



PACIFIC AVIATION MUSEUM

PEARL HARBOR

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Title: Air Force F-15 Eagle Makes Its Final Nest At Pacific Aviation Museum Pearl Harbor Tuesday August 26, 2008, 9AM

At the turn of the century, after more than 25 years of service, the McDonnell Douglas F-15 Eagle was still the U.S. Air Force's premier fighter designed to gain and maintain air superiority. At a top speed of 2.5 times the speed of sound, the F-15 Eagle was the first U.S. fighter to be able to accelerate while in a vertical climb to 65,000 feet, truly up into the wild blue yonder. The Eagle's air superiority is not all brawn but brains as well. Its advanced avionics, range and weaponry, along with its sports car maneuverability allowed one person to perform air-to-air combat using its secret systems to detect, acquire, track and attack enemy aircraft.

According to Pacific Aviation Museum Executive Director Kenneth DeHoff, "This F-15A is a priceless addition to the Museum's collection of historic aircraft. It joins our recently acquired F-14 Tomcat which arrived in July and becomes part of our artifact expansion."

The first F-15A was produced in July 1972, culminating one of the most successful aircraft programs in Air Force history. The first aircraft was delivered to the Air Force in November 1974. In January 1976, the first Eagle destined for a combat squadron was delivered to the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing at Langley Air Force Base, VA.

The F-15A (76-0063) was delivered to the USAF in 1977 and assigned to the 49th Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW) at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. It flew with the 8th and 9th Fighter Squadrons of the 49th TFW at Holloman where it served as the

“Wing Flagship” and had painted on its fuselage, "City of Alamogordo.” When the 49th TFW transitioned to the F-117, the Pacific Aviation Museum’s Eagle was transferred to the Hawaii Air National Guard in June 1992. F-15s were first assigned to the Hawaii Air National Guard in 1987 where they have been flown and maintained for 21 years.

This particular F-15 was part of the 199th Fighter Squadron (the MaiTai Squadron) that flew for sixteen years with the HIANG (Hawai`i Air National Guard) protecting the skies above the Islands. “This F-15 is in terrific shape,” says DeHoff, “a tribute to the great care and maintenance of the 154th wing of the Hawai`i Air National Guard. We can’t thank them enough for their cooperation and assistance in bringing the F-15 to the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island.”

The Museum has announced its Phase II Capital Campaign for the restoration of Hangar 79 and its increasing aircraft collection. The Museum raised over \$16 million, which renovated Hangar 37—a WWII hangar that survived the surprise Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. It plans three more restoration phases, which includes Hangars 79, 54, and the iconic red-and-white-striped Control Tower standing watch over Ford Island.

Pacific Aviation Museum is open 9am to 5pm daily and is accessed by air-conditioned shuttle buses from the USS Bowfin Submarine Park at Pearl Harbor. Daily, visitors from all over the world view the vintage planes, enjoy hands on technology experiences including combat flight simulators, hear moving stories told by veteran docents, and see “The Day That Shall Live In Infamy” through historic films and audio. The museum gift shop and restaurant are unique in their offerings and their authentic 1940s ambiance. Phone (808) 441-1000 or visit www.PacificAviationMuseum.org for tickets and more information.

Pacific Aviation Museum is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization. Its mission is to develop and maintain an internationally recognized aviation museum on historic Ford Island that educates young and old alike, honors aviators and their support personnel who defended freedom in The Pacific Region, and preserves Pacific aviation history. The Museum provides educational programs for adults and children and is located at 319 Lexington Boulevard in Hangar 37 on Ford Island at Pearl Harbor.

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