AIR DEFENCE

No 41 Wing

No 41 Wing was formed on 26 February 1942 in New Guinea and was involved in a number of major battles including Milne Bay and Port Moresby. Following the cessation of hostilities in New Guinea, 41WG disbanded on 31 July 1944. The Wing re-formed on 20 February 1987 to incorporate all of the Control and Reporting Units (2CRU, 3CRU and 114 Mobile CRU), No 1 Radar Surveillance Unit (1RSU) operating the new Jindalee Over-The-Horizon Radar (OTHR), and Surveillance and Control Training Unit (SACTU). On 27 January 1997, No 41 Wing assumed command of 11 Air Traffic Control (ATC) units across Australia. ATC units were subsequently transferred to No 44 Wing on 27 November 2000.

Headquarters No 41 Wing is responsible for providing continuous wide area surveillance of the Sea-Air gap and for providing high quality counter air and airspace control. This responsibility is achieved through planning and tasking the various subordinate units to conduct standard daily operations, operations in support of contingencies, exercises and day to day training. This has recently been tested with the success of Operation GUARDIAN in support of CHOGM (the first operational deployment of 41 Wing assets since the Malayan Emergency), Operation MIATA in support of the recent visit of the President of the United States of America, and, most recently, Exercise PITCH BLACK 2004.