



FLYING OPERATIONS

BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE

National treasure... highly flexible joint service training... realistic combat replications Air-to-air & air-to-ground training 57,000 cubic miles of airspace ~Size of New Jersey 76,000+ operations annually Environmental stewards of Sonoran Desert

CRITICAL MISSION ELEMENTS

- Ability to land & takeoff in either direction at Luke
- Ability to access Barry M. Goldwater Range
- Flying practice instrument approaches at Aux 1
- Ability for "touch & goes" at Gila Bend Aux Field
- Access to & from Gladden/Bagdad Military Operating Areas
- Access to statewide military training routes



BEWARE THE THUNDERBOLT



LUKE AIR FORCE BASE



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Located west of Phoenix, Luke Air Force Base is home to the 56th Fighter Wing, the largest FW in the world and the Air Force's only active-duty F-16 training wing. As part of Air Education and Training Command, and home to 23 squadrons with both F-35A Lightning II aircraft and F-16s, the 56th graduates more than 400 F-16 pilots and 300 air control professionals annually. The wing is also responsible for three additional squadrons under the 54th Fighter Group located at Holloman AFB, New Mexico, where F-16 training will move as Luke AFB transitions to become the sole pilot training center for the F-35A, the Air Force's newest multi-role aircraft. Additionally, the 56th Fighter Wing oversees the Gila Bend Air Force Auxiliary Field and is steward of the Barry M. Goldwater Range, a military training range spanning more than 1.7 million acres of Sonoran desert.

56th FIGHTER WING MISSION

Train the world's greatest F-35 and F-16 fighter pilots

LUKE HISTORY

Luke Air Force Base is named for the WWI flying ace and Phoenix native Lieutenant Frank Luke Jr., the first aviator to receive the Medal of Honor. Lieutenant Luke scored 18 aerial victories, 14 against German observation balloons, before being killed at the age of 21 on Sept. 29, 1918.

LUKE SENIOR LEADERSHIP



Brigadier General Scott L. Pleus is the 56th Fighter Wing commander, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. General Pleus commissioned in 1989 through the Air Force ROTC program at the University of Minnesota-Duluth. He is a command

pilot with more than 2,300 hours. Pleus previously commanded Luke's 63rd Fighter Squadron, the 611th Air and Space Operations Center, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and the 8th Fighter Wing at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea. Prior to his current assignment, he was the executive officer to the Air Force Chief of Staff at the Pentagon.



Colonel David Shoemaker
56th Fighter Wing Vice Commander



Colonel William C. Bailey
56th Operations Group Commander



Colonel Ricky L. Ainsworth
56th Maintenance Group Commander



Colonel James K. Kossler
56th Mission Support Group Commander



Colonel Maureen A. Charles
56th Medical Group Commander



Colonel Jeffrey R. Jenssen
54th Fighter Group Commander



Chief Master Sergeant John M. Mazza
56th Fighter Wing Command Chief

KEY FACTS & FIGURES

IN FISCAL YEAR 2015, LUKE:

- Graduated 425 pilots
- Produced 317 crew chiefs
- Graduated 81 intelligence specialists
- Flew 16,493 F-16 sorties and 193 F-35 sorties
- Flew more than 21,579 F-16 & 287 F-35 flying hours
- Deployed 323 Airmen
- Volunteered 100,000 hours in community

LUKE ECONOMIC IMPACT

Direct	\$ 653 Million
Indirect	\$ 1.1 Billion
<u>Induced</u>	<u>\$ 333 Million</u>
Total Economic Impact in AZ	\$ 2.17 Billion

(Source: Maguire Company)

LUKE MISSION HIGHLIGHTS

"IN THE NEWS"

Luke's next Air Show is Apr. 2-3, 2016. Luke's F-35s and F-16s will be featured.

The F-35 program took its first step forward integrating partner nations with the arrival of the first Australian F-35 Dec. 18, 2014, at Luke. Almost a year later the next big international step for the program came when two Italian pilots completed their first flight in an F-35 Nov. 5 here

Luke will be home to 144 F-35As Current F-35s at 56 FW: 29 27 U.S. & 2 AUS Current F-16s at 56 FW: ~89 • 1st F-35 class 4 May 2015

Community Support

- Luke enjoys unmatched community support. We cannot thank Luke's neighbors throughout the valley enough for letting us be part of the community, not just "in" the community. Their support for our mission and the men and women of Luke AFB has been second-to-none.

- Air Force Times polled Airmen at 68 stateside bases and their surrounding communities, and pulled together data on factors such as school quality, local economy, crime rates, traffic, and climate to on-base amenities, AIRMEN selected LUKE as 5th most desirable assignment.

- 944th Total Force Integration effort enhances WG mission (62 IPs and ~150 maintainers)

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