

WEATHER READINESS TRAINING CENTER

MISSION

Weather Readiness Training Center Provides basic and intermediate training to weather flight personnel from 33 Air National Guard Weather Flights and active duty personnel. Curriculum consists of hands-on training, individual field skills, wartime survival, weather tactical communications, and technical skills enhancement. The WRTC's mission is to assist weather flights in accomplishing their Army support mission by providing basic and intermediate level training to all ANG weather flight personnel throughout the country. Training provided by the WRTC is conducted primarily in a hands-on environment and includes, but not limited to, performance of the weather flight mission, "field conditions" training, enhancement of technical skills, wartime survival, and various other elements of tactical weather support not covered in formal classroom instruction. WRTC, in conjunction with OL-A, AFCWC, train using current AFW battlefield doctrine, tactics, techniques and procedures.

LINEAGE

Weather Readiness Training Center

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Susan V. Lindsey, 1 Jul 1996

Lt Col Loretta J. Lombard 27 Jun 2004-7 Apr 2006

Maj John H. Waltbillig, Jr, 4. Oct 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

In the mid-1970s all Air National Guard Weather Flights were realigned to support U.S. Army units. The units were tasked to provide weather observing support to units including National Guard, Reserves and active duty components. In 1991 the Weather Readiness Training Center (WRTC) was established to support the robust training requirements Air Guard weather personnel needed to integrate with the Army.

The WRTC was federally recognized Dec. 15, 1992, at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center near Starke, Fla. The WRTC provides post-technical school standardized training to Air National Guard Weather members to enhance their combat readiness. The first class graduated in 1993. The original curriculum included hands-on training for a variety of technical equipment used by weather personnel, but the syllabus was expanded later to meet changing technical training. In 2000 the WRTC training was converted from an "as needed" weather course to a continuous 17-week formal school. Four years later a small Field Training Element was added to the WRTC; its mission was to travel to units throughout the U.S. and train new weather personnel.

The new Weather Readiness Training Center facilities were dedicated Jan. 21, 2005.

The Florida Air National Guard inactivated the Weather Readiness Training Center at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, near Starke, and rechristened it the 131st Training Flight. "The unit will finally be its own numbered unit," said Maj. John Waltbillig, 131st TF commander, during the April 12 ceremony. "And it gives us the command authority that our students deserve," he added. The unit will continue training ANG weather personnel in combat meteorological tasks. It may even expand to train airmen from across the Air Guard in a variety of battlefield skills, said Waltbillig. "As the training missions continue to morph and evolve, the 131st Training Flight will continue to meet the needs of today's Air Force and the National Guard," he said. Established as a training course in 1992, the WRTC became a formal school in 2000, training weathermen from across the Air Guard. 2012

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