

## Aircraft Flown at Travis

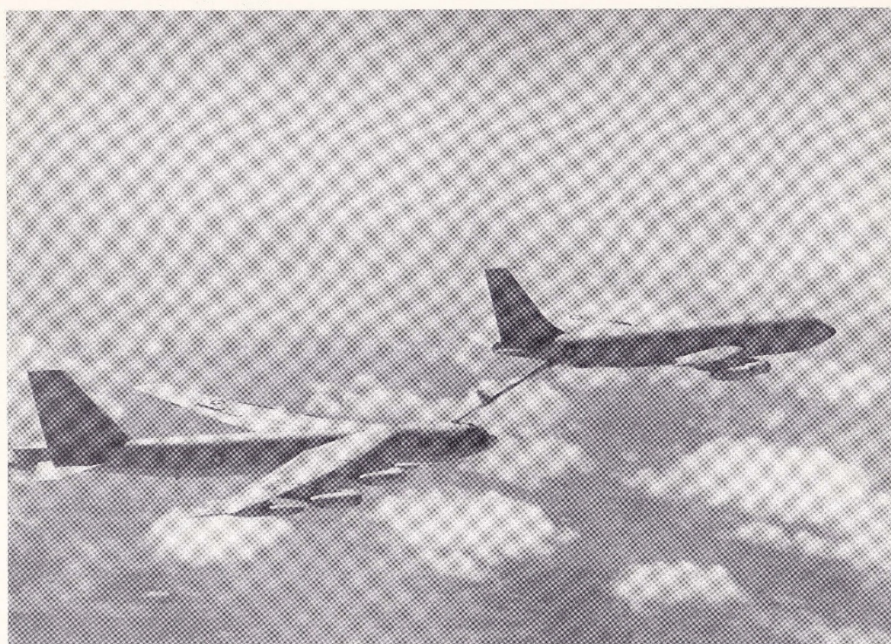
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The first C-54 Skymaster arrived on Travis AFB 1 December 1944. It was a four engine transport plane with a maximum load capacity of 28,000 pounds of cargo or 49 passengers. It had a maximum range of 3,000 miles and could fly non-stop to either the Pacific or European Theaters. It worked hard at TAFB from 1944-1954 as the predominant transport plane and the workhorse of air transport fleet during WW II.

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HIGH ALTITUDE REFUELING — HIGH ABOVE THE CLOUDS, A STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND B-52 HEAVY BOMBER IS REFUELED BY A KC-135 STRATOTANKER. LIKE THE WESTERN MARSHAL, THE B-52 WEARS ITS SIDEARMS OF HOUND DOG AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILES WHICH EXTEND THE STRIKING RANGE BY MORE THAN 500 MILES. (USAF PHOTO)



Photo of a KC-135R refueling F-15 Archived photo dated 1985

The KC-135 was the backbone of the tanker fleet arriving in service at Travis in 1959. It was the first jet-powered refueling tanker initially tasked with refueling strategic bombers, but used extensively in Vietnam War and later conflicts to extend the range of endurance for US tactical fighters and bombers. The Boeing co. designed the aircraft to not only refuel but carry up to 83,000 pounds of cargo. The last KC-135 aircraft departed Travis Air Force Base on 6 October 1983.