

30 AIR DEPOT WING

MISSION

LINEAGE

30 Air Depot Wing

STATIONS

Kelly AFB, TX, 16 Nov 1950-17 Jan 1951

Sealand, Wales

Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, England, 26 Jan 1952

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Howard Kelly

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

On 2 February 1951, 59th Air Depot Wing welcomed the arrival of 30th Air Depot Wing arriving aboard the USNS General Rose having left the heat of Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, from where many US civilians came during 1942. The 30th was met at Bank Quay Station, Warrington after travelling by train from Southampton, led by Lieutenant Colonel H Y Sewart.

Burtonwood personnel had been preparing a warm welcome several days for the new Wing at Bank Quay and took their airmen to their respective sites. Here the huts had been aired out, fires started up and the bunks made. Officers were then taken to the vacated No 276 MU Officers Quarters. Dining Halls remained open after hours to feed the men and the Officers had their evening meal in the Offices Club dining room.

The 30th Air Depot Wing, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Howard Kelly, remained at Burtonwood until March 1951 when Sealand was ready to receive them. Essentially Sealand was an extension of Burtonwood with specific requirements which could not be accommodated at Burtonwood.

On 26 January 1952 30th Air Depot Wing was transferred to Brize Norton, Oxfordshire, and the departing Wing was replaced at Sealand by creating the 7558th Air Depot Group and assigning it to the 59th Air Depot Wing at Burtonwood.

On 15 March 1951 RAF Station Sealand was officially handed over to Third Air Force. One of the Royal Air Force's oldest stations, it had been utilized as a training field (then called "Shotwick") for American Air Service Cadets during World War I. With the acquisition of this satellite base, the TO&E of an air depot wing was requested of USAF.

The 30th Air Depot Wing was transferred from Kelly AFB, Texas to Burtonwood—where it remained on TDY for five weeks—and then to Sealand. This permitted the maintenance of uninterrupted operations and provided a nucleus of replacements.

On 15 March 1951, the 30th assumed responsibility for the mission assigned Sealand Air Adjutant Depot, i.e. stockage of Technical Service items, including medical, engineer, POL, lumber, chemical, UKES (now AFEX) and subsistence materials.

On 26 January 1952 the 30th Air Depot Wing was transferred to Brize Norton and the departing wing was replaced at Sealand by creating the 7558th Air Depot Group, the present tenant organization, and assigning it to the 59th Air Depot Wing (now Headquarters, Northern Air Material Area (Europe)). Subordinate installations later added—other than normal squadrons—include the 7558th Retraining Flight, the 7557th Supply Squadron (Subsistence), the 59th Medical Material Squadron, 3rd Motor Transport Squadron, 7552nd Supply.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit yearbook, *Sealand, Wales, 1954*, J. Pazen, Pictorial Press, Wallasey, Cheshire, England, 1954.