

5th AIR TRANSPORT GROUP

LINEAGE

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

On April 30, 1946, representatives of the San Antonio Air Technical Services Command and ATC signed an agreement, granting ATC use of Kelly Field. The facilities ATC gained at Kelly included use of a freight and passenger terminal (building 1614) and ramp space, but no hangars. Its personnel had to maintain its fleet outside under the blazing Texas sun. In just two short weeks, May 15, ATC's 5th Air Transport Group inaugurated "The Alamo," the all-military, scheduled passenger service between San Antonio and Washington, D.C. In the first month alone, "The Alamo" carried nearly one million passengers.

Further budgetary and personnel reductions forced ATC to consolidate even more. In October 1946, ATC announced it was expanding the Military Air Transport division at Kelly, making San Antonio

the hub of its operations within the continental United States. With ten C-54s flying into and out of Kelly, the 5th Air Transport Group ferried almost 6,000 pounds of cargo and over 1,000 passengers a month. In January 1947, Kelly became a stop for C-54 on their run between Westover AFB, MA, and Travis AFB, CA.

Kelly's air transport group assumed operational control over all scheduled C-54 domestic cargo flights. During the first month of consolidated operations, the group moved 3.2 million pounds of cargo. That amount had increased to 4.4 million pounds by April.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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