

57 WING



MISSION

The 57 Wing provides advanced, realistic, and multi-domain training focused on ensuring dominance through air, space, and cyberspace. The 57 Wing builds innovative leaders in tactics, training and high-end warfighting to ensure worldwide combat air forces are prepared for tomorrow's victories, while overseeing dynamic and challenging flight operations at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. The 57 Wing is comprised of the United States Air Force Weapons School, 57 Maintenance Group, 57 Operations Group, USAF Aerial Demonstration Squadron (Thunderbirds), and the USAF Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Operations School (AMMOS).

LINEAGE

57 Fighter Wing, established, 15 Mar 1948
Organized, 20 Apr 1948
Redesignated 57 Fighter Interceptor Wing, 20 Jan 1950
Inactivated, 1 Jan 1951
Redesignated 57 Fighter Weapons Wing, 22 Aug 1969
Activated, 15 Oct 1969
Redesignated 57 Tactical Training Wing, 1 Apr 1977
Redesignated 57 Fighter Weapons Wing, 1 Mar 1980
Redesignated 57 Fighter Wing, 1 Oct 1991
Redesignated 57 Wing, 15 Jun 1993

STATIONS

Elmendorf AFB, AK, 20 Apr 1948-1 Jan 1951
Nellis AFB, NV, 15 Oct 1969

ASSIGNMENTS

Alaskan Air Command, 20 Apr 1948-1 Jan 1951

USAF Tactical Fighter Weapons (later, USAF Fighter Weapons; USAF Weapons and Tactics; Air Warfare) Center, 15 Oct 1969

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-51, 1948

F-80, 1948-1950

C-47, 1948

C-54, 1948, 1949-1950

C-82, 1948-1949, 1950

A-7, 1969-1975

F-4, 1969-1985, 1992

F-100, 1969

F-105, 1969-1975

F-111, 1969-1995

T-39, 1969-1972

T-38, 1972-1990

F-5, 1975-1989

F-15, 1976

A-10, 1977

F-16, 1980

UH-1, 1981-1985

B-1, 1993-1999

B-52, 1993-1999

F-4G, 1993-1995

HH-60, 1993

RQ-1A, 1995

COMMANDERS

Col Thomas L. Mosley, 20 Apr 1948

Col Harry W. Generous, 10 Sep 1948

Brig Gen Donald R. Hutchinson, 24 May 1949

Col James T. Posey, 18 Sep 1950

Col James W. Andrew, 18 Dec 1950-1 Jan 1951

Col William B. Williamson Sr., 15 Oct 1969

Col Brian J. Lincoln, 1 Feb 1970

Col Freddie L. Poston, 16 Feb 1971

Col David D. Young, 23 May 1972

Col Wilford E. Deming Iii, 5 Jul 1973

Col William L. Strand, 3 Mar 1975

Col Ronald M. Clements, 5 Aug 1977

Brig Gen Thomas S. Swalm, 26 Feb 1979

Brig Gen Charles J. Cunningham Jr., 15 Jan 1980

Brig Gen Michael P.C. Carns, 14 Oct 1980
Brig Gen Michael C. Kerby, 10 May 1982
Brig Gen Joseph W. Ashy, 24 May 1984
Brig Gen Joel T. Hall, 22 Jan 1986
Brig Gen John P. Jumper, 8 Feb 1988
Brig Gen W. Thomas West, 21 May 1990
Brig Gen Anthony J. Tolin, 12 Nov 1991
Col John B. Gibbs, 14 Aug 1993
Brig Gen John L. Welde, 10 Sep 1993
Brig Gen John F. Miller Jr., 13 Feb 1995
Brig Gen T. Michael Moseley, 1 Jun 1996
Brig Gen Theodore W. Lay II, 27 Oct 1997
Brig Gen David L. Moody, 14 May 1999
Brig Gen Daniel J. Darnell, 7 Jun 2001
Brig Gen Gregory J. Ihde, 16 Jun 2003
Brig Gen William J. Rew, 1 Sep 2005
Brig Gen Stephen L. Hoog, 31 Jul 2007

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

25 Oct 1969-25 Sep 1971

1 Jun 1984-31 May 1986

1 Jan 1987-31 Dec 1988

1 Jan 1989-31 Dec 1990

1 Jun 1995-31 May 1997

1 Jun 2001-31 May 2003

1 Jan 2004-31 May 2006

Bestowed Honors

Authorized to display the honors earned by the 57 Operations Group prior to 20 Apr 1948

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Egypt-Libya
Tunisia
Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Rome-Arno
Southern France
North Apennines
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
24 Oct 1942-17 Aug 1943
18 Apr 1943
14 Apr 1944

French Croix de Guerre with Palm
Oct 1942-May 1945

EMBLEM





Approved, 2 Sep 1970

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 57 Fighter Wing replaced 57 Fighter Wing (Provisional) in Apr 1948. It operated Elmendorf AFB, AK, and several satellite bases, and provided air defense of Alaska, Apr 1948-Dec 1950. In addition, the wing provided intra-theater troop carrier and airlift support, 1948-1950, using several attached troop carrier squadrons. In Jan 1951, it was replaced by 39th Air Depot Wing.

The Wing moved to Nevada and replaced the 4525th Fighter Weapons Wing at Nellis AFB, in Oct 1969. At Nellis, it trained tactical fighter aircrews, conducted operational tests and evaluations, demonstrated tactical fighter weapon systems, and developed fighter tactics and from Feb 1970 to Oct 1979 and operated Nellis AFB for all base tenants.

The USAF Air Demonstration Squadron (the "Thunderbirds") was assigned to the wing in Feb 1974 and has remained an integral part of the wing to present. The 57 assumed operational control of "RED FLAG" exercises in Oct 1979; developing realistic combat training operations featuring adversary tactics, dissimilar air combat training, and electronic warfare. It incorporated intelligence training after Mar 1980.

In 1990 the aggressor mission transferred to 4440th TFTG and later to the 414th CTS. The wing added instruction in hunter/killer counter electronic warfare tactics until 1996.

From 1992-1999, the wing operated detachments at Cannon AFB, NM, Ellsworth AFB, ND, and Barksdale AFB, LA that flew and tested the F-111, B-1, and B-52 respectively. It added the 66th Rescue Squadron, equipped with HH-60 helicopters, on 1 Feb 1993 while the squadron was deployed in Southwest Asia.

From 1991 to present, the 57 provided combat aircrew capabilities, operating the USAF Weapons and the USAF Combat Rescue Schools, developing techniques and procedures and

conducting operational test and evaluation on all major aircraft in the AF inventory.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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