477 Gp
B-26	Maurader	1944	1945	Free French
Breguet 14		1917	1917	9 Bomb Sqdn
BT-13	Valiant	1941	1941	50 GP
C/HC-30	Hercules	1971	2007	63, 171, 305 Sqdns



Michigan Army National Guard CH-47 Chinook, based at Selfridge, 2014.



A Curtiss P-6 Hawk, operated by the 36th Pursuit Squadron, at Selfridge Field. Date uncertain.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
C-1		1925	????	1 Gp
C-118	Liftmaster	1972	????	VR-52
C-119	Flying Boxcar	1947	1970	433 Gp, 439 Wg
C-131	Samaritan	1976	1986	
C-26	Metroliner	????	????	
C-4	Ford Trimotor	????	????	
C-46	Commando	????	????	439 Wg
C-47	Skytrain	1946	1951	Det 4 (ARRS), 56 Gp, 60 Gp, 1 Wg
C-54	Skymaster	1971	????	127 Wg
C-82	Packet	1952	1952	5 Sqdn
C-9	Nightingale	????	????	VR-62
CH-3	Sea King	????	1972	305 Sqdn
CH-46	Sea Knight	1972	1976	HMM766
CH-47	Chinook	????	present	AASF #2
DH-4		1917	1931	8, 9, 94, 95 Sqdns
F/P-51	Mustang	1946	1954	172, 431 Sqdns, 56 Gp, 439 Gp
F/RF-101	Voodoo	1971	1972	107, 171 Sqdns
F-100	Super Sabre	1972	1978	107 Sqdn
F-102	Delta Dagger	1958	1960	71 Sqdn
F-106	Delta Dart	????	1978	71, 94, 171 Sqdns, NASA

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
F-4	Phantom II	1978	1991	171 Sqdn
F-86	Sabre	1949	????	13, 56, 71, 94, 431 Sqdn
F-86	Sabre	1955	1960	94 Sqdn
F-94	Starfire	1951	????	61 Sqdn
Fokker D-VII			1919	1931 27, 94, 95
Sqdns				
H-19	Chicksaw	????	????	5, 49 Sqdns, CGAS-Detroit
H-5	Dragonfly	1947	1952	Det 4 (ARRS)
H-52	Seaguard	1981	1988	CGAS-Detroit
H-65	Dolphin	1988	present	CGAS-Detroit
HC/KC-97	Stratofreighter	1960	1992	305, 307 Sqdn
HH-19	Chicksaw	1957	1992	305 Sqdn
HH-3	Jolly Green Giant	????	????	305 Sqdn
HH-34	Sea Horse	????	1973	1 Wg, HMM 766
HH-43	Huskie	1959	1974	
JN-4	Jenny	1919	1924	94 Sqdn
JN-6	Jenny	1919	1924	94 Sqdn, 813 Aero Sqdn
KC-135	Stratotanker	1992	present	63, 171 Sqdns
L-13	Grasshopper	1949	1951	Det 4 (ARRS)



An F-94B, flown by the 61st Fighter Interceptor Squadron, sits on the ramp at Selfridge Air Force Base, in 1951.



KC-135 Stratotanker, 171st Air Refueling Squadron, at Selfridge, 2014.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
L-20	Beaver		1953	9 Liaison Sqdn
L-5	Sentinel	1947	????	Det 4 (ARRS)
MB-3		1922	1931	95 Sqdn
O-2		1928	1932	15, 36 Sqdns
OA-10	Catalina	1947	1951	Det 4 (ARRS)
Orenco D		1919	1924	94 Sqdn
OV-10	Bronco	1969	1976	VMO-4
P-1	Hawk	1925	1932	17, 27, 36, 94 Sqdns
P-12		1930	1932	94, 95, 421 Sqdns
P-16		1932	1934	94 Sqdn
P-2	Hawk	1926	1931	17, 27, 94 Sqdns
P-26	Peashooter	1932	1938	38, 94, 421 Sqdns
P-3	Hawk	1926	1931	17, 27, 94 Sqdns
P-3	Orion	1976	1994	VP-93
P-30 (PB-2)		1934	1938	27, 94 Sqdn, 1 Wg
P-35		1934	1941	39, 94 Sqdns, 49, 50 Gps
P-38	Lightning	1941	1941	94 Sqdn
P-39	Aircobra	1940	1943	39 Sqdn, 31, 52, 332 Gps
P-40	Warhawk	1939	1943	94 Sqdn, 31, 52, 332 Gps
P-47	Thunderbolt	1942	????	58, 80, 414 Gps, Free French
P-5	Superhawk	1926	1931	94 Sqdn



C-130E Hercules, marked with the tail flash of the 171st Airlift Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard, 2007.

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
P-6	Hawk	1930	1938	17, 27, 36, 94 Sqdns
P-80	Shooting Star	1947	1950	61, 63 Sqdns
Pfalz D-III		1919	????	94 Sqdn
PT-1	Trusty	????	????	1 Wg
PW-5	Smyk	1919	1924	94 Sqdn
PW-8	Hawk	1924	1926	94 Sqdn
PW-9		1922	1931	95 Sqdn
RF-84	Thunderflash	1971	????	107, 171 Sqdns
Roland D-VI		1919	????	94 Sqdn
S-2	Tracker	1968	1976	VS-64, VS-74
SA-16/HU-16	Albatross	1950	1951	5, 49, 305 Sdns, CGAS-Detroit
SB-17	Flying Fortress	1947	1951	Det 4 (ARRS)
S.E. 5		1919	1922	95 Recon Sqdn
Sopwith Camel		1917	1918	41 Aero Sqdn
Sopwith FE-2		1917	1917	9 Bomb Sqdn
SPAD VII		1917	1918	41 Aero Sqdn
SPAD XIII		1918	1922	95 Recon Sqdn
T/AT-6	Texan	????	????	136 AFBU, 56 Gp, 439 Wg
T-29	Flying Classroom	????	????	127 Wg
T-33	Shooting Star	????	????	56, 4708 Gps, 439 Wg, 171, 107 Sqdns

<u>Type</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Arrive</u>	<u>Depart</u>	<u>Unit</u>
U-3	Blue Canoe	1970	????	1 Wg, 927 Gp, 70 Div (Army)
UH-1	Huey	????	????	70 Div (Army)



The 107th Observation Squadron, Michigan National Guard, one of 29 National Guard observation squadrons, was ordered into active Federal service on October 15, 1940. Along with 4,000 other National Guard Air Corps personnel, the men of the 107th expanded the rapidly-growing U.S. Army Air Forces. After taking part in antisubmarine patrols, the redesigned 107th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron deployed to England in August 1942. They flew L-4, L-5, A-20 and Spitfire aircraft, before being equipped with the F-6A, the reconnaissance version of the P-51 Mustang. In December 1943, the 107th became the first operational photographic reconnaissance squadron in Northern Europe. In preparation for the Allied invasion, the squadron flew missions over the French coast and was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for its efforts. Assigned to support the First U.S. Army during the Normandy Campaign, the 107th was the first reconnaissance unit to operate from French soil. The 107th achieved an illustrious record during World War II, a record which is proudly maintained by the 107th Fighter Squadron, Michigan Air National Guard.



F-106 Delta Dart, painted in the colors of the 171st Fighter Interceptor Squadron, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, 1975.

Michigan Air National Guard Aircraft 1926-2014

List of aircraft assigned to the Michigan Air National Guard from the inception of the first Michigan National Guard flying unit in 1926. The aircraft listed were all assigned to either the 107th, 171st or 172nd squadrons, which have primarily been assigned to Selfridge Field Air National Guard Base, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base or Detroit Metropolitan Airport. The list is unofficial. It is current as of 1 June 2014.

A-7, 1978-1989

A-10 (Battle Creek) 1990-2008

A-10 (Selfridge) 2009-present

A-20, 1943-1943

A-26, 1947-1951

AT-6, 1946-1955

AT-11, 1946-1950

B-25, 1955-1958

B-26, 1947-1951

BC-1, 1940-1942

C-21, 2008-2013

C-26, 1992-1995

C-45, ???-1958

C-46, 1953-1956

C-47, 1947-1968

C-54, 1965-1973



A-7 Corsair II, operated by the 107th Fighter Squadron, Selfridge, 1988.

C-130A, 1986-1989

C-130B, 1989-1992

C-130E, 1994-2007

C-131, 1976-1986

DB-7, 1943-1943

F-4, 1978-1986

F-6, 1943-1945

F-16, 1990-2009

F/P-84, 1950-1952

F-86, 1953-1956

F-89, 1956-1958

F-100, 1972-1978

F/RF-101, 1971-1973

F-106, 1973-1978

JN-6, 1927-????

KC-135, 2007-present

L-4, 1942-1944

L-5, 1944-1944

L-5, 1947-1948

O-2 (Douglas) 1931-1932

O-2 (Cessna) 1971-1981

OA-37, 1987-1991

O-38, 1931-1940

O-47, 1940-1942

O-49, 1941-1941

O-52, 1942-1942

P-43, 1942-1942

P/F-51, 1947-1954

PT-1, 1927-1933

RB-57, 1958-1971

RF-84, 1958-1971

Spitfire MK V, 1942-1943

T-6, 1946-1955

T-29, 1972-1976

T-33, 1953-1987

Tiger Moth, 1942-1942

UC-78, 1944-1945

107th Fighter Squadron

Flying the A-10 Thunderbolt II, the 107th Fighter Squadron is one of the oldest flying units in the U.S. Air Force. Known as “The Red Devils,” the squadron has served on multiple deployments in recent years, including launching aircraft to defend sovereign U.S. airspace on Sept. 11, 2001.

The 107th Fighter Squadron is a component of the 127th Operations Group of the 127th Wing and is a part of the Michigan Air National Guard. The unit is based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base and is comprised of approximately 28 pilots and 45 support personnel. The 107th FS is closely supported by the 127th Maintenance Group which maintains the A-10 aircraft assigned to Selfridge.

Deployments

Recent major deployments by the 107th FS and supporting units include:

- 1997 to Kuwait for Operation Southern Watch.
- 1999 to Incirlik, Turkey, in support of Operation Northern Watch.
- 2001 to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia for Operation Southern Watch.
- Spring 2003 to Incirlik, Turkey, in support of Operation Northern Watch -- which marked the first time since World War II the

unit dropped weapons (over Iraq).

- 2004 for Operation Iraqi Freedom as the first USAF F-16 unit based in Iraq, at Kirkuk Air Base (the unit participated in the Battle for Fallujah).

- 2007 for Operation Iraqi Freedom based at Balad Air Base.

- 2011-12 to Kandahar, Afghanistan.



History

The 107th was first organized as the 107th Aero Squadron at Kelly Field, Texas, on 27 Aug. 1917 in response to the U.S. entry into World War I earlier that year. The unit was demobilized and disbanded in March 1919, following the conclusion of the war. In 1925, a squadron of 20 officers and 90 enlisted men began meeting weekly in a Detroit garage and created the Michigan National Guard's first flying unit. On 7 May 1926, the unit received federal recognition and was designated the 107th Observation Squadron.

Through more than 20 major aircraft and related name changes, the unit has been in operation as the 107th ever since. After more than 40 years of operations at Detroit-Metropolitan Airport, the unit has been assigned to Selfridge since 1971. It was designated as the 107th Fighter Squadron on 15 March 1992 and began flying the A-10 Thunderbolt II on 2 May 2009.

171st Air Refueling Squadron

Operating from Selfridge Air National Guard Base and flying the KC-135T Stratotanker, the 171st Air Refueling Squadron provides global reach for the deployment of U.S. air power. The squadron has deployed Airmen and aircraft to locations around the globe on an ongoing basis since it began operating the KC-135 in April 2008.

A component of the 127th Air Refueling Group and 127th Wing, the squadron is a part of the Michigan Air National Guard, supporting the mission of the Air Mobility Command. To accomplish its mission, the squadron works closely with the 191st Maintenance Squadron, the 191st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 191st Maintenance Operations and Operations Support flights.

Deployments

Recent major deployments by the 171st ARS and supporting units include:

- 2010-present: Deployments in support of Pacific Air Command
- 2009-present: Deployments in support of Air Mobility Command's Tanker Airlift Control Center (TACC), including aeromedical evacuation duty.
- 2011-2014: A series of ongoing, rolling mobilizations

in support of Central Command

- 2011: Operation Odyssey Dawn (Libya)



History

Prior to taking on the KC-135 mission, the 171st ARS was known as the 127th Airlift Squadron and flew C-130 Hercules tactical cargo aircraft for about 15 years.

The unit's final major deployment with the C-130 came when most of the squadron spent the last six months of 2006 in Afghanistan.

The 171st ARS traces its history back to World War II. In 1943, the 374th Fighter Squadron was created to fly the P-47 Thunderbolt in the European Command. In 1946, after the conclusion of the war, the unit was redesignated as the 171st and assigned to the Michigan Air National Guard. In the 1970s, operating as a Fighter Interceptor squadron, the unit flew the F-106 Delta Dart and picked up a distinctive nickname - the Michigan Six-Pack. The 171st flew fighter aircraft from the time of the unit's inception through 1994, when it made the transition to the C-130. The Six-Pack nickname - and the unit's black and yellow checkerboard tail markings - continue to be used by the Michigan ANG at Selfridge and can be seen in a distinctive design on the KC-135s stationed at the base.

Historic Military Air Fields in Michigan

- Alpena Army Air Field / Phelps Collins Field / Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center
- Camp Skeel / Oscoda Army Air Field / Oscoda AFB / Wurtsmith AFB
- Grayling Army Air Field
- Kellogg Army Air Field / Kellogg Air National Guard Base / Battle Creek Air National Guard Base
- K.I. Sawyer AFB (Near Marquette, Mich.)
- Kinross Army Air Field / Kinross AFB / Kincheloe AFB (Eastern Upper Peninsula)
- Naval Air Station Grosse Ile
- Raco Army Air Field (Eastern Upper Peninsula)
- Romulus Army Air Field (Now Detroit Metro Airport)
- Willow Run Air Field (Ypsilanti)
- Selfridge Field / Selfridge AFB / Selfridge Air National Guard Base
- Tri-City Army Air Field (Saginaw County)



Capt. Phelps Collins during World War I



P-36 Hawks from the 1st Pursuit Group are seen at the Army Air Field in Alpena in this photo, likely taken in the very early days of World War II.