

# DEFENSE COMMUNITY

IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO

*Columbus, Mississippi*

Columbus, Mississippi, is in the nucleus of a cluster of military installations. With Columbus Air Force Base located in Columbus, Mississippi is also the home to NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center. The city is also a short distance from the Huntsville, Alabama, George C. Marshall Space Flight Center. Below is a listing of the surrounding installations and a brief description of their commands.

## MISSISSIPPI INSTALLATIONS

### **John C. Stennis Space Center, Mississippi**

Stennis Space Center is NASA's primary center for rocket propulsion testing and home to the Applied Research and Technology Project Office. It is a multi-agency center with more than 30 resident agencies. Rocket Propulsion Testing - NASA's Stennis Space Center is America's largest rocket test complex and its state-of-the-art facilities include the A, B and E Test Complexes, designed for rocket propulsion testing that ranges from component to engine to stage level. The unique waterway system and 125,000-acre acoustical buffer zone that surrounds Stennis Space Center are considered national assets, and enable testing of large-scale rocket engines and components.

Applied Research and Technology Project Office - The Applied Research and Technology Project Office uses NASA's science research results, remote sensing and other technical capabilities to bridge the gap between research results and gap between research results and the use of data to help its partner agencies make better informed decisions.

### **Columbus Air Force Base, Mississippi**

The mission of Columbus Air Force Base is "Building the world's best warriors, leaders and professional military pilots." The 14th Flying Training Wing, under the Air Education Training Command (AETC), is responsible for an intensive 52-week Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT) program. In Phase I, students fly the T-37 Tweet, where they learn basic aircraft control, including takeoff and landing techniques, aerobatics, instrument flying, and navigation. Upon completion of Phase I, students enter a track-specific training depending on the type of aircraft they've been selected to fly: the T-38 Talon for those bound for fighter-bomber aircraft or the T-1A Jayhawk for those entering the tanker-airlift training. Pilots headed for fighter assignments must also complete a six-week program at Moody AFB, GA, in the AT-38 Talon, where they learn air-to-air employment (basic fighter maneuvers) and air-to-air surface attack (bombing, and low-altitude navigation). Cross reference to topic Major Unit Listings for comprehensive details.

## **Meridian Naval Air Station, Mississippi**

Meridian Naval Air Station is a military airport located 11 miles northeast of Meridian, Mississippi in Lauderdale County and is one of the Navy's two jet strike pilot training bases.

NAS Meridian supports aviation and technical training, and other tenant activities by providing timely, quality services and facilities in an environmentally safe, secure community. Departments working under the NAS Commanding Officer form the backbone for the entire installation's functioning. The Air Operations Department employs 230 military and civilian personnel to operate McCain Field and Joe Williams Outlying. Their primary mission is to support CTW-1 under-graduate pilot training. Additional services are furnished to support operations for NAS and transient aircrews. Air Traffic Control Division operates the control tower and radar final control systems. They provide flight planning services and issue clearances and instructions to pilots for all phases of military flight operations within the vicinity of the airport. Ground Electronics Maintenance Division (GEMD) ensures all assigned UHF, VHF and FM radio communications, air navigation aids, weather monitoring/reporting equipment and precision approach radars required to conduct safe and effective flight operations around NAS Meridian and its outlying field operate at or above designated performance standards. GEMD also provides sound support services and functions as point of contact for matters related to 3M, frequency management, equipment configuration and computer repair/assistance.

HH-1N Huey helicopters are used by the station's Search and Rescue personnel to provide 24-hour rescue coverage of the Eastern Mississippi/Western Alabama area. The 25-member SAR team consists of pilots, aircrewmen and hospital corpsmen who train constantly in first aid, helicopter rappelling and tree extraction. The team also assists in a wide variety of civilian emergencies, such as searching for missing persons, assisting with aircraft and boating mishaps and occasional MEDEVAC missions.

## **Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi**

The 403rd Wing provides command and staff supervision to assigned squadrons and flights that support tactical airlift missions. These missions include airlift of personnel, equipment and supplies. Additionally, the wing is the only unit in the Department of Defense tasked to organize, equip, train and perform all hurricane weather reconnaissance in support of the Department of Commerce. The 403rd is gained upon mobilization by the Air Mobility Command and will execute missions in support of the theater commander, such as resupply, employment operations within the combat zone or forward area, and when required, aeromedical, refugee evacuation and augmentation of other airlift forces. The 403rd Wing is located at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

## **Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi**

The Naval Construction Battalion Center functions as a support for operating units of the Naval Construction Force. Specifically, it supports Naval Mobile Construction Battalions ONE, SEVEN, SEVENTY-FOUR, and ONE THIRTY-THREE, TWENTIETH Naval Construction Regiment, the Naval Construction Training Center, and other smaller tenant activities. The mission today is to prepare for and support all facets of the mobilization of construction forces, including reserve units. The Center is also responsible for preservation and storage of war reserves including construction equipment and materials.

# **ALABAMA INSTALLATIONS**

## **George C. Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama**

The George C. Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), the original home of NASA, is a lead center for propulsion, Space Shuttle propulsion, Shuttle external fuel tank, crew training and payloads, International Space Station (ISS) design and construction, for computers, networks, and information management. Located on the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, and named in honor of General George Marshall, the center also contains one of the Shuttle mission operation centers known as the HOSC where some mission and pre-missions operations are controlled.

The Huntsville Operations Support Center (HOSC) is a facility that supports Space Shuttle launch, payload and experiment activities at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, ISS launch and experiment operations. The HOSC also monitors rocket launches from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station when a Marshall Center payload is on board.

Starting in 2006, MSFC's Exploration Launch Projects Office began work on the new Project Constellation mission vehicles (Ares I, Ares V and Orion) which will replace the aging Shuttle fleet as well as transport humans to the Moon, Mars and other future destinations. MSFC is responsible for design and development and testing of the Ares I crew

and Ares V cargo launch vehicles while Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX has overall responsibility for development. In addition, the MSFC Lunar Precursor and Robotic Program office will manage projects and direct studies on lunar robotic precursor activities across NASA. The Lunar Lander Project Office originally planned to be established at Marshall, has been appointed for development at JSC. This office will be responsible for performing early trade studies and developing requirements for the Lunar Surface Access Module (now the Lunar Lander), the capsule that will transport crew members to and from the surface of the moon.

## **Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama**

Maxwell Air Force Base, officially known as Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base, is a United States Air Force (USAF) facility near Montgomery, Alabama. It is the headquarters of Air University, a major component of Air Education and Training Command, and is the Air Force's center for Professional Military Education (PME). The host unit is the 42nd Air Base Wing. Maxwell AFB hosts Air Force Officer Training School, one of the USAF commissioning sources. As of 2007, the base is one of two that host Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps summer field training encampments and will be the only base starting in Summer 2008. The Civil Air Patrol holds headquarters at Maxwell. Also at Maxwell are the USAF Reserve 908th Airlift Wing and 357th Airlift Squadron, which operates eight C-130H aircraft.

## **Anniston Army Depot, Alabama**

Anniston Army Depot, located in Anniston, Alabama, is a subordinate of the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command. Anniston Army Depot performs depot level maintenance for combat tanks, tracked combat vehicles, small arms weapons, mortars, recoilless rifles, and optical and **electronic** fire control systems. Anniston Army Depot also provides ammunition storage, renovation, modification and disposal.

Anniston Army Depot is the only depot designated to perform depot level maintenance on heavy-tracked combat vehicles and their components. The Depot is designated as the Center of Technical Excellence for the M1 Abrams Tank, and is the designated candidate Depot for the repair of the M60, AVLB, M728, M88, and M551 combat vehicles.

Additionally, the maintenance and storage of conventional ammunition and missiles, as well as the storage of chemical munitions, are significant parts of the Depot's overall mission and capabilities. The Depot's mission consists of the receipt, maintenance, storage, and shipment of all types of conventional ammunition ranging from 22 caliber bullets to large 2,000 pound bombs. This mission supports the Industrial Operations Command and the Aviation and Missile Command, as well as a wide range of U.S. Navy and Air Force missions.

## **Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama**

Redstone Arsenal is located in the heart of the Tennessee Valley, in northern Alabama. It's a sportsman's paradise, made to order for those who enjoy fishing, hunting, boating, water skiing, picnicking, hiking, biking, or just sitting and looking. Redstone Arsenal was built in 1941 to produce conventional chemical ammunition for use in World War II. For more than 40 years, Redstone has been the heart of the Army's rocket and missile programs. Dr. Werner von Braun and his German rocket experts developed the first ballistic missile; this led to the establishment of NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center in 1960. Today, Redstone is home to the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM), the Space and Missile Defense Command, numerous Program Executive Offices (PEO), and major components of the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Missile Defense Agency. Also located here are numerous tenant and satellite organizations. "Team Redstone's" mission is perform basic and advanced weapons system research and development, placing the right missile and aviation systems with the troops, keeping them ready to fight, providing weapon systems, services and supplies to our allies, to manage weapon systems such as the Cobra and PATRIOT, and to support project managers within the program executive office structure.

## **Ft. Rucker, Alabama**

The US Army Aviation Warfighting Center is the dominant military facility at Fort Rucker. Training, doctrine, and testing are all key parts of the Center's mission to develop Army Aviation's capabilities. All Army Aviation training has been undertaken at Fort Rucker since 1973, as well as training of US Air Force and ally helicopter pilots. The Center is home to the US Army Aviation Technical Test Center (ATTC), which conducts developmental aircraft testing for Army Aviation. The United States Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command's Test and Evaluation Coordination Office and TH-67 primary and instrument training are both located at Cairns Army Airfield.

Operational units on the post include the *1st Aviation Brigade* handling Army Aviation training, and the USAF 23d Flying Training Squadron for the training of Air Force helicopter pilots. Additionally, due to the large number of Warrant Officers stationed here, the Warrant Officer Career Center and the Warrant Officer Candidate School are located at Fort Rucker.

## **US Coast Guard Aviation Training Center, Mobile, Alabama**

"The Coast Guard Aviation Training Center in Mobile, Alabama is a multi-mission unit, acting as both the Coast Guard's Flight School and as an operational Air Station. Training is conducted to qualify Coast Guard pilots in the HU-25, "Guardian," The HH-60 "Jayhawk," and the HH-65 "Dolphin." These same pilots return once a year for a week long proficiency course in their designated airframe. Operations Division, which fly's the HU-25, conducts Search and Rescue, Homeland Security, and Environmental Protection missions in an area of responsibility that extends from the Louisiana/Texas boarder to the eastern edge of the Florida panhandle. Also located at ATC Mobile is the Polar Operations division who deploy the HH-65 around the globe in support of scientific research aboard the Coast Guard's three Polar Icebreakers."

# **ARKANSAS INSTALLATIONS**

## **Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas**

Little Rock Air Force Base is the home of Combat Airlift. The 314th Airlift Wing is the host unit which reports to Air Education and Training Command. Two major associate units, the 463rd Airlift Group and the U.S. Air Force Mobility Weapons School, report to Air Mobility Command. Additionally, the 189th Airlift Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard is located here. The 189th AW also reports to Air Education and Training Command.

## **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas**

The Pine Bluff Arsenal is an active military arsenal, that stores 12.5% of the nation's obsolete chemical weapons. In an incident after WWII, several captured German rockets containing nerve agents were accidentally launched into the surrounding countryside. Biological weapons "operations" were conducted here from the 1950's to the 1970's. The 14,943-acre installation has 267 munitions storage igloos, and employs around 1,200 people. Pine Bluff Chemical Activity conducts the current operations to destroy the part of the U.S. chemical weapon stockpile held at Pine Bluff.

# **LOUISIANA INSTALLATIONS**

## **Ft. Polk, Louisiana**

Fort Polk is a United States Army base located near Leesville, Louisiana. The 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, one of the Army's new modular brigades, officially activated January 19, 2005 at Fort Polk.

The Army is restructuring from a division-based to a brigade-based force, consisting of self-sufficient, brigade-based modules that will greatly improve strategic responsiveness.

Brigade Combat Teams are stand-alone, self-sufficient, and standardized tactical units that consist of between 3,500 and 4,000 Soldiers, organized Modular supporting brigades will provide aviation, fires, logistics, and other support to the Brigade Combat Teams, will create greater operational autonomy, and enhance joint, interagency, and multi-national operations.

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Currently Fort Polk is supporting the war on terrorism by providing contingency training for the Army's light infantry and special operations forces and by deploying home station and reserve component forces in support of Operations [Joint Guard - Bosnia/Herz], Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, and Iraqi Freedom.

## **Naval Support Activity, New Orleans, Louisiana**

The Naval Support Activity, New Orleans is the largest military installation in greater New Orleans. It hosts activities for other branches of service and federal agencies.

The installation meets the needs of military personnel, both in and behind the battle. Home to nearly 3900 active-duty and 2,700 civilian personnel, the facility spreads over both banks of the Mississippi River.

The base is home to:

- Commander, Naval Reserve Force
- Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force
- Commander, Naval Surface Reserve Force
- Marine Forces Reserve
- 4th Marine Aircraft Wing
- 4th Marine Division

Today, the Naval Support Activity is the host for the Headquarters of the nation's Naval and Marine Corps Reserve forces, along with approximately 40 other command serving all aspects of military life.

## **Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana**

Home to the 2nd Bomb Wing and the Mighty 8th Air Force, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana is situated on over 22,000 acres of land in the NW corner of Louisiana. Barksdale warriors and B-52s have a proud tradition serving both at home and abroad in support of the Global War on Terrorism; they have played vital roles in combat operations supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

# **GEORGIA INSTALLATIONS**

## **Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia**

Headquarters, 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., is one of three numbered air forces in Air Force Reserve Command. 22nd AF is responsible for recruiting and training reservists and for maintaining subordinate units at the highest level of combat readiness. A by-product of training is to coordinate daily support of the active duty air force. 22nd AF's wartime mission is to provide combat-ready airlift and support units and augments personnel requirements to Air Mobility Command in the United States.

Resources assigned to 22nd Air Force:

- 27,000 Reservists
- 14 Wings in 19 states
- 24 Flying Units, 191 Support Units
- 28 Locations, 7 Reserve Bases
- 130 Assigned Aircraft and 172 Associate Aircraft

## **Robins Air Force Base, Georgia**

Robins Air Force Base is the home of Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, the 78th Air Base Wing, and more than 60 other units that make up a vital part of the Air Force war fighting team. It is the largest industrial complex in Georgia, employing a work force of over 25,584 civilian, contractor, and military members. We are proud of our greater community we call Team Robins Plus that includes the remarkable support and friendship we receive from the people of Middle Georgia.

## **Ft. Stewart, Georgia**

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield are the home of the 3rd Infantry Division, and combine to be the Army's Premier Power Projection Platform on the Atlantic Coast. It is the largest, most effective and efficient armor training base east of the Mississippi, covering 280,000 acres including parts of Liberty, Long, Tattnall, Evans and Bryan counties in southeast Georgia.

Hunter Army Airfield is home to the Army's longest runway on the east coast (11,375 feet) and the Truscott Air Deployment Terminal. Together these assets are capable of deploying units such as the heavy, armored forces of the 3rd Infantry Division or the elite light fighters of the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

## **Ft. Benning, Georgia**

Ft. Benning, Georgia, has a mission to facilitate modularity to complete the CSA's vision; to transition modular maneuver forces into the future; support Future Combat Systems (FCS) development and spin out technology integration; implement Soldier as a System (SaaS) as a means to develop requirements and equip Soldiers; transform USAIC and USAARMC into a Maneuver Center of Excellence; improve quality of life for Soldiers, Civilians, and family members who live and work on Fort Benning.

## **Naval Air Station, Atlanta, Georgia**

The mission of Naval Air Station Atlanta has remained the same over the years - to provide readiness training for assigned active duty and selected reserve personnel while maintaining our full commitment to support the requirements of tenant commands and the fleet.

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## **Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, Georgia**

The mission of the Naval Submarine Base, Kings Bay, Georgia, is to Deliver Support to the Strategic Warfighter. Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay has three major commands: Trident Training Facility (TTF), Trident Refit Facility (TRF), and Strategic Weapons Facility, Atlantic (SWFLANT). In addition, this installation is the homeport of five Ohio-Class TRIDENT submarines. Facilities are available to serve as homeport, refit site and training facility for people who operate and maintain the Ohio-Class Submarines.

## **Ft. McPherson and Ft. Gillem, Georgia**

Fort McPherson is home to Forces Command (FORSCOM), U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC), and Third U.S. Army.

On June 18, 1973, responsibility for the installation was transferred from Army Materiel Command to U.S. Army Forces Command, renamed Fort Gillem and made a satellite installation of Fort McPherson. Fort Gillem is home station to First U.S. Army, U.S. Army Third Criminal Investigation Region, U.S. Army and Air Force Exchange Distribution Region and the U.S. Army Second Recruiting Brigade.

## **Hunter Army Field, Georgia**

The mission of Hunter Army Field is to provide command, control, training, administration, logistical and civilian-military support to assigned and attached non-divisional units stationed at Fort Stewart.

## **Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia**

The mission of the Marine Corps Logistics Base is to provide comprehensive logistics support to the MARFOR and other customers for the full spectrum of operating and combat requirements; perform the full range of Logistics Center functions for items assigned Integrated Materiel Management responsibility; perform the full range of Inventory Management functions for PEI's subsequent to the acquisition phase; perform the full range of logistics management functions to include accomplishing assigned LEM responsibilities in the acquisition of new items of equipment, monitoring fielded Marine Corps weapons systems readiness, cataloging and delegating standardization functions for the Marine Corps; provide central management for all assets held by the MARFOR, direct asset redistribution to enhance Marine Corps readiness and to eliminate excesses, ensure optimum use of all maintenance resources by ensuring coordination with MARFOR maintenance activities; provide the organization and resources, augmented by MARFOR personnel, for the BICmd; plan and conduct the maintenance cycle for MPS and NALMEB to achieve total MPS and NALMEB readiness; provide direct support to the operating forces on MPS and NALMEB operations/exercises on prepositioning deployment issues through deployed TAAT's, perform required storage functions in support of PEI's; provide fifth echelon depot level maintenance capability for support of all non-consumable items rebuild requirements and overflow fourth echelon maintenance support of operating forces nonconsumable item repair requirements; implement and operate a central logistics quality assurance program; conduct formal schools and training as directed; coordinate Marine Corps participation in CIM initiatives; perform project management functions for DoD standard systems; conduct analysis, design, development, implementation, training, and maintenance of logistics AIS; provide AIS production support to such commands as may be directed; certify and pay Marine Corps-wide transportation type bills for the movement of all Marine Corps sponsored traffic;

serve as single source for Marine Corps Publications; design all Marine Corps unique uniforms; exercise command and control over the financial and logistics support functions at MCLB Albany, BICmd, and MCLB Barstow; and perform such other tasks as may be directed by the CMC.

## **TENNESSEE INSTALLATIONS**

### **Arnold AFB, Tennessee**

Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC) is the most advanced and largest complex of flight simulation test facilities in the world. The center operates 58 aerodynamic and propulsion wind tunnels, rocket and turbine engine test cells, space environmental chambers, arc heaters, ballistic ranges and other specialized units. Twenty-seven of the center's test units have capabilities unmatched elsewhere in the United States; 14 are unique in the world. The Arnold Engineering Development Center is an Air Force Materiel Command organization and an important national resource.

### **Naval Support Activity, Mid-South, Millington, Tennessee**

The mission of the Naval Support Activity is to maintain and operate facilities, to provide administrative and logistic support to tenant activities and to perform such other functions and tasks assigned by higher authority.

The base is home to Naval Support Activity and host to many tenant activities including Navy Band Memphis, Navy Personnel Command, Commander Naval Recruiting Command, Defense Automated Printing Service, DECA Memphis Defense Commissary, Branch Dental Clinic Memphis, Defense Investigative Service, Human Resources Office, Branch Medical Clinic Memphis, Navy Manpower Analysis Center, Navy Campus Millington, Naval Criminal Investigative Service Resident Agency, Navy Exchange Memphis, Naval Legal Service Office, Navy Personnel Research and Development Center, Naval Telecommunications Center Memphis, Personnel Support Detachment Memphis, Naval Reserve Readiness Command Region Nine, Naval Reserve Center, Resident Officer in Charge of Construction, US Army Corps of Engineers Finance Center(DFAS), US Army National Guard, US Army Veterinarian Service Millington, Federal Prison, US Post Office, American Red Cross, First South Credit Union, Flying Club, Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, Millington Municipal Airport, and Millington Aviation Service.