

Alexander Jefferson Timeline

November 15, 1921	Alexander Jefferson born in Detroit, Michigan
June 1938	Graduates from Chadsey High School in Detroit, Michigan
September 1938	Begins his college studies at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia
June 1942	Graduates from Clark College with majors in chemistry and biology and minors in mathematics and physics, and returns to Detroit, Michigan
September 23, 1942	Sworn in to the U.S. Army Reserves
September 1942	Begins graduate school at Howard University in Washington, DC
April 13, 1943	Called to active duty to begin flight training
May 2–July 1, 1943	Pre-flight training at Tuskegee Army Airfield, Alabama
July 2– September 1, 1943	Primary flight training at Tuskegee Institute
September 2– November 1, 1943	Basic flight training at Tuskegee Army Airfield
November 2, 1943– January 6, 1944	Advanced flight training at Tuskegee Army Airfield
January 7, 1944	Graduates and receives his wings as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Air Corps
January 7– February 5, 1944	1155th SE: P-40 training at Tuskegee Army Airfield
February 5–May 10, 1944	553rd Replacement Squadron: Training in P-39s at Selfridge Army Air Base, Detroit, Michigan
May 12–26, 1944	Training in P-39s at Walterboro Army Airfield, South Carolina
May 27–June 8, 1944	En route to overseas assignment
June 8–13, 1944	Oran, Algeria
June 15–19, 1944	Naples, Italy
June 20–August 12, 1944	Ramitelli Air Base in southern Italy, combat replacement pilot in the all-black 332nd Fighter Group
August 12, 1944	Shot down over southern France and becomes a POW

August 18–20, 1944	POW in Oberursel, Germany, near Frankfurt
August 20–23, 1944	Interned in Dulag Luft, Wetzlar, Germany, for interrogation
August 26, 1944	Arrives in Stalag Luft III at Sagan, Germany
January 27, 1945	Evacuates Stalag Luft III
February 3, 1945	Arrives in Stalag VIIA at Moosburg, Germany
April 29, 1945	Liberation!!
June 5–10, 1945	Fort Dix
June 7, 1945	Arrives home in New York
June 7–August 18, 1945	Leave, processing, and reassignment, Atlantic City, New Jersey
June 10–August 1945	60-day recuperation
August 10–18, 1945	Atlantic City
August 15, 1945– January 1, 1946	Instrument and flying instructor, Tuskegee Army Airfield
August 18–25, 1946	TAAF; 2143RD AAFBU Sq
August 25, 1946	Instrument SE Instr A.C. TAAF
August 26, 1946	318th AAFBU Lockbourne AAB Columbus, Ohio
October 16, 1946	Marries Adella Tucker McDonald
January 16, 1947	Discharged from active duty but joins the Air Force Reserve
September 1947– June, 1948	Takes science education classes and earns a teaching certificate at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan
September 1948	Begins teaching science at Duffield Elementary School, Detroit, Michigan
June 7, 1949	Birth of daughter Alexis
August 21, 1951	10th AF (VRS)(CONAC)(Res)
April 1, 1953	9607th ARes Sq (CONAC) Lonyo 9126th ARES GP
June 1954	Receives MA in education from Wayne State University
September 1954	Moves to Pattengill Elementary School, Detroit, Michigan
August 12, 1956	16-Day Air Command & Staff
January 14, 1957	Gen Trng Flt 'A' 9504th Air Res Sq
August 1, 1958	AFSC 7535: 3504th Sq Staff Admin Off
August 5, 1958	AFSC 7535. Instructor 2653nd ARC (CONAC)
April 19, 1959	AFSC 7324 Personnel Officer Course
June 1, 1960	Completes 30 hours of graduate work in education beyond his MA

July 1, 1960	AFSC 7376 9612th AR Sq Selfridge AFB
July 1, 1961	AFSC 7516 Educ & Trg Staff Off 9504th AFRR Sq Willow Run Arpt (CONAC)
July 1, 1969	Retires from the Air Force Reserve as a lieutenant colonel
September 9, 1969	Appointed Assistant Principal of Hally Elementary School, Detroit, Michigan
September 1970	Appointed Assistant Principal of Ferry Elementary School, Detroit, Michigan
July 12, 1972	One of the organizers of the Detroit Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen, the first chapter
July 1974–July 1996	Serves as president of the Detroit Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen
1978–present	Serves as a voluntary admissions counselor for the U.S. Air Force Academy
June 1979	Retires from the Detroit Public Schools
October 14, 1995	Enshrined in the Michigan Aviation Hall of Fame at the Kalamazoo Air Museum, Kalamazoo, Michigan
June 1996	Rouge Park Radio Controlled Model Airplane Club (Detroit) is renamed the Alexander Jefferson Flying Field
1998	Received honorary Doctorate of Humanities degree from Tuskegee University
April 29, 2007	Tuskegee Airmen awarded the Congressional Gold Medal
May 2016	Awarded the Bronze Star
November 12, 2016	Presented the French Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal

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Red Tail Captured, Red Tail Free

*Alexander Jefferson
built this model P-51
Mustang Red Tail, which
is a reproduction of the
actual plane he piloted
in combat during World
War II.*

