

558th FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

558th Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 25 Nov 1942
Activated, 1 Dec 1942
Redesignated 558th Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 9 Oct 1944
Inactivated, 12 Nov 1945

558th Tactical Fighter Squadron constituted and activated, 17 Apr 1962
Organized, 25 Apr 1962
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1970

558th Bombardment Squadron, Medium and 558th Tactical Fighter Squadron consolidated and redesignated 558th Tactical Air Support Squadron, 19 Sep 1985

Redesignated 558th Flying Training Squadron, 14 Dec 1992
Activated, 15 Dec 1992
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1996
Activated, 16 Jan 2002
Inactivated, 28 Sep 2006

STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 1 Dec 1942
Drane Field, FL, 12 Apr 1943

Godman Field, KY, 13 May-10 Jun 1943
Chipping Ongar, England, 1 Jul 1943
Stony Cross, England, 21 Jul 1944
Maupertuis, France, 1 Sep 1944
Chateaudun, France, 18 Sep 1944
Clastres, France, 4 Nov 1944
Beek, Holland, 4 May 1945
Rosieres-en-Santerre, France, 30 May-Nov 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 11-12 Nov 1945
MacDill AFB, FL, 25 Apr 1962-Nov 1965
Cam Ranh Bay AB, South Vietnam, 14 Nov 1965-31 Mar 1970
Randolph AFB, TX, 15 Dec 1992-1 Oct 1996
Randolph AFB, TX, 16 Jan 2002

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Naha AB, Okinawa, 9 Mar-9 Jun 1965
Kunsan AB, South Korea, 3 Feb-22 Jul 1968

ASSIGNMENTS

387th Bombardment Group, 1 Dec 1942-12 Nov 1945
Tactical Air Command, 17 Apr 1962
12th Tactical Fighter Wing, 25 Apr 1962-31 Mar 1970
12th Operations Group, 15 Dec 1992-1 Oct 1996
12th Operations Group, 16 Jan 2002

ATTACHMENTS

51st Fighter-Interceptor Wing, 9 Mar-9 Jun 1965
18th Tactical Fighter Wing, 3 Feb-22 Jul 1968

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-26, 1942-1945
B-26B
B-26C
B-26G
F-84, 1962-1963
F-4, 1963-1970
T-43, 1992-1996

COMMANDERS

2Lt John P. Coburn, 16 Dec 1942
Maj Joseph H. Richardson, 5 Jan 1943
LTC Robert W. Keller, 26 Feb 1944
Cpt Harry N. Parris, 1 May-12 Nov 1945
None (not manned), Apr-Jun 1962

LTC Herbert W. McQuawn, c. Jul 1962
LTC Gerald J. Beisner, 17 Feb 1965
LTC W. A. Schauer Jr., 1 Nov 1966
LTC John L. Schwanger, 18 July 1967
LTC Billy F. Rogers, 5 Nov 1967
LTC Morton C. Mumm III, 5 Feb 1968
LTC Herbert L. Prevost, 11 Jul 1968
LTC Eugene D. Levy, 11 Aug 1968
LTC Sidney L. Davis, 21 Sep 1968
LTC Elwood A. Kees Jr., 17 Mar 1969
LTC Ethan A. Grant, 1 Dec 1969-31 Mar 1970
LTC John M. Weston, 15 Dec 1992
LTC John D. Martinez, 9 Jun 1994
LTC Thomas E. Moe, 19 Oct 1994-1 Oct 1996
LTC Steven P. Van Sciver, 17 Jan 2002
LTC Thomas W. Goffus, 6 Feb 2004
LTC Michael A. Pipan, 24 Jun 2005-28 Sep 2006
LTC Jason Thompson

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Vietnam
Vietnam Defensive
Vietnam Air
Vietnam Air Offensive
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III
Vietnam Air/Ground
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV
TET 69/Counteroffensive
Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969
Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1970

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
Germany, 23 Dec 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device

13 Nov 1965-30 May 1966

1 Jun 1966-31 May 1967

1 Jun 1967-31 May 1968

1 Jun 1968-31 May 1969

1 Jun 1969-31 Mar 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

15 Dec 1992- 30 Jun 1993

1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1994

1 Jul 1995- 30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2004

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

15 Oct 1965-31 Mar 1970

EMBLEM



558th Bombardment Squadron, Medium



558th Tactical Fighter Squadron emblem approved, 17 May 1965



558th Flying Training Squadron

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 31 Jul 1943-19 Apr 1945.

Combat in Southeast Asia, 19 Nov 1965-31 Jan 1968 and 22 Jul 1968-10 Mar 1970.

Specialized undergraduate navigator training, 15 Dec 1992-1 Oct 1996.

Air Training Command intended to transfer specialized undergraduate navigator training (SUNT) from the 323d Flying Training Wing at Mather to the 12th Flying Training Wing at Randolph, when the 323d inactivated and Mather closed in 1993. To prepare for that eventuality, the command activated the 558th Flying Training Squadron at Randolph on 15 December 1992, assigning it to the 12th. Air Training Command planned to activate three more squadrons in 1993 to accommodate the navigator training mission, 1992.

The 12th Flying Training Wing at Randolph AFB, Texas, activated the 558th Flying Training Squadron to conduct specialized undergraduate navigator training, a mission that was moved to Randolph because of the 1993 closure of Mather AFB, California. 15 Dec 92

The 558th Flying Training Squadron at JBSA-Randolph, Tex., held its first winging ceremony for graduates of its undergraduate remotely piloted aircraft pilot training, according to base officials. Gen. Edward Rice, Air Education and Training Command chief, presented the wings to the graduating officers during the May 3 ceremony, according to Randolph's May 9 release. "The winging ceremony is the culmination of training at the undergraduate level for all aviators," said Lt. Col. Scott Cerone, 558th FTS commander. "This first winging ceremony aligns undergraduate RPA pilot training with traditional pilot training," he said. The next step for the graduates is aircraft-specific training at the formal training units located at Holloman AFB, N.M., and Beale AFB, Calif. Up until this point, RPA pilots received their wings only after completion of their FTU course. The 558th FTS is the Air Force's only undergraduate RPA pilot training unit. 2013

The Air Force doubled the number of remotely piloted aircraft operators trained in each class beginning last month, Air Education and Training Command officials announced. "The RPA community as a whole is experiencing manpower issues and there is a need to train more pilots," 558th Flying Training Squadron Commander Lt. Col. John Stallworth said in a release. "We have worked diligently since last April to ensure we can meet the increased demand for trained '18X' pilots," he added. The class size for RPA operators grew from 12 students to 24 starting in January, with the aim of increasing output from 191 pilots per year to 290 in 2016. AETC plans to grow RPA operator production to 384 per year by 2017, when the 558th FTS schoolhouse at JBSA-Randolph, Texas, is slated to reach full operational capability. The school plans to add 42 additional instructors, half of which will be civilians, expanding the cadre to 104 trainers. AETC is also investing approximately \$1.15 million in added simulators and expanded training space to accommodate the added students. 2016

The 558th Flying Training Squadron ramped up efforts to double the remotely piloted aircraft pilot ranks with the start of its first 24-person class Jan. 11 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. The larger class sizes are part of ongoing initiative announced by the Air Force in 2015 to increase the number of career RPA pilots across the service. "The RPA community as a whole is experiencing manpower issues and there is a need to train more pilots to help ease the overall strain on the career field," said Lt. Col. John Stallworth, the 558th FTS commander. "We have

worked diligently since last April to ensure we can meet the increased demand for trained '18X' pilots."

Previously, RPA pilot training classes started with 12 students; by May, each will begin with 24 students. With 16 projected classes starting each fiscal year, the number of pilots trained annually will jump from 192 up to 384. One of the big challenges for the unit, which has been the sole source of RPA pilot training in the Air Force since January 2011, during the transition will be increasing overall production by 71 percent during fiscal 16, while at the same time, creating the permanent student production pipeline to be at full operational capability for fiscal 2017, said Lt. Col. Jason Thompson, the 558th FTS director of operations. The 558th FTS graduated 191 student pilots in fiscal 2015 and are projected to graduate 290 in fiscal 2016. "Overall production counts not just students, but also includes the additional instructors needed to handle the increased load," Thompson said. "There is a considerable amount of moving pieces in regards to getting both the students, as well as the instructors, ready to make this mission a reality."

To help meet the increased student demands, Stallworth said the unit has hired roughly half of the 42 new instructor billets put on the books, which will see the squadron grow from 62 instructors to 104 over the next few months. "Our instructor cadre will be roughly 50 percent military and 50 percent civilian," Stallworth said. "The (instructors) are doing a great job being flexible during this time of growth; they've done everything we have asked and more throughout this process." To aid in creating the permanent production stream of RPA pilots, the inside of the 558th FTS building is undergoing a major renovation project. "The renovations include additional simulator rooms, plus additional classroom and office space," said Maj. Michawn, a 558th FTS RPA flight instructor and officer in charge of the renovations. "Through our detailed planning with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, the 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron and the contractor, we have mitigated most of the potential impacts to the students or their training time." The renovations, costing approximately \$1.15 million, started Jan. 18 and are expected to be complete by early July, said Michawn, while noting any delays or deviations to the current plan have the potential to reduce RPA student production capacity. After the renovations are complete, students will be split into six flight rooms vice the old three, with a typical class of 24 being broke into two halves of 12, Stallworth said. While half the class is working on academics, the other half will be training on the simulators, minimizing down time to the maximum extent possible and at the same time, keeping instructor workloads manageable. Despite the renovations, the transition to larger class sizes wouldn't work without the dedicated work of the 558th FTS unit schedulers.

"Our scheduling team has been absolutely critical to making this 'plus-up' happen," Stallworth said. "Between academics and making sure everyone gets their 'sim' time in, we haven't had any major hiccups and this is primarily due to their efforts in thinking through the problems and coming up with flexible solutions." Partnering with the 502nd Trainer Development Squadron at Randolph to meet the need for more simulators, work is currently underway to design and build six new instrument simulators, as well as creating hardware and software upgrades to be made to 10 existing simulators to meet the improved training capabilities of the six new simulators, Stallworth said. The simulators are linked together so students have the opportunity to practice instrument flying procedures in a dynamic airspace environment similar to what they will encounter during real-world flight operations. "The T-6A-

like simulators being developed with the (502nd TDS) will be state of the art and we appreciate the efforts of the entire trainer development team in helping make this happen,” Stallworth said. Another key element in ensuring mission success is the teamwork that has been on display between all the Joint Base San Antonio mission partners involved in the project, with crucial support coming from the 502nd Air Base Wing’s communications and contracting squadrons. “The 502nd ABW has been tremendous in supporting the needs of our training mission,” Michawn said. “There have been a few challenges along the way, but all the players are focused on getting the mission done.” 2016

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 15 Feb 2014

Updated:

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.