

## OFFICER TRAINING SCHOOL



### MISSION

The Officer Training School (OTS) mission is to produce world-class officers of character possessing the American warrior ethos, prepared to lead Airmen, and embodying the Air Force Core Values. OTS is the “flexible partner” of the three Air Force commissioning programs, able to fill surge requirements for commissioned officers in shortfall career fields in months rather than years. OTS provides two officer training programs: Basic Officer Training (BOT) and Commissioned Officer Training (COT).

Basic Officer Training (BOT) is an intensive 12-week program that prepares officer trainees for the physical and professional requirements of commissioned service. Depending on each year’s production requirements, BOT has the flexibility to increase or decrease production annually. BOT commissions active duty and Air Force Reserve officers. The BOT syllabus encompasses six general subject areas: leadership studies, professional knowledge, communication skills, military studies, basic expeditionary combat skills and field leadership application. Leadership training culminates with an Air and Space Expeditionary Force Exercise, a 5-day, 4-night event that requires officer trainees to exhibit leadership skills and introduces them to the deployed environment.

### LINEAGE

Officer Training School, USAF designated and organized, 1 Jul 1959

Redesignated School of Military Sciences, Officer, 1 Aug 1972

Redesignated Officer Training School, USAF, 8 Aug 1974

Redesignated 3700 Officer Training Group, 1 Feb 1992

Redesignated 301 Officer Training Squadron, 25 Aug 1992

Redesignated Officer Training School, 1 Oct 1993

## **STATIONS**

Lackland AFB, TX, 1 Jul 1959

Maxwell AFB, AL, 1 Oct 1993

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Officer Military Schools, USAF, 1 Jul 1959

Lackland Military Training Center, 1 Jul 1962

Air Training Command, 1 Jun 1972

Air Force Military (later, Lackland) Training Center, 14 Nov 1986

394 Military Training Group, 25 Aug 1992

Air University, 1 Jul 1993

Air Force Officer Accession and Training Schools, 14 Feb 1997

## **COMMANDERS**

Lt Colonel Jesse Moorhead, 1 Jul 1959

Col A. M. Dodd, Aug 1962

Col Donald J. Ferris, 6 Jun 1966

Col Domenico A. Curato, May 1968

Col John E. Pitts, 20 Apr 1971

Colonel Guy E. Hairston, 1 Jun 1972

Brig Gen Cecil E. Fox, 22 Aug 1972

Brig Gen Warren C Moore, Jun 1974

Colonel George D. Moore, 8 Jul 1975

Col Donald R. Vallance, 1 May 1977

Col Alain G. Boughton, 13 Jul 1978

Col Thomas J. Magner, 16 Mar 1979

Col John E. Rush (Interim), 1 Apr 1980

Col William L. Miner (24 Apr 1980

Col William J. Porter, 26 May 1982

Col James L. Weaver, 1 Aug 1983

Col Gurney D. White, 22 Mar 85

Col Joseph S. Bleymaier, 22 Aug 1986

Col John R. Morrison, Jr., 15 Jul 1987

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

21 May 1966-30 Jun 1967

1 Jan 1969-31 Dec 1970

1 Jan-31 Dec 1974

1 Jan 1979-30 Apr 1980

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards

1 Jul 1992-30 Jun 1994

1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1995

1 Jul 1995-30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 1999

1 Jul 1999-30 Jun 2001

1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003

1 Jul 2003-30 Jun 2005

1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2007

**EMBLEM**



Per bend azure and light blue originating in dexter base three vapor trails fesswise arched bendwise to dexter chief argent/ each with a center line of the first terminating in three aircraft

bandwise one and two or, overall in pale a rocket point to chief of the third surmounted in base by three vapor lines fesswise of the first, in sinister chief a polar star of the fourth, in dexter fess an atomic symbol gules fimbriated of the third, all within a diminished bordure of the fourth (Approved, 12 Dec 1962)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

In Jul 1971, OTS had been elevated from group-level to wing-level. To emphasize that this source of new officers was important and vital to the Air Force, ATC reassigned the Officer Training School, on 1 Jun 1972, from the jurisdiction of Lackland Military Training Center to the command headquarters.

On 1 August 1972, ATC changed the name to the School of Military Sciences, Officer. This coincided with a similar name change for the Basic Military Training School at Lackland to the School of Military Sciences, Airman and the renaming of the schools at the technical training centers to School of Applied Aerospace Sciences. The idea behind these changes was to raise the prestige of the schools in the eyes of the civilian academic community. The name changes proved more confusing than helpful, and ATC reverted to the original designations on 8 April 1974.

The Officer Training School, USAF, continued to provide basic military training to commissioning applicants recruited from U.S. colleges and universities. The school also continued its missions of screening pilot applicants for the USAF and conducting beginning level flight instruction for international officers under the provisions of the Security Assistance Training Program. Commissioning rates continued to decline. The OTS's contribution to the commissioned officer corps equaled only 15.7 percent of all 1988 commissionees. As a result of this decline, the school restructured its class schedules and its student organizations. The school continued to conduct six courses in the performance of its mission: Officer Basic Military Training, Precommissioning; Health Professions Officer Indoctrination Course; Air Force Officer Orientation Course; Flight Screening Program; Light Aircraft Training for ROTC; and undergraduate pilot training for international officers. The OBMT course remained virtually unchanged in 1988; trainees began participating in Vigilant Warrior exercises, designed to improve leadership abilities. Flight training continued at Hondo municipal airport with the single engine T-41A aircraft. The unit had fifty such aircraft assigned. Contract maintainers kept these planes fully mission capable about 95 percent of the time. Still, maintainers and operators became concerned recently about parts availability and the rising cost of over the counter equipment. Attrition remained within historical averages, falling slightly from 1987 to 12.1 percent. In the two orientation courses attrition was neither expected nor realized. Lackland supported two field training encampments for Reserve Officer Training Corps personnel in the summer of 1988.

Officer Training School Redesignated. Twice during the year, the Officer Training School (OTS) designation changed. On 1 February, as part of the major reshuffling of units, ATC

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In FY09, BOT commissioned 576 active duty and 115 Air Force Reserve basic officer trainees and anticipates commissioning 636 officers in FY 10.

Commissioned Officer Training (COT) is a 4.5-week program that provides military and leadership training for Air Force judge advocates, chaplains, medical services officers (doctors, nurses, dentists, biomedical science corps officers and hospital administrators), and medical scholarship recipients. COT's curriculum covers the same five general subject areas as BOT. Trainees are commissioned prior to training. The military rank of COT trainees is awarded based on the professional credentials in their respective fields. The Reserve COT (RCOT) course is a 14-day intensive program designed for hard-to-recruit Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard medical service officers.

In FY09, COT trained 1,287 newly commissioned officers in the Medical Service, Judge Advocate, and Chaplain Corps and anticipates training 1,444 commissioned officers in FY10.

The Air National Guard Academy of Military Science (AMS), a 6-week training program, moved to the OTS campus from Knoxville, TN in 2009. The first AMS class is scheduled to commission its first class of ANG lieutenants in Nov 09, and approximately 350 new officers are expected to be commissioned in FY10.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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