3543 AAF BASE UNIT

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3543 AAF Base Unit
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OPERATIONS
10 Oct 1940 Three officers began looking at land to build a flying cadet reception center on "the
hill," the part of Kelly Field lying west of Leon Creek that had been used for bivouac training and

bombing practice.

4 July 1942 Army Air Forces G-Series orders established the San Antonio Aviation Cadet Center (SAACC).

1 Feb 1946-The 3543d Army Air Forces Base Unit was organized and assumed all base operating and training missions.

1 Feb 1946 The War Department established the Army Air Forces Basic Military Training School and transferred Harlingen Field's basic training operation to the 3543d AAF Base Unit.

Basic training began at what is now known as Lackland Air Force Base on 1 February 1946 as a responsibility of the Army Air Forces Basic Military School, assigned to the 3543d Army Air Forces Base Unit, also activated on that date. Since that day, the function of basic training has passed from one unit to another, some Air Force controlled and some major command controlled. The current responsibility for conducting basic military indoctrination for all Air Force enlisted personnel rested with the Basic Military Training School, USAF, which was organized and activated as an Air Force-controlled and Air Force Military Training Center-assigned unit in September 1972 (replacing the inactivated School of Military Sciences, Airman).

1 Feb 46 The War Department established the Army Air Forces Basic Military School and transferred Harlingen Fields basic training operation to the 3543d AAF Base Unit at the Army Air Force Military Training Center.

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Sources