

## 3535 NAVIGATOR TRAINING WING



### MISSION

The 3535 Navigator Training Wing plays a key role in the Aerospace Force by providing advanced and upgrading instruction for USAF navigators. Supported by a fleet of Convair T-29D "flying classrooms," the wing conducts several varied courses. The two operational programs are the Advanced Navigator Radar Bombardment course and the Primary-Basic Observer Upgrading course.

The ANRB program qualifies aerial navigators as aircrew operators of the complex radar and optical bombing-navigational systems installed in today's jet bombardment aircraft. This main course in the Mather curriculum is about 30 weeks long. While the majority of ANRB graduates receive assignments to the Strategic Air Command, some go to the Tactical Air Command and other organizations.

The PBOU course provides upgrading for air crew members who are not current in the newest aerial navigation techniques. The training is about 25 weeks long. Some PBOU graduates enter the Mather ANRB course, while others receive assignments to various air commands.

Academic training in both the ANRB and PBOU courses is integrated with flight missions to provide a realistic step-by-step development of flying skills.

The Training Wing also presents important shorter courses which provide specialized ground training on bombing-navigation systems, including those of the B-52 Stratofortress and B-58 Hustler.

The 3535 Navigator Training Wing is divided into five groups: 3535 Navigator Training Group, 3535 Maintenance and Supply Group, 3535 Air Base Group, 3535 Installations Group, and the 3535 USAF Hospital.

## **LINEAGE**

3535 Bombardment Training Wing

Activated, 26 Aug 1948

Redesignated 3535 Observer Training Wing, 27 Jun 1952

Redesignated 3535 Aircraft Observer Training Wing

Redesignated 3535 Navigator Training Wing

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1973

## **STATIONS**

Mather AFB, CA, 26 Aug 1948-1 Apr 1973

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

T-29

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Sam Maddux, Jr.

Col William H. Luke

Brig Gen Norman L. Callish, #1960

Col Stephen W. Henry

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**



## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

3535 Aircraft Observer Training Wing mission is to train aircraft observers who, through their navigation, bombing, radar and performance engineering skills, are able to do that job. They are the men who make the aircraft a weapon. Students in every rank from aviation cadet through colonel come to Mather and, upon graduation, go directly to assignments in Strategic and Tactical Air Commands which are the cutting edge of U.S. air power. How well Mather's graduates perform is dependent on the quality of training received here.

World War II observers originally trained as navigators, bombardiers or radar operators who receive cross-training until they are proficient in all three skills. This training is necessary because of the configuration of modern jet bombers, where one observer must do the tasks assigned to three men during World War II. Officers previously trained in all three skills who return for short refresher courses on new equipment and in new techniques. It is the belief of Mather's top training men that the Air Force's ability to aid in maintaining the peace is directly related to our ability to place a Bomb On The Assigned Target. Since bombing accuracy is measured in terms of Circular Error, commonly referred to as 'CE', Mather's training people have adopted the motto of PEACE IS SPELLED WITH A SMALL "CE".

The Air Training Command has delegated to the 3535th Navigator Training Wing the vital responsibility of preparing already qualified navigators for the Aerospace age. The Wing fulfills this responsibility by conducting several courses in advanced and specialized methods, equipment, and techniques. The majority of student officers at Mather attend either the advanced Navigator-Bombardier Training Course or the Electronic Warfare Officer Training Course. However, several other courses are offered including specialized training in the operation of the bombardment navigation equipment and defensive systems of Strategic Air Command B-52 and B-58 aircraft.

Officers attending the Navigator-Bombardier Training Course spend some 20 weeks of intensified academic and flying training at Mather. Flying training is accomplished in T-29D aircraft, specially equipped with a "bomb-nav" system similar to that found in manned bombers of today's aerospace team. The majority of Navigator-Bombardier Training graduates then go through one of the following courses to acquire a specific weapon system qualification Upgrade Training (ASQ-38): For those who will navigate the Strategic Air Command's B-52E, F, G, or H, carrying the GAM-72 "Quail" decoy missile and the GAM-77 "Hound Dog" missile. Upgrade Training (ASQ-48): For those who will navigate SAC's B-52C or D, also carrying the "Hound Dog" missile. Upgrade Training (ASQ42); For those who will navigate the B-58, our "hottest" manned weapon system.

Officers in the Electronic Warfare Officer program study for 25 academic weeks, devoting a major portion of their time to the study of electronics fundamentals, reconnaissance techniques and bomber defense techniques. Flying training is accomplished in the TC-54 aircraft. Understandably,

much of the EW officer program is highly classified. In addition to the basic EW Officer Course, shorter and more specialized courses are given in: EW Officer Upgrade -Training (B-58): For those who will perform as defensive systems operators in SAC's B-58 aircraft.

Transport Aircrew Electronics Warfare Training: For those who may be called upon to conduct transport operations in a hostile electronic warfare environment.

Finally, command and staff personnel from operational units receive very short refresher or familiarization training in the equipment and techniques pertinent to their assigned organizations.

The contributions made by the 3535th Navigator Training Wing to our defense posture are readily apparent in the composition of the combat crews flying the Strategic Air Command's B-47, B-52, and B-58 bombers Three of the six-man B-52 crew (two navigator-bombardiers and one electronic warfare officer), and two of the three-man B-58 crew (the navigator-bombardier and the defensive systems operator) are trained at Mather AFB. The effectiveness which these and other combat crews have demonstrated in maintaining the United States' position of strength is mute tribute to the quality of training provided by the 3535th Navigator Training Wing.



Col Sam Maddux, Jr.



Col William H. Luke



Col Stephen W. Henry



Wing staff meeting, ca 1963

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

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