

# 907 PILOT TRAINING WING

## MISSION

## LINEAGE

907 Pilot Training Wing

## STATIONS

## ASSIGNMENTS

## WEAPON SYSTEMS

## COMMANDERS

## HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

## EMBLEM

## MOTTO

## NICKNAME

## OPERATIONS

On October 17, 1951, 200 Air Force reservists gathered on Brooks Air Force Base to form the 907th Pilot Training Wing, christened the "Alamo Wing." Two years later, the 907th was deactivated; its personnel and nickname went to the 8707th Pilot Training Wing, where aircrews flew C-46 "Commandoes," C-45 "Voyagers," AT-6 "Texans," and T-28 "Trojans." In 1955, the 8707th

deactivated, and its personnel assigned to the newly reactivated 433rd Troop Carrier Wing, which became the new Alamo Wing. Its aircrews now flew C-119 "Flying Boxcars." When the runways at Brooks AFB closed for the last time in 1956, the Alamo Wing moved to its new home and present location - Kelly Air Force Base.

Beginning in 1966, the Alamo Wing replaced its aging C-119s with the C-124 "Globemasters." A year later, on July 1, 1967, the 433rd became a tactical airlift wing. During the reserve recall during the Pueblo Crisis in 1968, the Alamo Wing was reassigned to the Military Airlift Command. In 1971, the Alamo Wing began flying the workhorse of the Air Force, the reliable and versatile C-130 "Hercules." With the C-130, the wing flew humanitarian missions, fought forest fires, and participated in exercises in Greece and Panama.

In 1984, the biggest announcement in the wing's history came out of Washington, D.C. -- the Alamo Wing would be the first unit in either the Air Force Reserve or the Air National Guard to be assigned the giant C-5 "Galaxy." In keeping with the C-5's global mission, the Alamo Wing became the 433rd Military Airlift Wing. The first of the huge birds arrived in December 1984 and appropriately was named "The City of San Antonio." Aircrews of the Alamo Wing continued its humanitarian missions, transporting tons of food, firefighting and farm equipment, and emergency relief supplies all around the world.

But the Alamo Wing performed its primary mission, also. In December 1989, as American forces moved against the Panamanian dictator Manuel Noriega, Alamo Wing reservists were among the first to go into action during Operation Just Cause. Less than a year later, reservists of the Alamo Wing heard their country call yet again as wing personnel were involved in Operation Desert Shield from the beginning, providing airlift support to the area of operations in Southwest Asia. Aircrews flew nearly 2,500 sorties with approximately 13,500 flying hours, hauling more than 61,000 tons of cargo and 31,000 passengers.

The greatest sacrifice occurred early in the deployment when a C-5 flown by an Alamo Wing crew crashed during take-off in Germany while transporting supplies to Saudi Arabia. Of the seventeen people aboard, nine of the wing's crew members and four passengers were killed. From just a few hundred reservists in 1952, the Alamo Wing has more than 3,500 dedicated men and women who have proved time and again that they are true to the Air Force Reserve motto, "Ready Now!"

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1951--Lieutenant Colonel George Keene commander of the 2577th Air Force Reserve Training Center, established an air reserve wing at Hensley AFB, Dallas, Texas, and announced plans to form another reserve Training Wing at Brooks AFB, San Antonio, Texas. The new designation became the 907th Training Wing with a Wing Headquarters and three groups: Air Base Group, Maintenance and Supply Group, and Medical Group. The 907 TW began with 137 officers and 650 enlisted.

The Air Force selected Colonel John H. Foster, San Antonio insurance man and a 20-year Air Force veteran, as the unit's first commanding officer. Foster received his commission as a second lieutenant in the Air Corps Reserve in 1931.

Along with Foster, Colonel Kennedy Dodds, also a life insurance underwriter, became the Maintenance and Supply Group commander and Colonel J. L. Toohey, a research editor, became the Air Base Group commander. The 907th Training Wing held their first unit training assembly at Brooks AFB, Texas, in Hangar 16 on the weekend of 27 and 28 October

June 1952 brought the inactivation of the 907th Training Wing, Brooks AFB, Texas, with personnel of the 907th Training Wing transferred to the 8707th Pilot Training Wing, Brooks AFB, Texas. The Wing received their first T-6 Texan training aircraft in July 1952.

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