



# FACT SHEET

## U.S. Air Force Reserve

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### **Pipe Band**

The U.S. Air Force Reserve Pipe Band, an element of the Band of the United States Air Force Reserve, is one of the most colorful and unique units in the Air Force today.

Originally formed in September 1961, the unit represents the United States Armed Forces as one of only two active duty bagpipe bands. Traveling over 100,000 miles each year, the U.S. Air Force Reserve Pipe Band has performed in New York, Washington D.C., Miami, New Orleans, Houston, San Antonio, Tucson, Phoenix, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Nashville, as well as the U.S. Virgin Islands, Antigua, Canada, Panama, Australia, the Azores Islands, Germany, Italy, Turkey, and Russia. In May 1992 the Pipe Band, combined with the Ceremonial Band, became the first foreign military unit to march through Red Square in Moscow, Russia and three years later performed in Saint Petersburg, Russia as the only foreign unit in the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Victory in Europe Day parade. Since 1993 the Pipe Band has been invited each year on Saint Patrick's Day to perform for the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Ireland at the Capitol steps with traditional Scottish bagpipe music. On New Year's Day 1997, the Pipe Band of the Band of the United States Air Force Reserve, along with a combined Air Force Ceremonial Band, was the lead unit in the Tournament of Roses Parade, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the United States Air Force.

The authentic uniforms worn by the Air Force Reserve Pipe Band were manufactured in Scotland and include the Air Force Reserve colors of ultramarine blue and golden yellow. The official tartan of the Air Force Reserve was authorized and approved in September 1987 by the Tartan Society in Edinburgh, Scotland.

All members of the Air Force Reserve Pipe Band are professional Air Force musicians working in support of Air Force and Air Force Reserve recruiting and community relations objectives.