

4780 AIR DEFENSE WING



MISSION

The 4780th Aerospace Defense Wing trained pilots through its numerous courses and the graduates were either combat-ready in the F102 aircraft and assigned to active units or they completed lead-in training for further instruction in other types of jet aircraft.

LINEAGE

4780 Air Defense Wing (Training) organized, 1 Jul 1962
Discontinued, 30 Jun 1971

STATIONS

Perrin AFB

ASSIGNMENTS

73 Air Division
Fourteenth Air Force, 1 Apr 1966
Tenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1968
Air Defense Weapons Center, 15 Nov 1969

COMMANDERS

Col Raymond K. Gallagher, 1 Jul 1962
Col John R. Kullman, 7 Aug 1964
Col R. H. Dettre,
Col Walter R. Hardee, Jr., 30 Jun 1967
Col Vermont Garrison, 16 June 1969 – 30 Jun 1971

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-102, 1962

TF-102, 1962
T-33, 1962
T-37, 1965
HH-43, 1965

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1965–30 Jun 1967

1 Jul 1967–15 Jan 1969

EMBLEM



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 4780th Aerospace Defense Wing was the last operational wing assigned to Perrin and was established when Aerospace Defense Command took command of the Base. The wing absorbed the personnel and facilities of Air Training Command's 3555th Flying Training Wing. As an added mission, the Aerospace Defense Command's Life Support School was established on nearby Lake Texoma, The school gave life support and ejection seat training to aircrews flying Aerospace Defense Command aircraft and to Air National Guard units supporting ADC missions.

By 1971, the Wing garnered many honors for outstanding mission accomplishments, topped by the presentation of three consecutive United States Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards and the

Daedalian Maintenance and Supply Excellence Trophy.

The closure of Perrin Air Force Base, originally scheduled for June 30, 1971 was due to changes in Pilot training requirements and the phaseout of the F-102 aircraft from active Aerospace Defense Command's inventory. In addition, the opening of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport and crowded airways contributed to Perrin's closure. In June 1971, Detachment 3, 4629th Support Squadron was activated to serve as caretaker unit and accomplished an official closure and disposal of equipment-transfer of real estate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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