

## 517 TRAINING GROUP



### MISSION

Train Airmen in foreign language acquisition, develop airmen skills, and instill Air Force values. The 517th Training Group is a geographically-separated unit located at the Presidio of Monterey, Calif. It consists of two squadrons and organic support capabilities to include an Operational Medical Element, Chaplain Corps and other administrative and technical support functions. The 517th Training Group is integrated within the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC) and is essential to training over 3,600 multi-service students in 16 different foreign languages in Monterey and up to 65 different languages at DLIFLC's Washington DC site. Air Force graduates of DLIFLC serve everywhere from Cryptologic Linguists, Foreign Area Officers, presidential translators and OSI agents. Additionally, graduates participate in the Language Enabled Airman Program, the Olmsted Scholar Program, and foreign Professional Military Education and exchange programs.

### LINEAGE

Northwest Sector, Ferrying Command constituted, 14 Feb 1942

Activated, 21 Feb 1942

Redesignated Northwest Sector, Domestic Wing, Ferrying Command, 25 Apr 1942

Redesignated 7 Ferrying Group, Northwest Sector, Domestic Wing, Ferrying Command, 26 May 1942

Redesignated 7 Ferrying Group, 20 May 1943

Disbanded, 31 Mar 1944

Reconstituted and redesignated 517 Tactical Group, 31 Jul 1985

Redesignated 517 Training Group, 21 Apr 2009

Activated, 14 May 2009

### **STATIONS**

Seattle, WA, 21 Feb 1942

Great Falls Mun Arpt, MT, 22 Jun 1942-31 Mar 1944

Presidio of Monterey AI, CA, 14 May 2009

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Air Corps Ferrying (later, Air Transport) Command, 21 Feb 1942-31 Mar 1944

17 Training Wing, 14 May 2009

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Mark S. Jones

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

World War II

American Theater

#### **Campaign Streamers**

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2011

1 Jul 2011-30 Jun 2013

1 Jul 2013-30 Jun 2015

1 Jul 2015-30 Jun 2017

### **EMBLEM**



Or a torch Brun, flamed Gules resting on an alternating ribbon palewise Azure and Argent, in base a chevron of seven Maltese mullets Sable, all within a diminished border Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "517 TRAINING GROUP" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The seven crosses represent the unit's ties to the parent organization, the 17 Training Wing. The flame represents light and knowledge gained through study and training. The alternate folds of metal underneath the flame represent the Air Force's presence on an Army installation.

### **MOTTO**

LUX LUCIS PER NIXUS--Enlightenment Through Effort

### **OPERATIONS**

Ferried thousands of Lend-Lease combat aircraft from Great Falls, Montana, across the mountains of western Canada to Alaska for transfer to the Soviet Union, 1942-1944.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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### Sources

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

Unit yearbook. *4th Ferrying Group (554th AAF Base Unit) Memphis, Tennessee*. Army and Navy Publishing Company of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA. 1943.