

**142**  
Fighter Wing

Guarding the skies of the  
Pacific Northwest

OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD



## *The Fightin' Redhawks "Semper Vigilans"-- Always Vigilant*

With more than 1,000 officers and airmen, the "Redhawks" of the Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Fighter Wing are an important component of the U.S. military's total force and the nation's air defense. As part of Air Combat Command and the North American Air Defense System, the unit guards the Pacific Northwest from northern California to the Canadian border with F-15 Eagles on 24-hour alert.

Both operational and training missions take 142nd units around the globe-supporting drug interdiction, European air defense, and contingency operations. On September 11, 2001 the 142nd Fighter Wing was one of the first units to respond with increased air defense to enhance security on the west coast. We continue to support Operation Noble Eagle, a national military response to homeland defense.



Our mission: To provide superior mission-ready units to sustain combat aerospace superiority and peacetime tasking, any time, any place in service to our nation, state, and community. Paramount to our mission is maintaining the highest readiness to execute our state and federal missions when needed by our Governor or the Nation. Realistic training to deliver combat aerospace control, combat support, and homeland defense is key to our operational readiness. The readiness of guard families and support of our employers is an integral part of our mission success.



### Our four key priorities:

- *Mission: The reason we exist.*
- *People: Our most important resource*
- *Communication: Effective communication is vital for the 142<sup>d</sup> Fighter Wing to succeed.*
- *Respect: Recognized and supported by our community as a vital contributor with unequalled success.*

Just prior to America's entry into World War II, Maj. G. Robert Dodson, an Oregonian serving with the 321<sup>st</sup> Observation Squadron Reserve at Pearson Field, Wash., sparked formation of the 123<sup>rd</sup> Observation Squadron here April 18, 1941 with a short message to Washington D.C. - "We've got people, we've got a place, and we're ready". That spirit has been embodied repeatedly by the unit's efforts during World War II, the Korean War, the Gulf War, and Operation's Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The F-15 is the latest of a proud lineage of historic aircraft the unit has flown. Since its formation on April 18, 1941, the Oregon Air National Guard has flown the: BC-1A, O-46A, O-47, F-51, B-25J, F-86, F-94, F-89, F-102, F-101, F-4C, C-131, C-130A, and T-33.

Located at the Portland Air National Guard Base on the south side of the Portland International Airport, the wing is host to a number of other Air and Army National Guard units, as well as the 939th Reserve Air Refueling Wing and the Civil Air Patrol.

