

31 AAF BAND

MISSION

LINEAGE

31 AAF Band

STATIONS

Kirtland Field, Albuquerque, NM

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Since its early days as the "Albuquerque Air Base Band," the 31 Army Air Forces Band has covered a lot of ground. The band has grown to its present strength of forty-four men in approximately fifteen months and includes former members of many well-known orchestras and musical organizations. The band's first regular radio broadcasts were concerts played in addition to the regular retreat ceremony and broadcast over a local station.

Although this practice has been discontinued, they now have two regular evening broadcasts weekly "Salvos from the Sky," a presentation of the "Bombardiers," the dance band under Sgt. Paul Sprosty, and "Cavalcade of '43" by the full military band under the direction of M/Sgt.

Bennet A. Shachlette. In addition to its station duties the band is the proud possessor of a "Certificate of Merit" from the United States Treasury Department for its part in the First War Bond Drive. During this drive the military band, with its complement of "Bombardiers" toured many of the larger towns in the state and is credited with helping secure the bond total of over \$800,000.00.

Air Force Unit Histories

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Sources

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

Unit history. *The First Book of Kirtland Field, 1943*. Special Service Office. Kirtland Field, NM. 1943.