

# 11<sup>th</sup> OPERATIONAL WEATHER SQUADRON



## MISSION

## LINEAGE

Air Corps Detachment, Weather, Alaska constituted, 15 Nov 1940  
Activated, 11 Jan 1941  
Redesignated 11<sup>th</sup> Air Corps Squadron, Weather (Regional Control), 26 Feb 1942  
Redesignated 11<sup>th</sup> Weather Squadron, 6 Jan 1944  
Inactivated, 20 Apr 1952  
Activated, 20 Apr 1952  
Inactivated, 18 Nov 1957  
Activated, 18 Jun 1958  
Inactivated, 1 Jun 1992  
Redesignated 11<sup>th</sup> Operational Weather Squadron, 5 Feb 1999  
Activated, 19 Feb 1999

## STATIONS

Ladd Field, AK, 11 Jan 1941  
Elmendorf Field (later AFB), AK, 2 May 1941  
Keesler AFB, MS, 20 Apr 1952-18 Nov 1957  
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 18 Jun 1958  
Eielson AFB, AK, 1 Apr 1992-1 Jun 1992  
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 19 Feb 1999

## ASSIGNMENTS

Ninth Service Command, 11 Jan 1941  
Alaska Defense Force, 1941  
Eleventh Air Force, 26 Feb 1942  
AAF Weather Service, 22 Oct 1945  
7<sup>th</sup> Weather (later, 2107<sup>th</sup> Air Weather) Group, 4 Dec 1945  
Air Weather Service, 20 Apr 1952  
8<sup>th</sup> Weather Group, 20 May 1952  
3<sup>rd</sup> Weather Group, 18 Jun 1958  
4<sup>th</sup> Weather Wing, 1 Jun 1959  
3<sup>rd</sup> Weather Wing, 30 Jun 1972  
1<sup>st</sup> Weather Wing, 1 Oct 1989  
Pacific Air Forces, 30 Sep 1991  
343<sup>rd</sup> Operations Group, 15 Apr 1992-1 Jun 1992  
611<sup>th</sup> Air Operations Group, 19 Feb 1999

### **COMMANDERS**

Cpt Wilson H. Neal, 11 Jan 1941  
Lt Clarence E. Peters, 28 Apr 1942  
Cpt Harris D. Dean, Unknown  
2Lt Paul A. Carlson, 30 Dec 1942  
Col Harold L. Smith, 1 May 1945  
Maj Oliver H. Otto, 8 Nov 1945  
Cpt Arnold E. McKenzie, 12 Dec 1945  
Maj William A. Pope, Jul 1948  
LTC Martin F. C. Sebode, Oct 1949  
LTC Herbert J. Avise, 15 Sep 1951  
Col Richard M. Gill, 10 Oct 1951  
Cpt John C. Brigham, 20 Apr 1952  
LTC William B. Hicks, 11 May 1952  
LTC Estil L. Hamill, 27 Feb 1954  
LTC Newton M. Burgner, 20 Feb 1955  
LTC James M. Fahey, 18 Jun 1958  
LTC Eugene A. Carter, 28 Jul 1959  
LTC Archie M. McFarland, 27 Jun 1962  
Col David M. Sweeney, 10 Jul 1964  
LTC Douglas M. Sheehan, 11 Jul 1967  
Col Howard E. Lysaker, Aug 1970  
Col Wesley E. Robb, 18 Jul 1977  
Col William E. Buchan, 29 May 1981  
Col James Kerlin, 5 Aug 1983  
Col William S. Koenemann, 30 Jun 1985

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater

**Campaign Streamers**

None

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

**Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 May 1966 - 30 Apr 1968

1 Jun 1969-31 May 1971

1 Jan 1975-1 Apr 1976

1 Jul 1976-30 Jun 1978

1 Jul 1990 - [1] Jun 1992

Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, 1 Jan 1944-24 October 1945

**EMBLEM**



First emblem: The seal is common to the area in which the 11th Weather Squadron operates, while the gray overcast sky and the volcanic island are also typical of that region. The anemometer and thermometer, standard items of weather equipment, indicates the squadron's missions.



Second emblem: The predominant colors are Air Force blue and golden yellow to indicate that the squadron is a unit of the U.S. Air Force. It is divided into three parts to represent the unit's threefold mission: support to the Alaskan Command, to the Alaskan Air Command, and to the U. S. Army, Alaska. The frontal pattern, separating the three parts of the emblem, represents the forecasting function of the squadron; the igloo on a snow-covered point of land represents the remote site observing function. The anemometer symbolizes the relationship of the squadron with the Air Weather Service. The blue and gray skies represent day and night operations while the sun and the lightning bolt respectively represent the fair and foul weather which is observed and forecast. The snow-capped mountain peaks and the igloo are representative of the general region in which the squadron operates.

Third emblem: On a disc Azure, above a base of three mountains peaks Purpure, snowcapped Argent, the constellation Ursa Major of six mullets below in chief an anemometer of the last fimbriated Or, the mounting bar flory Yellow, all within a diminished bordure Yellow. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "11TH OPERATIONAL WEATHER SQ" in Black letters. Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The three mountain peaks represent the unit's support to the mission of the Alaskan Command, Alaskan NORAD Region and U.S. Army, Alaska. The Big Dipper constellation denotes the squadron's alignment with and support to the 11th Air Force. The anemometer symbolizes the commitment to excellence in weather forecast operations and the snowcapped mountain peaks allude to the unit's home location and operating conditions. (Approved, 13 Jun 1961)

### **MOTTO**

VIGILANTIAE DEDICATI--Dedicated To Vigilance

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

Det 1, Elmendorf AFB, AK

Det 2, Eielson AFB, AK

Det 3, Shemya, AK

Det 4, Fort Richardson, AK  
Det 5, Fort Wainwright, AK

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Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 16 Nov 2010  
Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Unit History. *Lineage and Honors of the Operational Weather Squadrons*. Air Force Weather History Office.  
Offutt AFB, NE. Mar 2003.