



INACTIVATION CEREMONY
318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron



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7 December 1989
McChord AFB, Washington

Today the Tactical Air Command (TAC) inactivates the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron with this formal Inactivation Ceremony.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Formations in Place
Arrival of Official Party
Ruffles and Flourishes
National Anthem
Inactivation
Remarks
Retirement of Colors
Departure of Official Party



HONORS TO THE FLAGS DURING MILITARY CEREMONIES

During the playing of the National Anthem, all persons in civilian attire should stand, remove headdress and hold at left shoulder with right hand over heart. Men without headdress and women will stand and place right hand, palm open, over heart. Proper position is assumed on the first note and retained until the last. All military personnel render salute during Ruffles and Flourshies and the National Anthem.

Reviewer: Major General Richard A. Pierson

Relinquishing Command: Lt Col John W. Kugler

INACTIVATION CEREMONY

The inactivation ceremony you witness today is not prescribed specifically by U.S. Air Force regulations, but rather is an honored product of the rich heritage of military tradition. It is a custom established to be formal, impressive, and designed to strengthen the respect for authority which is vital to any military organization.

The heart of the ceremony is the formal reading of official orders, the outgoing commander retiring his command, and the casing of the unit flag. The strength and supremacy of today's Air Force stems in large measure from the observance of customs and traditions, each founded on need, each of authority. This simple ceremony, officially inactivation a squadron, reflects the dedication of free men and women serving their nation proudly.

MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD A. PIERSON

Major General Richard A. "Tony" Pierson is commander, 1st Air Force, Tactical Air Command, and commander of the Continental United States North American Aerospace Defense Region, with consolidated headquarters at Langley Air Force Base, Va. First Air Force provides combat-ready forces for the air defense of North America and Iceland.

General Pierson was born Oct. 28, 1943, in Mount Vernon, N.Y., and graduated from Oak Bluffs (Mass.) High School in 1952. He graduated cum laude from the University of Omaha in 1965 with a bachelor of science degree and received a master's degree in guidance and counseling from Troy State University in 1975. The general was a distinguished graduate of Air War College in 1975.

He entered the aviation cadet program in December 1955 and, upon graduation as a distinguished graduate, was commissioned as a second lieutenant in April 1957. After F-86 gunnery school at Williams Air Force Base, Ariz., General Pierson was assigned as an F-86 pilot with the 311th Fighter-Bomber Squadron at Osan Air Base, South Korea, from November 1957 to October 1958.

Upon his return to the United States, General Pierson attended weapons controller school at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. After graduating in December 1958, he served as a weapons controller with the 963rd Airborne Early Warning and Control Squadron at McClellan Air Force Base, Calif. In May 1960 he transferred to Langerkoph Air Station, West Germany, as a weapons controller and air surveillance officer with the 603rd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. From March 1961 until July 1964 he served as aide-de-camp to the commander of the 86th Air Division at Ramstein Air Base, West Germany. He returned to the United States to attend the University of Omaha and, after graduating in March 1965, returned to Williams Air Force Base. While there he served as a T-38 instructor pilot and flight safety officer with the 3525th Pilot Training Wing.

In February 1969 he started training in F-4s with the 46th Tactical Fighter Squadron at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Six months later he was assigned to Ubon Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, where he was commander of the Wolf Facs, performing visual reconnaissance and strike control in high-threat areas. He accumulated more than 500 combat hours in F-4s during his tour of duty with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing. From October 1970 until August 1974 General Pierson was stationed at Headquarters Pacific Air Forces, Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, first as chief of flight safety, statistics and analysis, and later as chief of command policy.

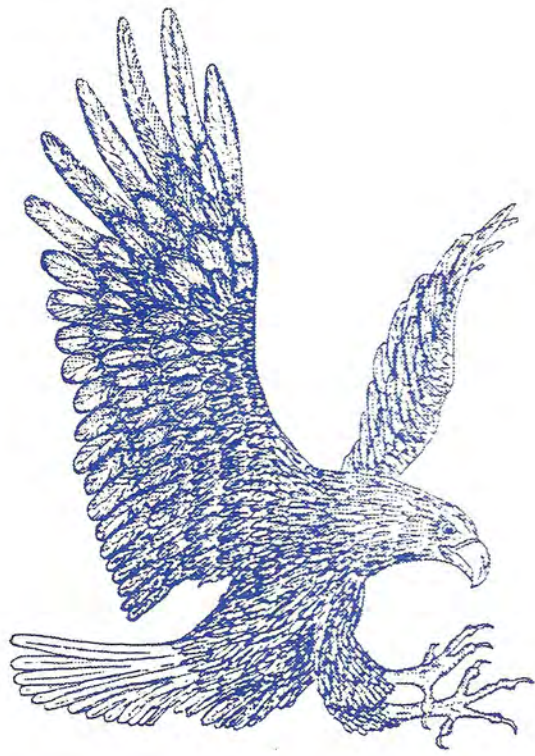
After completing Air War College in July 1975, the general transferred to Reese Air Force Base, Texas, where he served initially as assistant deputy commander for maintenance with the 64th Flying Training Wing, and then as deputy commander for maintenance until August 1978. He then was assigned to Williams Air Force Base as commander of the 82nd Air Base Group. In June 1980 he became commander of the 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss. One year later he was assigned as commandant of Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

In June 1982 General Pierson assumed command of Tactical Air Command's 26th Air Division and the North American Aerospace Defense Command Region, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. He continued in that position when the unit moved to March Air Force Base, Calif., in December 1983. In May 1985 he was assigned as commander of the U.S. Air Force Air Defense Weapons Center, Tyndall Air Force Base. The general transferred to Athens, Greece, in August 1986 as chief of the Joint U.S. Military Aid Group to Greece. He assumed his present position in July 1988.

The general is a command pilot with more than 4,500 flying hours in F-4s, F-15s, F-86s, F-106s, T-33s, T-38s and T-39s. His military decorations and awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with 16 oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and three oak leaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four service stars, Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Short with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Long with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with three oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

He was promoted to major general July 1, 1986, with same date of rank.

General Pierson is married to the former Sandra Hill of Chandler, Ariz. They have four children: Richard A. Jr., Lisa, Charles and Rebecca.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN W. KUGLER

Lieutenant Colonel John W. Kugler is commander, 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron (Tactical Air Command) McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Colonel Kugler was born Aug. 1, 1950, in New Orleans and graduated from Roosevelt High School, San Antonio, Texas in 1968. He earned a bachelor of science degree in meteorology from Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas, in July 1972, and was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Air Force ROTC program. The colonel received a master of science degree in systems management from the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, in 1980. He completed Squadron Officer School in 1976 and Air Command and Staff College in 1986, both by correspondence.

After pilot training at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss., and Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., Colonel Kugler was assigned as an F-106 pilot with the 84th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Castle Air Force Base, Calif., in April 1974. He transferred to the 2nd Fighter Interceptor Training Squadron, Tyndall Air Force Base, in October 1977, serving as an F-106 instructor pilot.

Colonel Kugler became F-15 flight commander for the 22nd Tactical Fighter Squadron, Bitburg Air Base, Germany, in December 1980. Returning to the United States in May 1984, the colonel was assigned as F-15 and T-33 flight examiner at 1st Air Force headquarters, Langley Air Force Base, Va. He transferred to the 57th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Keflavik Naval Air Station, Iceland, in July 1986, where he served as assistant operations officer. He became 318th FIS operations officer in July 1987 and served in that capacity until assuming command of the squadron in February 1989.

A command pilot with more than 3,500 flying hours, Colonel Kugler has flown F-15, F-106 and T-33 aircraft. His military decorations and awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Commendation Medal and the Combat Readiness Medal with three oak leaf clusters.

He was promoted to lieutenant colonel July 1, 1988, with the same date of rank.

Colonel Kugler is married to the former Deione Hyatt of Pine Bluff, Ark. They have two daughters, Jennifer and Alison.

HISTORY

From World War II to the present, the 318th "Green Dragons" have served honorably and with distinction, in peace and war. On 3 August 1942, the unit was activated in Bedford, Massachusetts, as the 318th Fighter Squadron, Single Engine. Just six months after activation, the squadron, composed of 23 pilots flying P-40 Warhawks, ground crews and support gear boarded the USS LYONS and the carrier USS RANGER to sail into World War II. Soon after commencing operations at Montesquieu Air Base, Algeria, the 318th flew their first combat mission on 17 April 1943, giving the Green Dragons their first combat victory—an ME-109.

Flying as a component of the 325th fighter group, the 318th saw action over Sardinia, Sicily, and Pantelleria. It was during this series of engagements, spanning eight months, that the 318th won its first Unit Citation for significant contributions to allied air supremacy over Sardinia. During one escort mission over southern Sardinia, a Green Dragon P-40 pilot strafed and sank an enemy submarine.

In November 1943, the 318th based operations in Solimon, Tunisia, and then Foggia, Italy and transitioned to P-47 Thunderbolts. A second Unit Citation was earned by the 318th for action over Italy barely one month after their first operational mission in the Thunderbolt.

In March 1944, the 318th moved from Foggia to Lesina, Italy, and in May transitioned to the P-51 Mustang.

By VE Day, the Green Dragons had flown 452 missions and accounted for 188 enemy aircraft, two Unit Citations and 130 personal citations.

The 318th was deactivated at Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, on 28 October 1945. It was reactivated on 1 May 1947, at Mitchell Field, New York, and was simultaneously redesignated the 318th Fighter Squadron (All Weather). Reassigned to Hamilton Field, California, again as part of the 325th Fighter Group, the unit flew P-61's.

In 1950, the 318th moved to McChord where it operated P-82 Twin Mustangs and F-94 Starfires. After a two year tour in Thule, Greenland, the 318th returned to McChord, absorbed the 465th Fighter Squadron flying the F-86D Sabre, and became the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in accordance with "Project Arrow," a directive designed to recognize and continue the prestige and honor of outstanding World War II units.

In March 1957, the 318th transitioned to F-102 Delta Daggers and, three years later, to F-106 Delta Darts.

In 1979 the 318th FIS became a part of the Tactical Air Command upon deactivation of ADCOM.

The Green Dragons have earned a proud record with their F-106's. They were the first F-106 Squadron to operate overseas when, in support to "Combat Fox" in 1968, they deployed to Osan Air Base, Korea, in response to the Pueblo crisis. The Green Dragons won the F-106 Division of William Tell '63 and the Richard I. Bong Trophy, making it the "World Champion" Delta Dart Squadron. In 1974-75, the 318th won the coveted Hughes Trophy, proclaiming the squadron "the finest air defense fighter unit in the world." In 1982, the 318th again captured top honors in the F-106 Division of William Tell '82.

In the summer of 1983 the "Green dragons" transitioned to the F-15 "Eagle." Accomplishing this task 45 days ahead of schedule resulted in the unit receiving the 1984 Hughes Trophy.

On January 9, 1989 the Department of Defense announced that the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron would deactivate in December 1989. The F-15s will be sent to Portland ANG and the F-16 conversion will be cancelled.

The 318th has accepted its plight and is determined to leave with the same pride that has carried it through the years.

COMMANDERS

CPT William U. Brunch	3	Aug 1942	19	Aug 1942	LTC Francis R. Lawson	12	Jun 1965	10	Jul 1966
CPT Tarleton H. Watkins	20	Aug 1942	19	Oct 1942	MAJ Glenn Deavers	11	Jul 1966	14	Aug 1966
CPT George D. Gingras	9	Oct 1942	15	Oct 1942	LTC Frederick M. O'Conner	20	Nov 1967	28	Dec 1969
CPT James E. Tucker	16	Oct 1942	23	Nov 1942	COL Lawrence W. Pool	29	Dec 1969	23	May 1971
CPT George D. Gingras	24	Nov 1942	10	Feb 1943	LTC Richard G. Painter	24	May 1971	30	Apr 1973
CPT Joseph A. Bloomer, Jr.	11	Feb 1943	20	Aug 1943	LTC Carl D. Osborne	1	May 1973	10	Sep 1974
MAJ James E. Garrett	21	Aug 1943	4	Jan 1944	LTC Lawrence D. Haight	11	Sep 1974	20	Aug 1976
LTC James U. Toner, Jr.	5	Jan 1944	7	May 1944	LTC Lee V. Greer	21	Aug 1976	24	Aug 1978
CPT Roy B. Hogg	8	May 1944	22	Jul 1944	LTC Allen E. Wolf	25	Aug 1978	3	Sep 1979
MAJ Sheldon W. Farnham	23	Jul 1944	23	Nov 1944	MAJ John A. Lindstrom	4	Sep 1979	11	Feb 1981
LTC Norman L. McDonald	24	Nov 1944	5	Jun 1945	LTC Norman L. Kornick	12	Feb 1981	26	May 1981
MAJ Dugan V. Woodring	6	Jun 1945	28	Oct 1945	LTC Patrick K. Gamble	27	May 1981	15	June 1983
INACTIVATED					LTC Gordon K. Breault	16	Jun 1983	31	Jan 1985
LTC Bert W. Marshall	2	Dec 1947	1	Jan 1948	LTC Timothy A. Kinnan	7	Feb 1985	2	Feb 1987
MAJ Homer W. Morris	2	Jan 1948	1	Jan 1951	LTC Craig A. Bernhard	3	Feb 1987	16	Feb 1989
LTC Frederick J. Nelander	2	Jan 1951		Aug 1951	LTC John W. Kugler	17	Feb 1989	31	Dec 1989
MAJ Winfield M. Stein		Aug 1951	23	Oct 1951					
LTC David M. Conley	24	Oct 1951	26	Oct 1952					
MAJ William O. Belton	27	Oct 1952	10	Aug 1954					
MAJ George C. McCleary	11	Aug 1954		Sep 1955					
MAJ Charles U. Garino		Sep 1955		Jul 1956					
LTC Charles W. Carson		Jul 1956		Oct 1957					
LTC William A. Clair		Oct 1957		Aug 1958					
LTC Allen G. Dunken		Aug 1958	16	Nov 1959					
COL Edward R. Weed	17	Nov 1959	2	Jul 1960					
LTC Martin C. Johansen	3	Jul 1960	19	Jun 1962					
LTC Howard S. Askerson	20	Jun 1962	11	Jun 1965					



In the Beginning...

P-40 VITAL STATISTICS

Name of Machine:
AAF P-40 Warhawk

Type of Machine:
Single-Seat Pursuit

Weight:
9870 lbs.

Span:
37 ft. 4 in.

Overall Length:
33 ft. 4 in.

Maximum Height:
12 ft. 4 in.

Total Surface of Wings:
236 sq. ft.

Engine Type and H.P.
Packard-Merlin V-1650-1
1,300 H.P.

Armament:
Six Wing Mounted .50-cal.
Machine Guns
1-500 lb. Bomb

Top Speed:
364 mph at 20,000 ft.

Service Ceiling:
32,400 ft.





EAGLE VITAL STATISTICS

Name of Machine:
USAF F-15

Type of Machine:
Single-Seat Air Superiority
Fighter

Weight:
41,500 lbs.

Span:
42 ft. 10 in.

Overall Length:
63 ft. 9 in.

Maximum Height:
18 ft. 5 in.

Total Surface of Wings:
608 sq. ft.

Engine Type and H.P.
Augmented Turbofan Pratt
and Whitney F100
220,000 H.P. at Max Speed

Armament:
4 Sparrow Missiles
4 Sidewinder Missiles
1 M-61A1 Gatling Gun
Up to 15,000 lbs. of Air-to-
Ground Ordnance

Top Speed:
1700 mph (Mach 2.5)

Service Ceiling:
63,000 ft.

...in the End