

3751 FIELD TRAINING SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

3751 Field Training Squadron

STATIONS

Sheppard AFB, TX, 15 Jun 1959

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Beginning in late 1983, HQ ATC conducted a study of the field training program, looking at organization and mission performance. The study group found that the training detachments did an excellent job in the field. It was organization that caused problems. From its establishment on 1 April 1976, the 3785th Field Training Group had operated a worldwide teaching program with the aid of a single squadron—the 3751st. Through the years, the lines of authority and responsibility had become indistinct. To define these elements more clearly, the study group recommended elevating the 3785th to wing level and assigning four squadrons to the wing. With Air Staff approval, on 1 July 1984, ATC redesignated the 3785th Field Training

Group as the 3785th Field Training Wing, assigned the 3751st Field Training Squadron to the wing, and activated three additional field training squadrons: the 3752d, 3753d, and 3754th. Like the group, the 3785th Field Training Wing, remained assigned to the Sheppard Technical Training Center.

Field training played an important role in Vietnam. During the early 1960s, Sheppard's 3751st Field Training Squadron helped to conduct South Vietnamese helicopter pilot training through field training detachment (FTD) 917.

In 1966, the announced closure of Amarillo AFB forced the Air Force to relocate the bulk of its field training mission. Sheppard, which already supervised 33 field training detachments in the 3751st Field Training Squadron, assumed command of the 81 detachments assigned to Amarillo AFB. The increased responsibility forced the 3750th Technical School to create a new field training department, giving it seven in all. By year's end, the Department of Field Training at Sheppard had 152 persons assigned to it.

Because of the scope of its training and the global reach of its detachments, field training graduated hundreds of thousands of students per year. Field training reached the zenith of its student production in 1968 when it graduated 484,872 technicians. Thereafter, production dropped steadily but still generated more than 250,000 graduates per year throughout the United States' involvement in Vietnam.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Sustaining the Wings, A Fifty-Year History of Sheppard Air Force Base (1941-1991). Dwight W. Tuttle. Midwestern State University Press. Wichita Falls, TX. 1991.