

37 MISSION SUPPORT GROUP



MISSION

The 37 Mission Support Group is the largest mission support group in the continental United States. Its approximately 4,900 personnel provide numerous services including quality facilities, housing, food service, security, communications, contracting, supply, personnel administration, airfield operations, transportation, and community morale and welfare. The group is made up of seven squadrons and one division.

LINEAGE

37 Air Base Group established, 20 Nov 1940
Activated, 15 Jan 1941
Redesignated 37 Service Group, 14 Jul 1942
Redesignated 37 Air Service Group, 20 Aug 1943
Disestablished, 12 May 1945
Reestablished and redesignated 37 Air Base Group, 3 Mar 1953
Activated, 8 Apr 1953
Inactivated, 25 Jun 1953
Activated, 17 Nov 1964
Organized, 8 Jan 1965
Discontinued and inactivated, 8 Jul 1965
Redesignated 37 Combat Support Group and activated, 21 Feb 1966
Organized, 8 Mar 1966
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1970
Activated, 5 Oct 1989
Redesignated 37 Support Group, 1 Nov 1991
Inactivated, 8 Jul 1992

Activated, 1 Jul 1993

Redesignated 37 Mission Support Group, 30 Aug 2002

STATIONS

Langley Field, VA, 15 Jan 1941

Will Rogers Field, OK, 1 May 1941

Hunter Field, GA, 9 Feb 1942

Fort Dix, NJ, 22 May-30 Jun 1942

Molesworth, England, 15 Jul 1942

Podington, England, 17 Sep-10 Nov 1942

Nouvion, Algeria, 22 Nov 1942

Relizane, Algeria, 27 Nov 1942

Biskra, Algeria, 25 Dec 1942

Chateaudun du Rhumel, Algeria, 12 Feb 1943

Djebel Oust, Tunisia, 12 Aug 1943

El Aouina, Tunisia, 17 Sep 1943

Foch Field, Tunisia, 22 Sep 1943

Bizerte, Tunisia, 18 Dec 1943

Bari, Italy, 28 Dec 1943

Incoronata, Italy, 4 Jan 1944-12 May 1945

Nha Trang Airport, Vietnam, 8 Jan-8 Jul 1965

Qui Nhon Airfield, Vietnam, 8 Mar 1966

Phu Cat Air Base, Vietnam, 30 Jan 1967-31 Mar 1970

Tonopah Test Range, NV, 5 Oct 1989-8 Jul 1992

Lackland AFB, TX, 1 Jul 1993

ASSIGNMENTS

Unk, 15 Jan 1941

2 Air Force Service Command, 1 Oct 1941

4 Air Force Service Command, 16 Oct 1941

3 Air Force Service Command, 20 Dec 1941

8 Air Force Base Command, 9 Feb 1942

Third Air Force, 11 Apr 1942

XII Air Force Service Command, 27 Sep 1942

Fifteenth Air Force, 3 Dec 1943

XV Air Force Service Command, 1 Jan 1944-12 May 1945

37 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 8 Apr 1953-25 Jun 1953

Pacific Air Forces, 21 Feb 1966

37 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Mar 1967-31 Mar 1970, 5 Oct 1989

Air Combat Command, 1 Jun 1992-8 Jul 1992

37 Training Wing, 1 Jul 1993

COMMANDERS

Maj Henry G. Woodward, 15 Jan 1941

Capt William W. Withey, 2 May 1941
Lt Col Angus H. Foster, 9 May 1941
Capt Ray H. Kutterer, 12 Jan 1942
Maj William W. Withey, 30 Sep 1942
Maj Carl F. Tibbets, 9 Oct 1943
Lt Col Herbert F. Debuys, 9 Jan 1944
Lt Col Walter E. Lawrence Sep 1944
Lt Col William M. Hill, 20 Oct 1944
Lt Col John H. Fawcett, 21 Apr-12 May 1945
Lt Col William G. Dolan, Apr 1953
Lt Col Thomas Crandall, Unkn-25 Jun 1953
Col Robert J. Jones, 8 Jan-8 Jul 1965
Unkn, 8 Mar-Sep 1966
Col Frederick C. Keish, Oct 1966
Col Reo C. Trail, 19 Oct 1967
Col Less A. Sarter, Jr., 12 Oct 1968
Col James D. Naler, 17 Sep 1969-31 Mar 1970
Col Raymond J. Bartholomew, 5 Oct 1989
Col Garrell Boone, 15 Mar 1991

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II
American Theater

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Tunisia 1942-1943
Naples-Foggia 1943-1944
Rome Arno 1944

Vietnam
Vietnam Advisory 1965
Vietnam Defense 1965
Vietnam Air Offensive 1966-1967
Vietnam Air Offensive Phase II 1967-1968
Vietnam Air/Ground 1968
Vietnam Air Offensive Phase III 1968-1969
TET 1969 Counteroffensive 1969
Vietnam Summer-Fall 1969
Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Presidential Unit Citation

1 Jul - 31 Dec 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" device

1 Jul 1966-30 Jun 1967

1 Apr 1969-31 Mar 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

16 Mar 1990-15 Mar 1992

1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1994

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

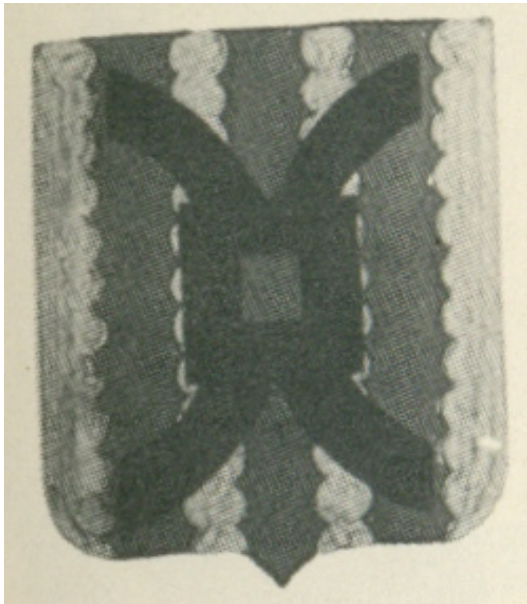
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2002

1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003

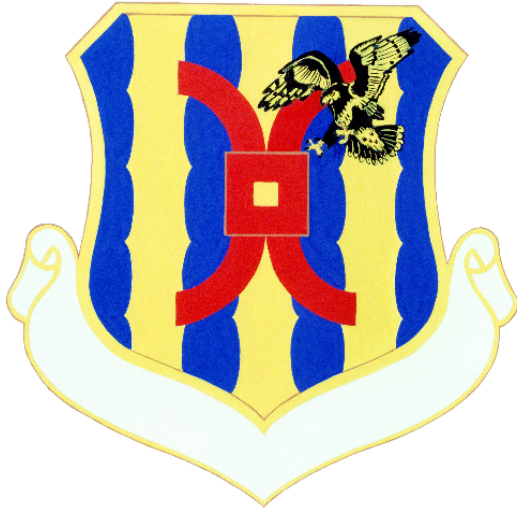
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Apr 1966-3 Mar 1970

EMBLEM



37 Service Group



37 Support Group emblem is composed of the colors of the Air Force, with three Air Force yellow segments and total seven segments forming the group designation. The three yellow segments also represent the three squadrons which comprise the 37 CSG. The millrind, center on which the millstone turns, is symbolic of the faithful service of the group, which acts as a service center for the maintenance of smooth operation of combat units. And the added Black nighthawk, alighting on the millrind, signifies the support given to it to fulfill the worldwide commitments of the F-117A Stealth Fighter.

37 Mission Support Group emblem is the 37 Training Wing emblem with the 37 Mission Support Group designation on the scroll. (1 Nov 1991)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 37 Air Base Group activated on 15 January 1941 in the U.S., and its assigned people immediately started training for its support duties. This instruction allowed the unit to sail aboard the U.S. Army Transport *Argentina* for England on 1 July 1942 and disembark at Molesworth on the 15th under a new name, the 37 Service Group. In England, this unit provided airfield and maintenance services to VIII Bomber Command units at Molesworth and later Podington until early November 1942. Shortly after the November 1942 invasion of North Africa, the unit's personnel sailed on the *HMS Rangi-Tiki* and arrived at Oran, Algeria, on the 22d. While in North Africa, the group mainly served Twelfth Air Force B-17 bombardment and P-38 fighter units. On 20 August 1943, the Army redesignated the unit the 37 Air Service Group. It joined Fifteenth Air Force in December 1943 and moved to Italy, where it provided airfield services for the 49th Bombardment wing at Incoronata. The 37 maintained airfields and serviced the B-24s of the wing's 451st Bomb Group at Castelluccio, and the 461st and 484th Bomb Group at Torretta. On 12 May 1945, the 37 disbanded in Italy.

On 3 March 1953, the Air Force reestablished and redesignated the unit as the 37 Air Base Group. The unit activated on 8 April at Clovis AFB, New Mexico, but only saw service there a short while

until its 25 June inactivation. On 8 January 1965, the 37 organized at Nha Trang Airport, South Vietnam, only to inactivate again six months later on 8 July. The Air Force redesignated and activated the unit as the 37 Combat Support Group (CSG) on 21 February 1966, and it organized on 8 March at Qui Nhon Army Airfield, South Vietnam. Over the next few months, the 37 moved in a piecemeal fashion to Phu Cat Air Base as that base was being built. There, the group provided air base services for several different tactical units until 1 March 1967, after which it joined the 37 Tactical Fighter Wing (TFW). The 37 CSG inactivated in South Vietnam on 31 March 1970.

On 5 October 1989, the 37 CSG activated at the Tonopah Test Range, Nevada, to support the 37 TFW's operations with the F-117A

The 37 Mission Support Group at Lackland inactivated and the 802d Mission Support Group activated in its place.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

Created: 1 Jan 2025

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency, U.S. Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Unit History. *History and Lineage of the F-117A Stealth Fighter; Organizations*. Office of History HQ 37 TFW. Special Study HO-91-2. Dec 1991.