The Beginnings of Holloman Air Force Base

On June 10, 1942, an event occurred that permanently changed the face of the Tularosa Basin -- Alamogordo Army Air Field was established at a site six miles west of Alamogordo, New Mexico. Initial plans called for the base to serve as the center for the British Overseas Training program; the British hoped to be able to train their aircrews over the open New Mexico skies. However, everything changed when the Japanese launched a surprise attack against the Hawaiian Islands on December 7, 1941. The British decided to no longer pursue its overseas training program, and the United States military saw the location as an opportunity to train its own growing military. Construction began at the airfield on February 6, 1942 and forces began to move in on May 14, 1942.

From 1942-1945, Alamogordo Army Air Field served as the training grounds for over 20 different groups, flying primarily B-17s, B-24s, and B-29s. Typically, these groups served at the airfield for about six months, training their personnel before heading to combat in either the Pacific or European Theater. The 450th Bombardment Group was one of the many to cut its teeth at Alamogordo. After training, the group went on to serve in nearly every major combat operation in Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, and the Balkans. During their combat service, the 450th garnered two distinguished unit citations and 11 campaign credits.

After World War II, the future of the base was uncertain. In fact, rumors spread concerning the closure of the site, fueled by the fact that most operations had ceased. However, in 1947, a new era began when Air Materiel Command announced the air field would be its primary site for the testing and development of pilot less aircraft, guided missiles, and other research programs. For the next 25 years the site, which became known as the Holloman Air Development Center, and later the Air Force Missile Development Center, launched many missiles including Tiny Tim (the first Army rocket), Rascal, V-2, XQ-2 Drone, Falcon, MACE, Matador, and Shrike.

On January 13, 1948 the Alamogordo installation was renamed Holloman Air Force Base, in honor of the late Col. George V. Holloman, a pioneer in guided missile research.

Holloman Air Force Base

Home of the "Fightin' 49ers"

One Team ...

Combat Ready!

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Holloman Air Force Base
New Mexico

Economic Impact Statement 2010

Personnel

USAF Active Duty Military	4,037
Reservists / National Guard	21
German Air Force Military	540
TOTAL MILITARY	**4,598**
Appropriated Funds Civilians	846
Non-appropriated Civilians	232
AAFES	103
DECA	51
TOTAL CIVILIANS	**1,232**
USAF Dependents	5,141
GAF Dependents	688
TOTAL DEPENDENTS	**5,829**
TOTAL PERSONNEL	**11,659**

Capital Assets

	Land Acres
Holloman AFB [1]	52,339.93
Bonito Lake [2]	154.71
Boles Wells [1]	7,409.68
TOTAL	**59,904.32**

1 Includes fee owned, permits, easement and right of ways
2 Easements only

Summary of Annual Gross Payroll

USAF Active Duty	202,224,470
GAF	35,775,000
TOTAL MILITARY PAY	**$237,999,470**
Non-appropriated Funds	4,720,979
Alamogordo Public Schools	2,278,358
AAFES	2,018,265
DECA	1,670,167
U.S. Postal Service	376,620
Private Businesses on Base	
Wells Fargo	70,856
Otero Federal Credit Union	218,590
McDonalds	421,676
TOTAL CIVILIAN PAY	**$11,775,511**

Job Creation

Number of Jobs Created	**4,988**
Average Annual Salary*	46,800

*Bureau of Labor Statistics: Otero County, N.M.

ESTIMATED ANNUAL DOLLAR VALUE OF JOBS CREATED	**$233,438,400**

Local Contract Expenditures

Major Base Construction	28,500,000
46th TG Contracts and Procurement	47,000,000
All Other Base Contracts	31,800,000
AAFES	19,557,899
DECA	15,956,046
NAF	15,677,129
Tuition Assistance	1,864,527
Impact Aid / APS recieved	1,283,527
TDY*	518,840
Goverment Purchase Card Spending	19,500,000
TRICARE/Civilian Purchased Health Care	24,912,553
Patient Care Contracts	3,416,994

*Temporary billeting in local community

TOTAL EXPENDITURES $209,987,515

Economic Impact

Total Payroll	249,774,981
Contract Expenditures	209,987,515
Value of Job Creation	233,438,400

TOTAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

$693,200,896