

3097 AVIATION DEPOT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

3097 Aviation Depot Squadron

STATIONS

Westover AFB, MA

Barksdale AFB, LA, 1 Sep 1973

ASSIGNMENTS

3084 Aviation Depot Group

San Antonio AMA, 1 Jul 1962

COMMANDERS

Maj Harlan P. Ross, #1961

Maj Joseph A. Berger

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPEATIONS

Since the early 1950's, San Antonio Air Materiel Area's Directorate of Special Weapons managed and repaired the Air Force's nuclear ordnance commodity items; but prior to 1962, the 3079th Aviation Depot Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio controlled the weapons located at the two aviation depot squadrons (AVDS), the 3096th AVDS at Travis AFB in California and the 3097th AVDS at Westover AFB in Massachusetts. Personnel at these two sites maintained and stored the weapons. On April 18, 1962, as part of an effort to reduce personnel at the headquarters level, AFLC announced the inactivation of the 3097th; Kelly's Directorate of Special Weapons would pick up its responsibilities on July 1.

The 3097th ADS supported the SAC wing with all their nuclear weapons needs. SAC inspected and maintained the bomb release racks but 3097th ADS loaded the clip-in assemblies and delivered them to the bomber alert ramps using the old straddle carriers. 3097th ADS received weapons from Europe and also shipped weapons out to other bases. We did some modifications, alternations and demilitarization's."

The 3097th Aviation Depot Squadron at Stony Brook, and the 3096th Aviation Depot Squadron at Fairfield Air Force Station (Travis AFB, CA) were the only two aviation depot squadrons of the Operational Storage Sites that were not discontinued on 1 July 1962. They were both reassigned on that date to the SAAMA (San Antonio Area Materiel Area), per Special Orders G-38, Air Force Logistics Command, Wright-Patterson AFB.

The 3097th Aviation Depot Squadron was eventually transferred in 1973, along with all of its equipment, nuclear weapons, etc. to Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana when Stony Brook Air Force Station was closed down and sold to private entities in the early 1970s. September 1, 1973, 3097th remained at Barksdale until October 1, 1988, when the unit was inactivated and its responsibilities assumed by the other two aviation depot squadrons.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 20 Sep 2021
Updated:

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