

342nd BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, HEAVY



MISSION

LINEAGE

342nd Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942
Activated, 3 Feb 1942
Inactivated, 29 Oct 1945
Redesignated 342nd Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 15 Jul 1946
Activated, 4 Aug 1946
Redesignated 342nd Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 28 May 1948
Redesignated 342nd Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 1 Oct 1959
Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Feb 1963

STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 3 Feb 1942
Sarasota, FL, 29 Mar-16 May 1942
Grafton Underwood, England, 9 Jun 1942
Polebrook, England, 8 Sep 1942
Algeria, 19 Nov 1942
Tafaraoui, Algeria, 22 Nov 1942
Biskra, Algeria, 27 Dec 1942
Chateaudun-du Rhumel, 18 Feb 1943
Pont-du-Fahs, Tunisia, 10 Aug 1943
Depienne, Tunisia, 14 Aug 1943
Cerignola, Italy, 9 Dec 1943
Amendola, Italy, 16 Jan 1944
Marcianise, Italy, Oct-29 Oct 1945
Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 4 Aug 1946
Biggs AFB, TX, 18 May 1948

Blytheville AFB, AR, 1 Jul 1959
Robins AFB, GA, 1 May 1960-1 Feb 1963

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Eielson AFB, AK, 4 Nov 1947-12 Mar 1948
Mildenhall England, 3 Apr 1952-3 Jun 1952
Lakenheath, England, 2 Mar 1952-3 Apr 1952
Upper Heyford, England, 5 May 1956-4 Jul 1956

ASSIGNMENTS

97th Bombardment Group, 3 Feb 1942-29 Oct 1945
97th Bombardment Group, 4 Aug 1946
97th Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952
4137th Strategic Wing, 1 May 1960-1 Feb 1963

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1942-1945
B-17E
B-17F
B-17G
B-29, 1946-1950
B-29M
B-50, 1950-1955
B-50D
B-47, 1955-1959
B-52, 1960-1963

COMMANDERS

Maj Paul Beard, 1949
Maj George K. Smith, #1954

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Antisubmarine, American Theater
Egypt-Libya
Air Offensive, Europe
Tunisia
Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Anzio

Rome-Arno
Normandy
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Steyr, Austria, 24 Feb 1944
Ploesti, Rumania, 18 Aug 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
2 Jul-3 Nov 1957
2 Feb 1961-31 Mar 1962

EMBLEM

On a disc white, edged light blue, over two lightning flashes crossed, yellow, extending over the edge of the border, a stylized sunburst yellow, orange, and red, over all and in base a sphere proper, entwined with a serpent black and white, head upward to right [dexter]. (Approved, 9 Nov 1951)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Antisubmarine, Mar-Apr 1942; combat in ETO and MTO, 17 Aug 1942-26 Apr 1945

Air Force Order of Battle
Created: 13 Aug 2011
Updated:

Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit yearbook. *Biggs AFB, TX*, El Paso, TX. 1949.
Unit yearbook. *810th Air Division, Biggs AFB, TX*. 1954.