

INSTRUMENT FLIGHT CENTER

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Reversing another step it had taken five years earlier, HQ USAF, on 1 October 1983, reestablished the Instrument Flight Center (IFC) at Randolph AFB. This confirmed the Air Force's need for a central facility to determine and validate new flight concepts and instrument flight systems. When it was initially established in 1972, the IFC standardized the use of instrument procedures and training methods for pilots, participated with other government and civilian organizations in developing instrument systems, and trained pilots to become instrument pilot instructors through the Instrument Pilot Instructor School (IPIS). Colonel E.J. Baker assumed command of the revitalized IFC on 1 October. The organization was assigned to Air Training Command as a wing-level direct reporting unit under the operational control of the ATC vice commander, with the Director of Operations at HQ USAF providing policy and functional guidance. At first the

Instrument Flight Center had 24 manpower slots and was tasked only with developing instrument flight standards, but planning had already begun to reestablish IPIS as part of the command's Instrument Flight Center. 1983

1978 Instrument Flight Center Closed

Because the Air Force no longer had a requirement for a dedicated instrument school, the Instrument Flight Center (IFC) began phasing down operations at Randolph in 1977, and ATC inactivated the unit on 30 June 1978. Thus, the IFC concluded over 30 years of instrument flying-related activities, including the Instrument Pilot Instructor School.

Instrument Flight Center Reassigned

Air Training Command activated the USAF Instrument Flight Center (IFC) on 1 May 1972 and assigned it to the 12th Flying Training Wing at Randolph. The IFC was inactivated in 1978 but activated again in 1983. Twenty years to the day after its initial assignment to Air Training Command, the IFC was reassigned to the Air Force Flight Standards Agency on 1 May 1992.



Air Force Order of Battle

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