

Name _____



Texas Aviation

History Timeline

Use the 'Ellington Airport Gate Way to Space' to complete the dates of each event in aviation history.

**ELLINGTON AIRPORT:
GATEWAY TO SPACE**

**LONE STAR
FLIGHT MUSEUM**
HOUSTON, TEXAS



Who Is Ellington?

When the U.S Army created a new training field south of Houston in 1917, they chose to name it after pioneering aviator _____.

Creating Ellington

In November 1917, the first instructors arrived to train pilots and mechanics. The first unit to call Ellington "home" was the 120th Aero Squadron, which began the massive job of _____ from stacks of parts piled up in the hangars.



Specialized Air Warfare

Additionally, base engineers created high-powered spotlights with lenses to focus the powerful beacons on the airfield so crews could _____ on the _____ nights.

Innovation at Ellington

By January 1918, many of the aircraft were fitted with radios so that instructors on the ground could talk to students . . . In addition to innovations in navigation, night flying, gunnery and bombing, Ellington Field saw many first including the first _____.



BETWEEN THE WARS

After World War I ended, the need for Ellington and its innovations quickly dried up. Men were _____ or shipped to other bases and airplanes were sold off as _____.

Ellington Reborn

Beginning in September, the Army's Quartermaster Corps started building a facility that would encompass the old Ellington Field plus an additional _____.



Bombardier and Navigation Training

On October 6, 1941 the first class of 30 cadets arrived to begin a 12-week advanced course that included class work and dropping _____ on target in the Gulf of Mexico or the combing range on Matagorda Island.

A New Old Mission

Part of the training was to learn celestial navigation, which uses the _____ to determine an aircraft's position. To help students learn the stars, a Houston resident paid for the construction of a planetarium on base with 50' dome that could hold 40 people!

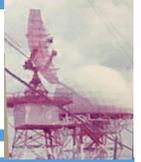


446th Troop Carrier Wing

During _____, the 446th became the first Reserve unit to transition to the C-130 Hercules.

Air Defense of The Gulf

In 1948, the Air Force's Continental Air Command selected Ellington as one of 24 radar _____ in the continental United States.



Texas Air National Guard the Early Years

In August 1946 the unit was re-established under the _____ Wing (ANG) and headquartered in Houston. During the war, their hangars at Houston Municipal airport had been leased to her tenants so they moved to Ellington.



Texas ANG in the Jet Age

In 2005, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommended that the 111th be _____. Governor Rick Perry fought the decision and secured the future of the unity by agreeing to convert the 111th into a reconnaissance squadron flying the MQ-1 Predator drone.



Texans in Combat

Operating the _____ Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) the unit flies combat surveillance and air support missions for US and Allied forces from its base at Ellington.



NASA Arrives at Ellington

One other visitor is the _____, a highly modified C-97 Stratoliner that is used to carry oversized loads such as a rocket boosters and spacecraft.



Astronaut Training at Ellington

Typically, 46-60 parabolas were flown per mission and its nickname came from the fact that a third of first-time flyers experienced _____.



Astronauts Get Wet

Centered on a pool that is _____ feet by _____ feet and _____ feet deep, the NBL allowed astronauts to train with full scale mock ups of the Space Shuttle cargo...



A Joint Reserve Base

Opened in December 1963, the Air Station is responsible for _____ and _____, homeland security, environmental protection and maritime law enforcement for the Gulf Coast.



Airport for the Community

Then in July 1984, Ellington was acquired by the Houston Airport System (HAS) and its name changed to the _____.



Houston Spaceport

Sierra Nevada Corporation, the builder of the Dream Chaser has signed a deal to land the _____ at Houston Spaceport at the end of its flights.

