

2854th AIR BASE GROUP

LINEAGE

STATIONS

Tinker AFB, OK

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Col Kenneth Waits, #1982

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Aug 1 The 2854th Air Base Wing was established. The OCAMA commander no longer served as base commander. Col. Hardin W. Masters became base commander. 1953

Oct 16 The 2854th Air Base Wing became the 2854th Air Base Group. 1964

Aug 6 The 2854th Air Base Group received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service in support of the Federal Aviation Agency's sonic boom program

conducted in Oklahoma City during 1964. 1965

Aug 1 The Security Police Division at Tinker AFB was re-established as the 2854th ABG Security Police Squadron. 1978

Sep 7 The 2854th Air Base Group was named recipient of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service during the period 1 Jan 1976-31 Dec 1977.

An organizational change of note took place on August 1, 1953, namely the establishment of Headquarters 2854th Air Base Wing. This new organization handled all matters that related to the running of Tinker AFB apart from the management of OCAMA. From this time on, the upkeep and protection of the buildings and grounds on Tinker was under the care of the base commander.

An integral component of the Oklahoma City AMA and Tinker AFB was the 2854th Air Base Group. The unit provided the essential "housekeeping" services needed to operate and maintain a large military, industrial complex. Until October 16, 1964, the 2854th had been designated a wing. On this date, it became a group. However, there were no corresponding mission or organizational changes as a result of the action.

1953

Aug 1 The 2854th Air Base Wing was established. The OCAMA commander no longer served as base commander. Col. Hardin W. Masters became base commander.

1964

Oct 16 The 2854th Air Base Wing became the 2854th Air Base Group.

The 2854th Air Base Group (AFLC), Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service from 1 Jan 1979 to 31 Dec 1979. Sharing in the award were the 2854th Civil Engineering Squadron, 2854th Security Police Squadron and the 2854th Headquarters Squadron Section.

The reassignment of Col. John E. Emmons brought Col. George J. Vehrs to Tinker as commander of the 2854th ABG. 16 JUL 1980

2854th AIR BASE WING

Tinker AFB, OK, 1953

Col John E. Nitsche, #1957

1 Aug - With the establishment of the 2854th Air Base Wing, the Oklahoma City Air Materiel Area commander no longer serves as base commander. Col. Hardin W. Masters becomes base commander.

1954

6 Aug - The 2854th Air Base Group receives the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service in support of the Federal Aviation Agency's sonic boom program conducted in Oklahoma City during 1964.

1965

1 Aug - The Security Police Division at Tinker AFB becomes the 2854th Air Base Group Security Police Squadron. 1978

7 Sep - The 2854th Air Base Group receives the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service during the period 1 January 1976-31 December 1977.

9 Jul - The 2854th Air Base Group, Tinker AFB, receives the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service from 1 January - 31 December 1979. The 2854th Civil Engineering Squadron, 2854th Security Police Squadron, and the 2854th Headquarters Squadron Section share the award. 1980

16 Jul - The reassignment of Col. John E. Emmons brought Col. George J. Vehrs to Tinker AFB as commander of the 2854th Air Base Group. 1980

30 Mar - Col. Kenneth D. Waits becomes the 2854th Air Base Group commander replacing Col. George J. Vehrs.

1982

1985

14 Jan - Secretary of the Air Force, Verne Orr, presents awards to OC-ALC employees and visits the fire reconstruction area in Building 3001. The Secretary presents Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards to the 2953rd Combat Logistics Support Squadron, the Tinker AFB Hospital and to the 2854th Air Base Group for outstanding achievement from 12 November - 14 December, 1984. He also presents the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award to the Headquarters OC-ALC for outstanding achievement during the same period.

7 Oct - Col. Gerald M. Blackburn replaces Col. Ray D. Reaves as Base Commander (2854 Air

Base Group).
1985

29 Sep - At a change of command for the 2854th Air Base Group, Col. Phillip Hubbard turned over command of the air base group to Col. Anthony E. Mras.
1988

1990
3 Oct -A change of command ceremony brings Col. John R. Clark to head the 2854 Air Base Group replacing Col. Anthony E. Mras.

1991
1 Oct - The 2854th Air Base Group is replaced by the 654th Support Group.

1994
1 Jul - Col. Randy W. Mills assumes command of the 654th Air Base Group from Col. John R. Clark. Col. Clark served as base commander for the longest period in Tinker AFB history.

1 Oct - The 654th Air Base Group receives the 72nd Air Base Wing designation. Organizations realigned under the wing include the 72nd Logistics Directorate, 72nd Medical Group, 72nd Civil Engineer Group, 72nd Support Group, and 72nd Operations Support Squadron.
1994

1997
30 May - The 72nd Air Base Wing receives its first Air Force Outstanding Unit Award in a ceremony held in front of Base Operations Building 240. The wing earned the award for exceptional meritorious service from 1 January 1995 to 31 December 1996.

9 Jul - Col. Dennis M. Kaan gains command of the 72nd Air Base Wing from Col. Robert L. Gambrell, Jr. 2001

14 Sep – Col. Joan Cunningham assumed command of the 72d Air Base Wing. 2004

28 Jul – Col. Mark Correll replaced Col. Joan Cunningham as commander of the 72d Air Base Wing.
2006

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

Unit history. Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, Tinker AFB, OK. 40th Anniversary 1982