



*Libertas Vel Mors*

# *Hill Air Force Base Update 2024*

The overall classification of this briefing is:

**UNCLASSIFIED**

Maj Jeff “Bender” Page  
F-35A Combat Pilot



# ***388 FW Mission***



***Libertas Vel Mors***

***Deliver F-35 dominance...  
anytime, anywhere***



# 388 FW Priorities



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**Vision:**  
The World's Premier Fighter Wing

Shaping the F-35 community in  
peacetime and  
leading the fight in combat

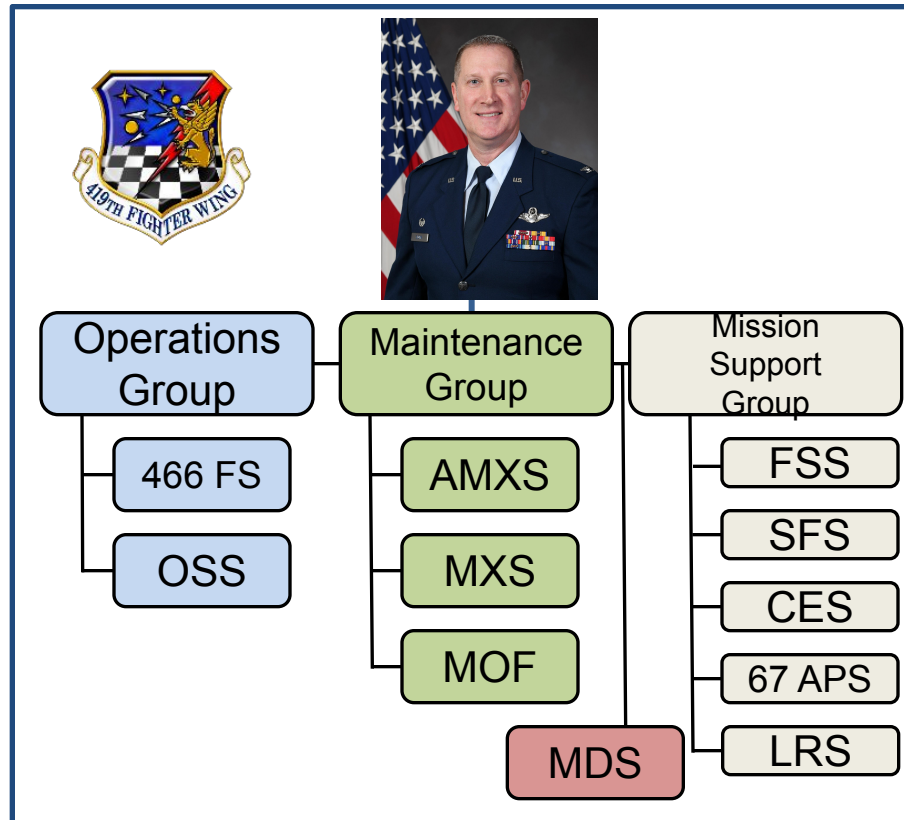
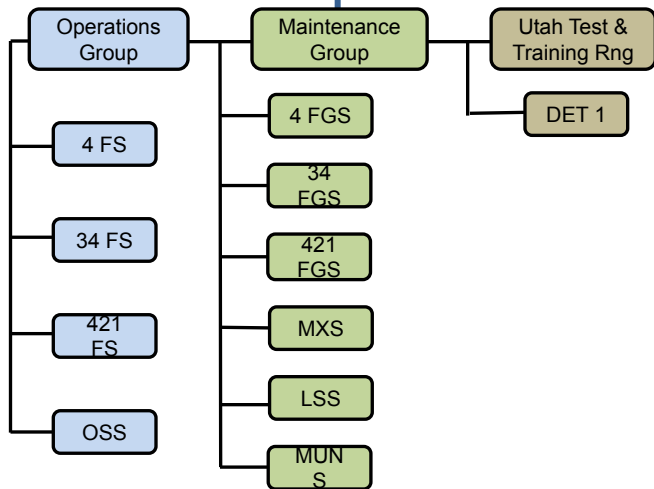
**Imperatives/LOEs:**  
Professional, Lethal, Agile, Ready



# 388 & 419 FW Organization



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# Force



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~2,500 Airmen  
78 F-35As





# Utah and 388 FW



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- A great fit for decades – first F-16 unit, first F-35 unit
- Strong community support
- Nearby Utah Test and Training Range is vital
- F-35A depot maintenance at Ogden ALC
- Attractive spot for skilled workforce
- Massive competition for qualified employees



# Utah Test & Training Range



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“Providing war fighters with a realistic training environment and provide **test and evaluation of overland, large footprint weapons** to enhance combat readiness, superiority, and sustainability.”



*We Train Warriors and Test Weapons...*



# Major Range & Test Facility Base



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- Designated/governed via DoD Directive 3200.11
  - “Core set of DoD test and evaluation infrastructure that must be preserved as a national asset to support the DoD acquisition system”
- Can be used by other DoD users, USG agencies, state/ local governments, foreign governments and commercial entities
- Financed through appropriated and user charges
- Some others (24 total in DoD)

Air Force Flight Test Center\* (Edwards)

Nevada Test & Training Range (NTTR)\*

West Desert Test Center (DPG)

Patuxent River

Pacific Missile Range

China Lake\*

Point Mugu\*\*

White Sands

Yuma

Kwajalein Atoll

\*J-TECH Contract Annexes

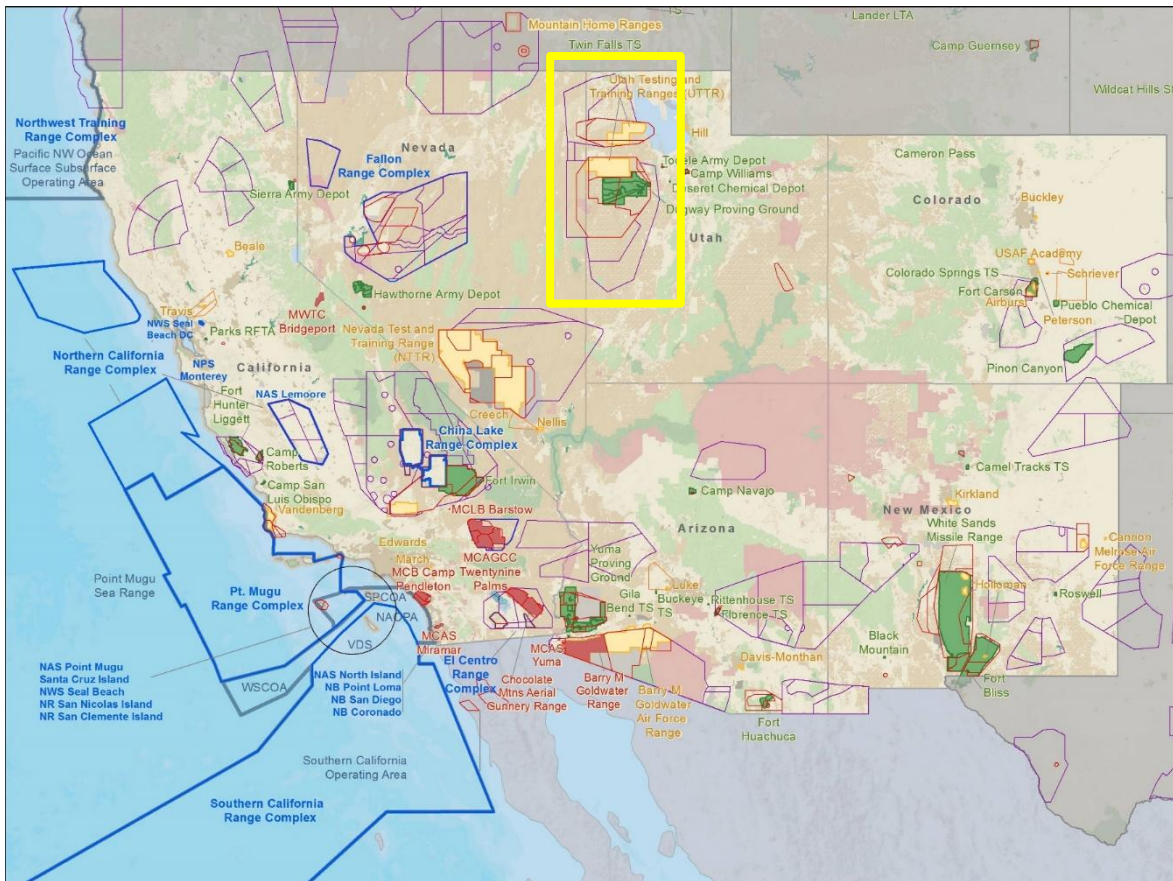




# UTTR Airspace



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## Western Regional Partnership DoD Assets

### DoD Installations and Ranges

- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Army\*
- U.S. Marine Corps
- U.S. Navy

\*Army ranges smaller than 500 acres are not labeled.

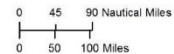
### Federal Lands\*

- Forest Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- American Indian Lands
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Other

\*Symbol is diluted in map

### Restricted Area and Military Operating Area

- Alert Area
- Danger Area
- Restricted Areas
- Military Operating Areas



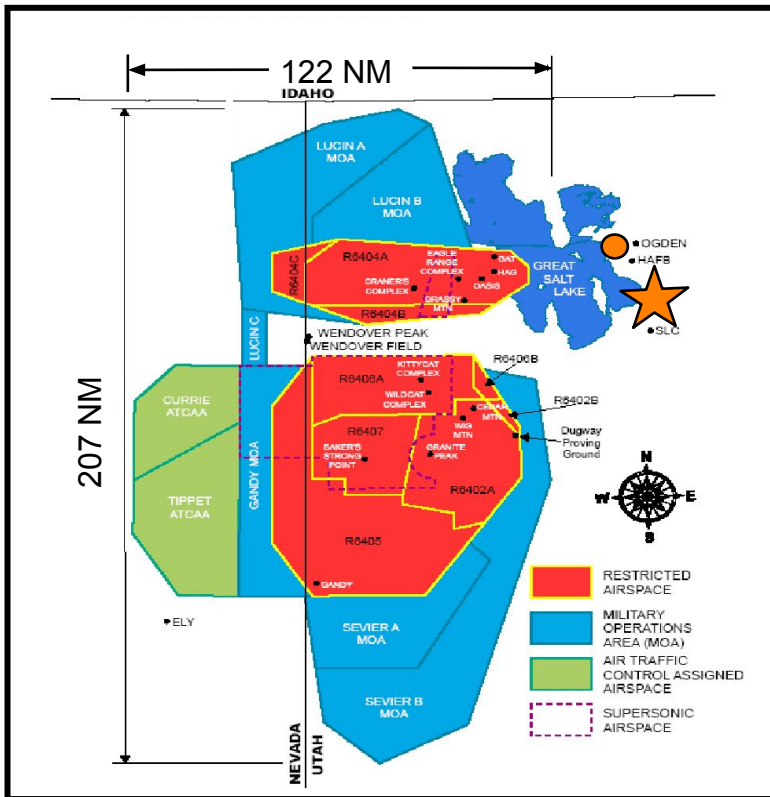
Sources: OSD DISDI, 2018; ESRI; US Census; USGS



# UTTR Airspace

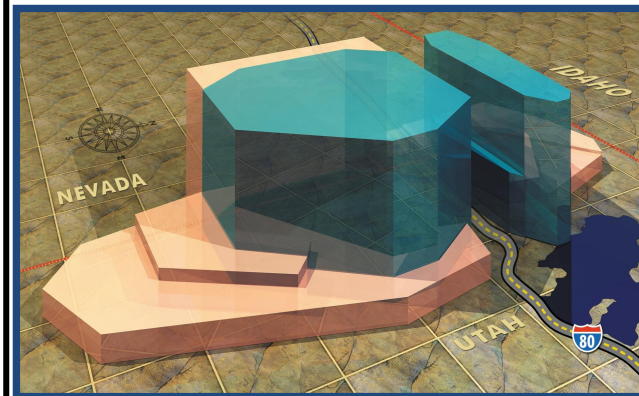


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Total Airspace: 19K Sq NM

Restricted: 6K Sq NM





# F-35 Capabilities



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# F-35A Capabilities



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- Ability to fly virtually undetected
- Locking on with precision
- Communicating across the battlespace
- Big data meets air superiority
- Real-time “virtual reality”
- Truly multi-role weapons load





# F-35A Capabilities



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## Ability to fly virtually undetected



- Requires designed in stealth aspects, combined with tactics
- Aircraft shape, materials, internal fuel and weapons carriage, mission-system sensors, and advanced stealth coating play key roles in keeping the F-35 Low Observable
- Evades detection by radar, infrared sensors, or emission interception





# F-35A Capabilities



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## Locking on with precision

- Advanced radar, ground mapping
- Electro-Optical Targeting System (EOTS) provides pilots with precise air-to-air and air-to-ground targeting capability
- Aircrews can identify areas of interest, perform reconnaissance, and precisely deliver laser- and GPS-guided weapon
- As a sensor integrated into the F-35's fuselage, EOTS can be used without detection by enemy radar





# F-35A Capabilities



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## Augmented reality helmet

- High-resolution, real-time images are streamed from six infrared cameras mounted around the aircraft, straight to the pilot's visor. "See through" the aircraft
- Projects mission-critical information such as airspeed, heading, altitude, targeting information and warnings – all on the helmet's visor





# F-35A Capabilities



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## Big data meets air superiority

- Customizable touch screen
- As quarterback of integrated strike package, can gather and fuse information.
- Pass it to entire 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> generation strike package, as well as any ground forces
- Everyone more lethal, survivable



# F-35A Capabilities



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## Multi-role

- Air interdiction
- Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses
- Close air support
- Internal or external weapons carry, depending on mission

## Stealth Mode



## Beast Mode







# 388/419FW Recent History



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- First F-35s in Sept. 2015, full strength by Jan. 2020
- First combat operational F-35A unit in the Air Force
- 2019-2020: 18 months of continuous deployments to the Middle East, all three squadrons
- Summer 2023: Agile Combat Employment support to INDOPACOM
- 2022-24 deployed in support of NATO, PACOM, CENTCOM





# Northern Edge 23-2



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Fairbanks, AK

Guam

Palau

(Route not taken)



# QUESTIONS?



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F-35A “Battle Penguin”