

ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN

A unique addition to the Airpark is the ZPU-4 Anti-Aircraft Gun. The *Zenitnaya Pulemetnaya Ustanovka* (Anti-Aircraft Machinegun System) or ZPU is a family of towed anti-aircraft guns developed by the Soviet Union after 1949. The ZPU-4 is a quad-barrel gun mounted to a four-wheel carriage. Each gun fired 14.5mm projectiles with a maximum range of 8,000 meters (almost five miles), and a maximum altitude range of 5,000 meters (just over three miles). The 48th has two ZPU-4 guns (one is off public display) captured from the Iraqi Army in 1991. The ZPU-4 is on display at the 48th Operations Group Headquarters.



The ZPU-4 Anti-Aircraft Gun.

AIRCRAFT OF THE 48TH

1941:	Douglas A-20 <i>Havoc</i> Curtiss A-18 <i>Shrike</i>
1942-1944:	Douglas A-20 <i>Havoc</i> Douglas A-24 <i>Dauntless</i> Vultee A-31 <i>Vengeance</i> Vultee A-35 <i>Vengeance</i> North American A-36 <i>Apache</i> Bell P-39 <i>Airacobra</i> Curtiss P-40 <i>Warhawk</i>
1944-1945:	Republic P-47 <i>Thunderbolt</i>
1952-1954:	Republic F-84 <i>Thunderjet</i>
1953-1956:	North American F-86 <i>Sabre</i>
1956-1972:	North American F-100 <i>Super Sabre</i>
1972-1977:	McDonnell Douglas F-4 <i>Phantom II</i>
1977-1992:	General Dynamics F-111 <i>Aardvark</i>
1992 – present	McDonnell Douglas F-15E <i>Strike Eagle</i>
1994 – present	McDonnell Douglas F-15C/D <i>Eagle</i>
2004 – present	Sikorsky HH-60G <i>Pave Hawk</i>

Airpark Guide



RAF LAKENHEATH

**UT AQUILAE VOLENT
WHERE EAGLES DARE**



Wings of Liberty Airpark



The Airpark's F-100 as it appeared during the 1970s

since the 1950s.

The Airpark's origin dates to the 1970s after the 48th converted from the F-100 *Super Sabre* to the F-4 Phantom. The wing received an F-100 retired from the French Air Force which was

displayed as a memorial to the F-100s flown by the 48th for



more than a decade. The F-100 is painted to represent 56-3319, an aircraft which crashed in Libya in 1968. The F-100 is currently displayed by Gate 1. The F-100 remained the sole aircraft in the Airpark for many years until the wing added three more aircraft in 1994.

The F-100D *Super Sabre*, flown by the 48th from 1956 to 1972.

The 48th Fighter Wing has operated 18 different models of aircraft since first activating in 1941. The Airpark at RAF Lakenheath features four aircraft which represent fighters actually flown by the wing

The new additions to the Airpark featured an F-4 *Phantom II*, an aircraft flown by the 48th from 1972 to 1977. Because of a slow turnover of F-4s, it took two years for the 48th to receive its full allotment of 77 aircraft. In fact, 26 F-4s were split between two squadrons in 1972-73. The F-4 departed Lakenheath in 1977. The F-4 on display is



The F-4C *Phantom II*, flown by the 48th from 1972 to 1977.

Painted to represent 65-0777 as it appeared in 1975.

To replace the F-4, the Air Force equipped the 48th with the F-111 *Aardvark*. From March to November 1977 the wing received 96 F-111s. The unique fighter featured a variable-sweep wing, or "swing-wing," design which improved performance at different speeds. The F-111 took the 48th into combat for the first time since 1945



The F-111F *Aardvark*, flown by the 48th from 1977 to 1992.

when it saw action during Operation *Eldorado Canyon* and Operations *Desert Shield* and *Desert*

Storm. The F-111 on display is painted to represent 70-2389, the F-111 lost during *Eldorado Canyon*, and its crew, Maj Fernando L. Ribas-Dominici and Capt Paul F. Lorence.

Rounding out the Airpark's aircraft is the F-15 *Eagle*. Following the success of *Desert Storm*, the 48th replaced its F-111 fleet with the F-15 in 1992.



The F-15 *Eagle*, flown by the 48th from 1992 to Present.

Since then, the 48th has flown F-15s in various parts of the world and in environments from desert to arctic.

Combat missions include Operations *Allied Force*, *Enduring Freedom*, and *Iraqi Freedom* to name a few. The 48th currently flies both the F-15C/D *Eagle*, and the F-15E *Strike Eagle*. The F-15 on display is painted to represent F-15Cs 86-0169 and 86-0180, and their pilots Lt Col Kenneth Hyvonen and Capt Kirk Jones.

The F-4, F-111, and F-15 are currently displayed at the intersection of *Norwich Road* and *Yarmouth Road*, by the Post Office.