



VIETNAM

From April 1966 until 1973, the 7th Air Force command, Tan Son Nhut Air Base, assumed responsibility for most Air Force operations in Vietnam, and shared responsibility with the 13th Air Force for operations conducted from Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Thailand. Lineage, Honors, History. 1966-1975.

HEADQUARTERS 7th/13 AIR FORCE
Vietnam and Thailand

HEADQUARTERS 7th AIR FORCE
Tan Son Nhut AB, SVN, 28 March 1966–30 June 1975

Dual Responsibility
7th/13th AIR FORCES
Thailand, 29 March 1973–30 June 1975

Lineage

Established as Hawaiian Air Force on 19 October 1940
 Activated on 1 November 1940
 Redesignated: 7th Air Force on 5 February 1942
 Redesignated: Seventh Air Force on 18 September 1942
 Redesignated: Pacific Air Command on 15 December 1947
 Upgraded to Major Command 15 December 1947
 Discontinued on 1 June 1949
 Redesignated Seventh Air Force on 10 December 1954
 Activated on 5 January 1955
 Inactivated on 1 July 1957
 Activated on 28 March 1966
 Organized on 1 April 1966
 Inactivated on 30 June 1975
 Activated on 8 September 1986

Assignments

Hawaiian Department, U.S. Army, 1 November 1940
 U.S. Army Forces in Central Pacific Area, c. 16 August 1943
 Army Air Forces, Pacific Ocean Areas, 1 August 1944
 Far East Air Forces (later, Pacific Air Command, U.S. Army), 14 July 1945
 Army Air Forces (later, United States Air Force), 1 January 1947 – 1 June 1949
 Pacific Air Force (later, Pacific Air Force/Far East Air Forces [Rear]), 5 January 1955 – 1 July 1957
 Pacific Air Forces, 28 March 1966 – 30 June 1975
 Pacific Air Forces, 8 September 1986—present

Stations

Fort Shafter, Hawaii, 1 November 1940
 Hickam Field (later, Hickam AFB), Hawaii, c. 12 July 1941
 East Field, Saipan, Mariana Islands, 19 December 1944
 Yontan Air Field, Okinawa, 12 July 1945
 Hickam Field, Hawaii, 1 January 1946 – 1 June 1949
 Hickam AFB, Hawaii, 5 January 1955
 Wheeler AFB, Hawaii, 24 March 1955 – 1 July 1957
 Tan Son Nhut Air Base, South Vietnam, 1 April 1966
 Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Navy Base, Thailand, 29 March 1973 – 30 June 1975
 Osan AB, Republic of Korea, 8 September 1986

As the Vietnam War escalated during the late 1960s and early 1970s, 13th AF provided command and control for USAF units stationed in Thailand, its units conducting combat missions throughout Indochina until August 1973. 13th AF units last engaged in combat during the SS Mayaguez Incident in May 1975.

Returning to the Philippines after the Vietnam War ended in 1975, the command remained there until the 1991 evacuation of Clark Air Base after the Mount Pinatubo [volcano] eruption and the United States withdrawal of military forces afterward. It was inactivated on 28 September 2021 and its functions merged with PACAF.