

# Joint Base Langley-Eustis F-22 Program Fact Sheet: 1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing

<https://www.jble.af.mil/About-Us/Units/Langley-AFB/1st-Fighter-Wing/>

## History

From its beginnings during World War I, it was known as the 1st Pursuit Organization and Training Center. By the time the war ended, the unit had 202 confirmed kills and officially changed its name to the 1st Pursuit Group.

Redesignated as the 1st Fighter Group during World War II, the unit entered the war flying the P-38. Throughout the war, the 1 FG flew more than 20,000 sorties on 1,405 combat missions, and scored more than 400 aerial victories, earning three Distinguished Unit Citations for outstanding performance of duty.

On Aug. 7, 1990, the then known 1st Tactical Fighter Wing, deployed to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Desert Shield. Through both Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the 1 TFW flew more than 6,200 sorties and flew approximately 25,000 hours. The wing also recorded an aerial victory when Capt. Steve Tate, piloting a 71 FS F-15 Eagle, shot down an Iraqi F-1 Mirage. And in 1991 the 1 TFW officially became the 1st Fighter Wing.

On December 15, 2005 the 1 FW's own 27th Fighter Squadron became the Air Force's first operational F-22 fighter squadron. By December 12, 2007, the 1 FW reached full operational capacity when they received their final F-22, completing their fleet of 40 5th-Generation fighter aircraft.

## Current Mission

The 1st Fighter Wing is responsible for one third of the Air Force's combat F-22 Raptors. The wing's mission is to deliver F-22 air power worldwide on short notice to support Combatant Commander taskings. In addition to operating and maintaining two F-22 Air Dominance squadrons, the wing also flies the T-38 as adversary air to increase training capability. The maintainers of the 1st Fighter Wing set the standard for low observable and aircraft maintenance, both of which establish the unit as the most capable and combat ready F-22 wing in the Air Force. The wing's 1,300 Airmen manage two airfields, more than 12,000 flying hours each year, and equipment and aircraft worth over \$7 billion. The 1st Fighter Wing leads the way in combat capability and lethality in current operations worldwide, and serves as America's premier Air Dominance wing, led by next generation Airmen, integrated with its mission partners, and ready to fly, fight, and win...anytime, anyplace.

## Point of Contact

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