

Name _____



Texas Aviation

History Timeline

Use the Heritage Gallery to complete the dates of each event in aviation history.



Otto Lilienthal (1848-1896) was the first human to make repeated, successful gliding flights. Starting in _____, Lilienthal made over 2,000 flights in gliders he designed, totaling approximately five hours of flying time.



On _____, a small group gathered near Luckenbach, Texas to witness the purported flight of Jacob Brodbeck (1821-1910), an inventor who had designed and built an airship. Texas lore recounts Brodbeck's 100-foot flight, 12 feet off the ground. In his heavier-than-air vehicle and also notes that an abrupt landing ended his time aloft and destroyed the aircraft.

On _____, with Orville at the controls, the Wrights' heavier than-air plane took flight from the dunes of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.



Texans, like many Americans in the _____'s gathered at airfields to be entertained by stunt flyers and daredevil aerialists, known as barnstormers, who risked their lives in the sky.

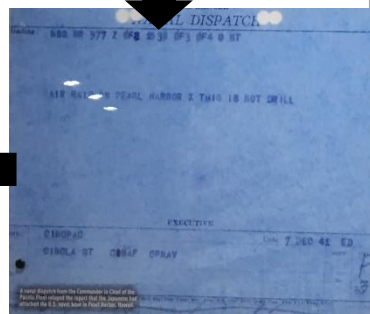
The excitement and financial gain that barnstorming presented drew all types of people to the field of aviation. Bessie Coleman (_____ - _____), an African American and Native American woman from Waxahachie, Texas, was one of these people.



The United States officially entered World War I on _____, and the Army Signal Corps mobilized quickly. By the middle of _____, the Signal Corps had begun construction on 28 new training fields for aviators and support personnel, nine of which were built in Texas.



Having returned to pasture land after World War I, Ellington Field came back to life in _____.



While Germany's attack on Poland in _____ marked the official start of World War II, Japan and China had been fighting each other since the early 1930's. The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on _____ plunged the United States into World War II, but as early as _____ the United States had begun to mobilize in anticipation of entering the war.



Previously denied piloting jobs because of their race, African-American aviators were called into military service during the war. Early African-American airmen were self taught or trained overseas, but when the Tuskegee program was initiated in _____, it was the first time the U.S. military accepted minorities for flight training.

WASHINGTON DC ATRWP 4747 PD THESE ARE YOUR OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO REPT TO COMMANDING OFFICER 316TH AAFSTD AVENGER SIELD SWEETWATER TEXAS ON ____ OF _____ AT YOUR OWN EXPENSE ADMISSION TO WOMEN FLYING TRAINING BRING THIS WIRE PILOT CERTIFICATE AND LOGBOOK STOP

On _____ the Japanese signed surrender documents that ended the war. This followed on the heels of the European Axis' collapse in _____ of the same year.



The Army Air Force acted largely independent of the U.S. Army in World War II and during the war had pursued an autonomous status. It was granted independence when the National Security Act of _____ was enacted on _____



Operation Buster-Jangle, conducted in Nevada in late _____, tested U.S. nuclear weapons capabilities and readiness.



"... I believe this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the Moon and returning him safely to Earth."
President John F. Kennedy



On _____, North Korea backed by China and the Soviet Union, invaded South Korea, which was supported by the United States and its allies under the United Nations. During the war, six Air National Guard (ANG) units, including two squadron from Texas were mobilized by the federal government and flew combat missions from _____ to _____

On _____ Apollo 11 lifted off on the mission that would fulfill Kennedy's goal of landing humans on the Moon. The Manned Spacecraft Center (renamed Johnson Space Center in _____) was responsible for training the astronauts controlling the flight.



The Air Force saw its beginnings with Lt. Benjamin Foulois and a single Wright Military Flyer at Fort Sam Houston in _____, and it still maintains major facilities in Texas.

In _____, the U.S. Army's Fort Sam Houston the U.S. Air Force's Randolph AFB and Lackland AFB all merged to form Joint San Antonio under the jurisdiction of the Air Force.