

# 140<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR GROUP

## LINEAGE

370<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group constituted, 25 May 1943  
Activated, 1 Jul 1943  
Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945  
Redesignated 140<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group  
Allotted to ANG, 24 May 1946 (May 26, 1946)  
Extended federal recognition, 1 Oct 1946  
Redesignated 140<sup>th</sup> Fighter Bomber Group, May 1951  
Redesignated 140<sup>th</sup> Fighter Interceptor Group, 1 Jul 1955  
Inactivated 9 Dec 1974

## STATIONS

Westover Field, MA, 1 Jul 1943  
Groton AAFld, CT, 19 Oct 1943  
Bradley Field, CT, 5-20 Jan 1944  
Aldermaston, England, 12 Feb 1944  
Andover, England, 29 Feb-19 Jul 1944  
Cardonville, France, 24 Jul 1944  
La Vielle, France, 15 Aug 1944  
Lonray, France, 6 Sep 1944  
Roye/Amy, France, 11 Sep 1944  
Florennes/Juxaine, Belgium, 26 Sep 1944  
Zwartberg, Belgium, 27 Jan 1945  
Gutersloh, Germany, 20 Apr 1945  
Sandhofen, Germany, 27 Jun 1945  
Fritzlar, Germany, 6 Aug-Sep 1945  
Camp Myles Standish, MA, c. 6-7 Nov 1945  
Buckley Field, CO, 1 Apr 1951  
Clovis AFB, NM, 5 Dec 1951-1 Jan 1953  
Buckley ANGB, CO

## ASSIGNMENTS

Ninth AF  
Tactical Air Command

## WEAPON SYSTEMS

## **Mission Aircraft**

P-47

P-51, 1945

F-51

## **Support Aircraft**

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Howard F Nichols, 1 Jul 1954

LTC Seth J McKee, 6 Nov 1944

LTC Morgan A Giffin, 22 Feb 1945

Col Seth J McKee, 10 May 1945-unkn

LTC Marion P. Barnwell

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation

Hurtgen Forest, Germany, 2 Dec 1944

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army

6 Jun-30 Sep 1944

1 Oct 1944

16 Dec 1944-25 Jan 1945

Belgian Fourragere

#### **EMBLEM**

Per bend, argent and chequy, sable and argent, over all a bend white. (Approved, 4 Jun 1952)

#### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **MOTTO**

MILITAT QUASI TIGRIS QUISQUE—Each Fights Like a Tiger

## **OPERATIONS**

Dive-bombed radar installations and flak towers, and escorted bombers that attacked bridges and marshalling yards in France as the Allies prepared for the invasion of the Continent. Provided cover for Allied forces that crossed the Channel on 6 Jun 1944, and flew armed reconnaissance missions over the Cotentin Peninsula until the end of the month. Moved to the Continent in Jul 1944 to support the drive of ground forces across France and into Germany. Hit gun emplacements, troops, supply dumps, and tanks near St Lo in Jul and in the Falaise-Argentan area in Aug 1944. Sent planes and pilots to England to provide cover for the airborne assault on Holland in Sep 1944. Struck pillboxes and troops early in Oct to aid First Army's capture of Aachen, and afterward struck railroads, bridges, viaducts, and tunnels in that area. Received a DUG for a mission in support of ground forces in the Hurtgen Forest area on 2 Dec 1944 when, despite bad weather and barrages of anti-aircraft and small-arms fire, the group dropped napalm bombs on a heavily defended position in Bergstein, setting fire to the village and inflicting heavy casualties on enemy troops defending the area. Flew armed reconnaissance during the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945, attacking warehouses, highways, railroads, motor transports, and other targets. Bombed bridges and docks in the vicinity of Wesel to prepare for the crossing of the Rhine, and patrolled the area as paratroops were dropped on the east bank on 24 Mar. Supported operations of an Armored Division in the Ruhr Valley in Apr. Flew last mission, a sweep over Dessau and Wittenberg, on 4 May 1945. Returned to the US, Sep-Nov 1945.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources