

3750 TECHNICAL TRAINING GROUP



MISSION

3750th Technical Training Group supervises as many as 15 separate courses at one time, ranging from basic to highly advanced mechanics training.

LINEAGE

3750 Technical Training Group

STATIONS

Sheppard AFB, TX

ASSIGNMENTS

3750 Technical Training Wing

COMMANDERS

Col Thomas W. Harris, #1950
Col Maurice M. Simons, #1953
Col Harold F. Layhee



Col Maurice M. Simons (USAF photo)



Col Harold F. Layhee (USAF photo)

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

The Airplane and Engine Mechanics Maintain the Planes that Ensure the Peace

OPERATIONS

Heart of the base's operation is the 3750th Technical Training Group, directly charged with the responsibility of operating the mechanics school, its students, instructors, classrooms and equipment. The 3750 supervises up to 15 separate courses of study at one time, ranging from basic to advanced mechanics training.

In order to keep pace with the expanding demand for more aircraft mechanics, Sheppard is currently being modernized and enlarged to provide larger and better training facilities for its students.

Organized technical instruction to train technicians to service and maintain military aircraft had its beginning in the early part of 1917 during World War I at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas. Soon after the beginning of Pilot Training by the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps, the need for training ground crew personnel became apparent; consequently, a school was organized and established for the purpose of training ground crews to service and maintain the aircraft being used for pilot training.

These technicians were trained not only to repair engines but also to perform the very difficult art of rigging since the aircraft then employed were all externally braced biplanes. Shortly after the activation of the Air Mechanics School, the aviation service was made a separate branch of the Army.

During the first year of operation of the school, however, under the impetus of wartime requirements, rapid developments were made and a relatively efficient instructional program was in operation before the cessation of hostilities. Soon after signing of the Armistice, the school came to a virtual standstill. In the spring of 1919, a reconstruction program was instituted. In January 1921 the school was moved to Chanute Field, Rantoul, Illinois, and was redesignated as the Air Corps Technical School and operated under the Chief of the Air Corps. Training continued until 1940 when planning for a major expansion was undertaken due to world conditions.

Early in 1941 Wichita Falls, Texas, and Biloxi, Mississippi, were selected for sites for additional schools. Further expansion in training continued and additional bases were required. Then in 1946 all basic airplane and engine mechanic training was concentrated at Keesler Field, Mississippi. During 1947, the specialized type of training was converted into a general type of training and jet aircraft instruction was incorporated into the courses at Keesler Air Force Base.

With expansion of other training at Keesler Air Force Base it became apparent that additional facilities were required for training aircraft mechanics; hence, the training was moved to Sheppard Air Force Base in early 1949 with the 3750th Technical Training Group charged with the responsibility of conducting the program. With the acceleration of Air Force activities as a consequence of hostilities in Korea, urgent need for jet airplane and engine mechanics necessitated the reactivation of Amarillo Air Force Base, Texas, and this was effected March 1, 1951. Sheppard Air Force Base had the responsibilities devolving upon a parent base.

Keeping abreast of Mechanical and Educational developments, some of the original Instructors are the guiding hands and minds that are backing up the great A and E training programs of the present day in progress.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

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