

57th WING



MISSION

The 57th Wing provides advanced combat training to world-wide combat air forces and showcases aerospace power to the world while overseeing the dynamic and challenging flying operations at Nellis AFB. The wing has four groups: 57th Operations Group, 57th Adversary Tactics Group, 57th Maintenance Group, and the USAF Weapons School. The Thunderbirds and the USAF Advanced Maintenance and Munitions Officer School also report directly to the 57th Wing commander.

LINEAGE

57th Fighter Wing, established, 15 Mar 1948
Organized, 20 Apr 1948
Redesignated 57th Fighter-Interceptor Wing, 20 Jan 1950
Inactivated, 1 Jan 1951
Redesignated 57th Fighter Weapons Wing, 22 Aug 1969
Activated, 15 Oct 1969
Redesignated 57th Tactical Training Wing, 1 Apr 1977
Redesignated 57th Fighter Weapons Wing, 1 Mar 1980
Redesignated 57th Fighter Wing, 1 Oct 1991
Redesignated 57th 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
BG 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
BG Thomas S. Swalm, 26 Feb 1979
BG Charles J. Cunningham Jr., 15 Jan 1980
BG Michael P.C. Carns, 14 Oct 1980
BG Michael C. Kerby, 10 May 1982
BG Joseph W. Ashy, 24 May 1984
BG Joel T. Hall, 22 Jan 1986

BG John P. Jumper, 8 Feb 1988
BG W. Thomas West, 21 May 1990
BG Anthony J. Tolin, 12 Nov 1991
Col John B. Gibbs, 14 Aug 1993
BG John L. Welde, 10 Sep 1993
BG John F. Miller Jr., 13 Feb 1995
BG T. Michael Moseley, 1 Jun 1996
BG Theodore W. Lay II, 27 Oct 1997
BG David L. Moody, 14 May 1999
BG Daniel J. Darnell, 7 Jun 2001
BG Gregory J. Ihde, 16 Jun 2003
BGG William J. Rew, 1 Sep 2005
BG Stephen L. Hoog, 31 Jul 2007

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

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 57th 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

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 57th Fighter Wing replaced 57th 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 57th 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 57th 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.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 18 Nov 2010

Updated: 11 Jul 2019

Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.