

344th TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

344 TRS mission is conducting technical training in Recruiting, Logistics Readiness Officers, Career Enlisted Aviators, Safety Academy, National TEMPEST School, Contracting, Materiel Management, and Logistics Plans. Jun 2011, the 344 TRS added additional Cryptological courses. Additionally, the unit has one detachment, Det 1, at Port Hueneme, CA which teaches Vehicle Maintenance and Vehicle Management and Analysis. Officers: 11, Enlisted: 209 Civilian: 53

LINEAGE

344th Training Squadron constituted, 30 Aug 1993
Activated, 1 Sep 1993

STATIONS

Lackland AFB, TX, 1 Sep 1993

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Thomas Strassberger, #2013

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1993-30 Jun 1994

1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2002

1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003

EMBLEM

A voided globe with Argent longitude and latitude lines is surmounted over an ultramarine Azure disc. An opened Sable book with Argent pages is placed at the honor point. A Gules aircraft followed by a Gules contrail encircles the book from the page in a counter clockwise flight and exits the disc at sinister chief. The disc is bordered with Or. An ultramarine Azure scroll is attached below the disc. The scroll which is bordered also with Or is blank. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine Blue and Air Force Yellow are used in the design. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow signifies the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe symbolizes the positive worldwide influence our graduates will provide after leaving our organization; the power of educational excellence. The book depicts the training and the desire to attain knowledge. The aircraft reminds us of the global reach through training and the aerospace power that is the purpose of the Air Force. (Approved, 16 Nov 1994)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

2010 A tasteful closing concluded an era of culinary arts at Lackland when technical school students prepared the program's final meal on base for 37th Training Wing and 37th Training Group leadership Sept. 3. Jokingly dubbed "The Last Luncheon," culinary arts center training students bade farewell to the base for the cooking part of the program. Culinary arts center training is relocating to Fort Lee, Va., as part of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure law. That course and others, from both the 344th and 345th Training Squadrons at Lackland, will form a realigned 345th TRS under the 37th TRG's supervision at the Army installation.

Courses that did not move from those two training squadrons now comprise the 344th TRS at Lackland. "Moving to Fort Lee are AF Services Academy from the 344th TRS, and air transportation and transportation management from the 345th TRS," said Lt. Col. Stephen Landry, 37th TRG deputy commander. The colonel said training programs that remain from the 345th TRS, including the logistics readiness officers' course, AF Recruiting School, contracting and supply, along with what was left from the 344th TRS, including the AF Safety Academy, Enlisted Air Crew Center for Excellence and some other courses, are combining into the 344th TRS, which remains at Lackland.

Realigning the Air Force culinary arts training to Fort Lee establishes a joint center of excellence in culinary arts as mandated by BRAC. Colonel Landry said in the future, courses may

consolidate, but for now each service branch is running its own. He also said the formation of a full squadron eliminated two detachments at Fort Lee. The 37th TRG currently has eight detachments and two operating locations around the continental U.S. "Operating in this environment with a dislocated entity in the 37th TRG is not new," he said. The 345th TRS flag transferred to Fort Lee on June 25 with personnel to follow in stages.

A ceremonial change of command to Lt. Col. Debbie Kent, who is already at the Virginia post, is planned at a date to be determined. Once facilities under construction at Fort Lee are completed, more personnel and equipment will be moved. The construction has an estimated Sept. 30 completion date. Colonel Landry said minimizing the amount of time between closing and reopening the training programs involved in the move was challenging. "Although we may not be gaining new Services Airmen right now, there are still retirements, separations and deployments. "We want to make the down-time gap as small as possible because it impacts the mission to the Air Force worldwide," Colonel Landry said.

The deputy commander also said group leadership was finalizing a plan to address issues created by the relocation that could no longer be handled face-to-face. Colonel Landry said group and squadron leadership is committed to ensuring geographically separated personnel don't fall victim to the "lost sheep syndrome – out of sight, out of mind." "We have to make sure they're getting funding, professional military education support, promotions and decorations," he said.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 17 Jan 2011

Updated:

Sources

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

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