

USAF BAND OF THE WEST



LINEAGE

Air Force Band, Moffett Field constituted and activated, 1 Oct 1941
Redesignated 39th Army Air Forces Band, 7 Aug 1942
Redesignated 539th Army Band, 18 Dec 1943
Redesignated 539th Army Air Forces Band, 26 Feb 1944
Redesignated 539th Air Force Band, 26 Sep 1947
Inactivated, 8 Aug 1955
Activated, 8 Jul 1959
Redesignated Air Training Command Band, 1 Oct 1991
Redesignated Air Education and Training Command Band, 1 Jul 1994
Redesignated Air Force Band of the West, 29 Jul 1994
Redesignated United States Air Force Band of the West, 1 May 1997

STATIONS

Moffett Field, CA, 1 Oct 1941
Santa Ana Army Air Base, CA, 25 Mar 1942
Enid Army Airfield, OK, 15 Aug 1946
Indoctrination Division, ATC (later, Lackland AFB), TX, 19 Mar 1947

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Force Military Training Center (AFMTC)
3300th Training Support Group, 1991

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II
American Theater

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award
7 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003

EMBLEM

Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The silhouette of the Alamo suggests the Band's home location in San Antonio, Texas. The torch is incorporated into the winged lyre to reflect the inspirational aspects of the music performed by the Band for Air Force personnel and the public. (Approved, 23 Mar 1990)

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The USAF Band of the West is a musical organization with an outstanding record of achievement. The Airmen assigned to the band are highly-trained professional musicians who have dedicated themselves to serving their country through music. The USAF Band of the West travels more than 125,000 miles annually and provides over 300 performances to military and civilian audiences throughout Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, and Louisiana. The band has been an integral part of the music scene in the Southwest for many years. The USAF Band of the West has performed for presidents, heads of state, and dignitaries from around the world earning an outstanding reputation among America's military bands.

By the early 1980s, the Air Force Band of the West was, for all intents and purposes and for as far as most people were aware, assigned to AFMTC. By then, the band had assumed virtually all of its own scheduling and much of its own promotional work, so the public affairs officer's operational control

had become more a formality than a duty; generally, band commanders reported to the center vice commander. Official organizational charts and directories placed the band directly under the center.



Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources