



Lineage and Honors History  
of the  
**535 Airlift Squadron (PACAF)**

**Lineage.** Constituted 535 Fighter Squadron on 24 Sep 1943. Activated on 1 Oct 1943. Disbanded on 10 Apr 1944. Reconstituted, and redesignated 535 Fighter Squadron, Two-Engine, on 16 May 1949. Activated in the Reserve on 27 Jun 1949. Redesignated 535 Fighter-Escort Squadron on 16 Mar 1950. Ordered to active service on 1 May 1951. Inactivated on 25 Jun 1951. Redesignated 535 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, on 26 May 1952. Activated in the Reserve on 15 Jun 1952. Inactivated on 1 Feb 1953. Redesignated 535 Troop Carrier Squadron, and activated, on 12 Oct 1966. Organized on 1 Jan 1967. Redesignated 535 Tactical Airlift Squadron on 1 Aug 1967. Inactivated on

24 Jan 1972. Redesignated 535 Airlift Squadron on 1 Apr 2005. Activated on 18 Apr 2005.

**Assignments.** 87 Fighter Group, 1 Oct 1943-10 Apr 1944. 87 Fighter (later, 87 Fighter-Escort) Group, 27 Jun 1949-25 Jun 1951. 87 Troop Carrier Group, 15 Jun 1952-1 Feb 1953. Pacific Air Forces, 12 Oct 1966; 483 Troop Carrier (later, 483 Tactical Airlift) Wing, 1 Jan 1967-24 Jan 1972. 15 Operations Group, 18 Apr 2005-.

**Stations.** Richmond AAB, VA, 1 Oct 1943; Camp Springs AAFld, MD, 21 Jan-10 Apr 1944. Bergstrom AFB, TX, 27 Jun 1949-25 Jun 1951. Atterbury AFB, IN, 15 Jun 1952-1 Feb 1953. Vung Tau Airfield, South Vietnam, 1 Jan 1967; Cam Ranh Bay AB, South Vietnam, 21 Jun 1970-24 Jan 1972. Hickam AFB, HI, 18 Apr 2005-.

**Commanders.** Capt George G. Dewey, 6 Oct 1943; Maj George V. Williams, 3-10 Apr 1944. Unkn, 27 Jun 1949-25 Jun 1951. Unkn, 15 Jun 1952-1 Feb 1953. Lt Col Leo J. Ehmann, 1 Jan 1967; Lt Col Edwin B. Owens, 4 Jan 1967; Lt Col Joseph Faulkner, 15 Dec 1967; Lt Col Harry F. Hunter, 21 Jun 1968; Lt Col Richard D. Kimball, 12 Apr 1969; Lt Col Clem B. Myers, 1 Nov 1969; Lt Col John J. Hanley, 13 Nov 1969; Lt Col John D. Pennekamp, 18 Jul 1970; Lt Col Thomas D. Moyle, 3 Oct 1970; Lt Col Rupert S. Richardson, 31 Dec 1970; Lt Col Dean S. Downing, 12 Sep 1971; Lt Col James S. Knox, 8 Dec 1971-24 Jan 1972. Lt Col Christopher O. Davis, 18 Apr 2005; Lt Col Scott Shapiro, 12 May 2006; Lt Col Casey D. Eaton, 4 Apr 2008; Lt Col Andrew L. Leshikar, 26 Oct 2009; Lt Col Patrick C. Winstead, 26 May 2011; Lt Col Gregg S. Johnson, 10 Mar 2013; Lt Col Scott R. Raleigh, 29 May 2015; Lt Col Chad K. Cisewski, 25 May 2017; Lt Col Neil R. Senkowski, 15 Jun 2018; Lt Col Joshua B. Holaday, 7 Jun 2019; Lt Col Paul A. Tucker, 11 Jun 2021 –.

**Aircraft.** P-47, 1943-1944; A-24, 1943-1944. F-82, 1949-1950; T-6, 1950; T-33, 1950; F-84, 1950-1951; C-46, 1952-1953. C-7A, 1967-1972. C-17A, 2005 –.

**Operations.** Replacement crew, advanced flying, and basic flying training, Dec 1943-Apr 1944. Reserve flying training, Jun 1949-Apr 1951. Reserve flying training, Jun 1952-Feb 1953. On activation in 1967, took over C-7A aircraft of 57 Aviation Company (USA) and tactical airlift mission in South Vietnam. Operated from several locations in addition to its primary base. Airlifted routine cargo and passengers, provided support for Army Special Forces and radio relay for ground units, airdropped troops and cargo, performed emergency resupply and medical evacuations, and flew other combat airlift missions. Earned a Navy Presidential Unit Citation and another Presidential Unit Citation for the squadron's airlift support of Khe Sanh and other forward bases from Jan to May 1968. Earned a second Presidential Unit Citation between Apr and Jun 1970 for the squadron's participation in aerial resupply of the Dak Seang Special Forces Camp, evacuation of over 2000 refugees from Cambodia, and transportation of the Presidential Southeast Asia Investigation Team to various remote locations in South Vietnam. Last mission in Vietnam flown 24 Jan 1972. Personnel from the 535 AS participated in OPERATION Allies Refuge (Phase II 15-30 August 2021) as rotational relief aircrew during the American withdrawal from Afghanistan.

**Service Streamers.** None.

**Campaign Streamers.** *Vietnam:* Vietnam Air Offensive; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III; Vietnam Air/Ground; Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV; TET 69/Counteroffensive; Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969; Vietnam

Winter/Spring; Sanctuary Counteroffensive; Southwest Monsoon; Commando Hunt V;  
Commando Hunt VI; Commando Hunt VII.

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers.** None.

**Decorations.** Presidential Unit Citations (Vietnam): 21 Jan-12 May 1968; 1 Apr-30 Jun 1970. Navy Presidential Unit Citation: Vietnam, 20 Jan-31 Mar 1968. Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat “V” Device: 1 Jan-30 Apr 1967; 1 May 1967-30 Apr 1968; 1 Jul 1970-31 Dec 1971. Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Nov 2004-31 Oct 2006; 1 Nov 2006-31 Oct 2007. Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 1 Jan 1967-24 Jan 1972.

**Lineage, Assignments, Components, Stations, and Honors through Nov 2021.**

**Commanders, Aircraft, and Operations through Nov 2021.**

**Emblem.** Approved on 6 Apr 2007.

**Supersedes** statement prepared on 12 Apr 2005.

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