

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 120<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, which began the massive job of \_\_\_\_\_ from stacks of parts piled up in the hangars.

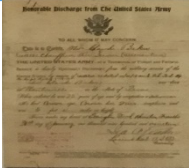


### Specialized Air Warfare

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!

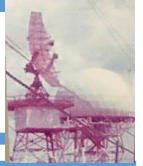


### 446<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Wing

During \_\_\_\_\_, the 446<sup>th</sup> 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 111<sup>th</sup> be \_\_\_\_\_. Governor Rick Perry fought the decision and secured the future of the unity by agreeing to convert the 111<sup>th</sup> 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.

