

U.S. Air Force

BEALE AIR FORCE BASE : CALIFORNIA

Beale Air Force Base (AFB) is located in the rolling hills of northern California. Established in the 1940's, the military created Beale AFB after citizens from the surrounding area petitioned the then U.S. Department of War to create a military facility at the location. The base is named after explorer/frontiersman Edward



Fitzgerald Beale (1822-1893), a Brigadier General in the California Militia.

Beale AFB host unit is the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, which equips the

nation's fleet of U-2 "Dragon Lady" and RQ-4 "Global Hawk" reconnaissance aircraft. The base is also home to the T-38A Talon, which is a supersonic jet trainer, and the Precision Acquisition Vehicle Entry Phased Array Warning System (PAVE PAWS), which is a radar tower used to track earth orbit satellites and sea and intercontinental launched missiles.

In 2014, Beale AFB contributed \$407 million in local payroll and \$119 million in contracts and purchases.

FAST FACTS *as of Aug 2014*

- » Location: **Yuba County, CA (near Marysville)**
- » Land Area: **23,000 acres**
- » Special Use Airspace: **625 nautical miles²**
- » Military Operations: **22,000 flying hours per year**
- » Military Personnel: **4706 Active duty/ 701 Reserve & Guard**
- » Civilian Personnel: **1090**



Above: A U-2 flies over Beale AFB main gate. (U.S. Air Force photo)

Left: A U-2 "Dragon Lady" crew chief with the 9th Maintenance Squadron gives the final salute to the pilot as he departs from Beale AFB. U-2 aircraft are primarily used for high altitude reconnaissance. (U.S. Air Force photo)

MISSION STATEMENT

Train, deploy and employ Beale Airmen and assets to deliver globally integrated Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance in support of national objectives.

CONTACT

Public Affairs Office
530-634-8887

UNIT MISSIONS

- » **9th Reconnaissance Wing:** Provides national and theater command authorities with timely, reliable, high-quality, high-altitude reconnaissance products. Equipped with the nation's fleet of U-2 and RQ-4 reconnaissance aircraft and associated support equipment. Includes the following groups:
 - **9th Operations Group:** Trains, organizes, and equips U-2 and RQ-4 combat elements for worldwide employment to include peacetime intelligence gathering, contingency operations, conventional warfighting and Emergency War Order support. Includes the following squadrons: 1st Reconnaissance Squadron, 99th Reconnaissance Squadron, 9th Operations Support Squadron, 12th Reconnaissance Squadron, 5th Reconnaissance Squadron, 489th Reconnaissance Squadron, and 427th Reconnaissance Squadron.
 - **9th Maintenance Group:** Provides flight line maintenance, shop maintenance, and quality assurance in support of U-2 high altitude reconnaissance aircraft, T-38 companion trainers, and RQ-4 Global Hawk remotely piloted aircraft. Includes the following squadrons: 9th Maintenance Squadron, the 9th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and the 9th Munitions Squadron.
 - **9th Mission Support Group:** Provides trained combat support forces to theater commanders-in-chief worldwide. Additionally, the group provides Beale AFB with facilities and infrastructure, communications, security, services, personnel support, contracting and logistical support functions enabling home station sustainment, deployment and global expeditionary operations. Currently, eight squadrons comprise the group: 9th Civil Engineer Squadron, 9th Communications Squadron, 9th Contracting Squadron, 9th Mission Support Squadron, 9th Security Forces Squadron, 9th Force Support Squadron, 9th Support Division, and 9th Logistics Readiness Squadron.
 - **9th Medical Group:** Provides for the medical needs of Beale AFB beneficiaries and supports Beale's high-altitude flyers in the U-2 aircraft. Includes the following squadrons: 9th Medical Operations, 9th Medical Support, 9th Physiological Support, and 9th Aerospace Medicine Squadrons.
- » **548th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group:** Maintains, schedules, and operates the Distributed Ground Station-2 and Deployable Shelterized System-Film components of the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System. Includes the 9th Intelligence Squadron, 13th Intelligence Squadron, 48th Intelligence Squadron, and 234th Intelligence Squadron (California Air National Guard), all at Beale AFB, and the 152nd Intelligence Squadron (Nevada Air National Guard) in Reno, Nevada.
- » **940th Wing (Air Force Reserve):** Responsible for the stand up and total force integration of the Air Force Reserve Command's newest multi-mission wing, including command and control, intelligence and reconnaissance forces in support of Air Combat Command, Pacific Air Forces and the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Agency.



Above: Air Force Staff Sgt. prepares the RQ-4 "Global Hawk" for launch using the vehicle test controller while reviewing technical orders, at Beale Air Force Base. (U.S. Air Force photo)

COMMANDER RANK

Colonel

UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS

- » Community led initiative to develop a facility at its current location in 1940's
- » German POW held there, remains of cells still stand
- » Home to 38 Native American sites, 45 homestead sites, and 41 WWII sites
- » Much of the land on the base is rented to local ranchers
- » Includes a High Altitude Chamber for training
- » Home to the SR-71 Blackbird, which for 25 years was the world's fastest jet
- » Current home of U-2 Dragon Lady, RQ-4 Global Hawk, T-38 Talon, and PAVE PAWS

- » **Detachment 11:** Responsible for developing, producing, and maintaining syllabi and courseware for U-2, T-38, and RQ-4 formal training. The detachment provides quality control of training contract deliverables and courseware, administers the Graduate Evaluation Program for U-2, T-38, and RQ-4 pilots, mission planners, operators, and sensor operators, and chairs the Operations Training Development teams for the U-2/T-38, and RQ-4 programs. Additionally, they are responsible for all aircrew training guides, computer-based training, device trainers and simulators, and other related continuation training for all 9 RW weapon systems in direct support of the Wing's High Altitude Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance mission. In addition, Detachment 11 is responsible for all T-38A training support within ACC Including the B-2 Companion Training Program and F-22 Adversary Support.
- » **7th Space Warning Squadron:** Scans the horizon for missiles, satellites, and other man-made objects in space. Detects, tracks, and provides impact prediction of sea-launched and intercontinental ballistic missiles launched towards North America to the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD).
- » **372nd Training Squadron Detachment 21**
- » **Air Force Office of Special Investigator:** Provides professional counterintelligence and criminal investigative services for the protection of Beale AFB, California; Kingsley Field Air National Guard Base, Oregon; Nevada Air National Guard Base, Nevada; and people, operations and materiel worldwide.
- » **Air Force Reserve:** Performs many of the day-to-day functions on bases around the United States. Missions includes weather reconnaissance, aeromedical evacuation, aerial port, airlift, aerial fire fighting, personnel recovery, tanker, intel, pilot training, security forces, air operations command, space, airborne warning and control systems, special operations forces, bomber, unmanned aerial surveillance/interdiction, and fighters.



Above: The T-38 Talon is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer used in a variety of roles because of its design, economy of operations, ease of maintenance, high performance and exceptional safety record. (U.S. Air Force photo)