

8500 AIR WEATHER WING

MISSION

LINEAGE

8500 Air Weather Wing

STATIONS

Andrews AFB, MD, 1 Sep 1949-23 Jun 1951

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

A presidential directive of October 1948 gave impetus to an Air Force wide reserve program, under which Air Weather Service formed corollary Air Force Reserve weather wings, groups, squadrons, and detachments. Those units, made up of reserve officers and enlisted personnel who trained together as units, duplicated active duty weather organizations. The approximately 2,800 reservists (1,743 officers and 1,064 enlisted) were assigned for training to Air Weather Service wings, groups, squadrons, and detachments closest to where they resided.

On 27 June 1949 the 8500th Air Weather Wing and the 8501st and 8502d Air Weather Groups,

each corollary Air Force Reserve training units, were organized and assigned to Headquarters Air Weather Service, The 8500th Air Weather Wing was originally located at Tinker AFB, OK, and moved to Langley AFB, VA, on 1 September 1949, On 24 August 1949 the 8503d and 8504th Air Weather Groups were added to Air Weather Services' jurisdiction. The 8504th Air Weather Group, originally located at Robins AFB, GA, moved to Westover AFB, MA, on 1 October 1949. Then, on 3 October 1949, the 13th (Mitchel AFB, NY), 22d March AFB, CA, 32d (Wright-Patterson AFB, OH), 33d (McClellan AFB, CA), 34th (Lowry AFB, CO), 35th (Kelly AFB, TX), 37th (Robins AFB, GA), and 38th (Brookley AFB, AL) Weather Squadrons were activated as corollary Air Force Reserve units. (The names of the commanders of those corollary squadrons, groups, and wings were unavailable from documents in the Air Weather Service historical archives.)

In early 1951, after Air Force directives severely curtailed Air Weather Service's authority to order to active service members of corollary units (the 571 officers and 1,402 enlisted manning more than 100 corollary units as of April 1951 could only be called up as a unit, not individually), Air Weather Service decided to discontinue the corollary program. Thus, effective 23 June 1951, the 8500th Air Weather Wing, the 8601st, 8502d, 8503d, and 8504th Air Weather Groups, and the 13th, 22d, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th Weather Squadrons were discontinued in place.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.