

346th TEST SQUADRON



MISSION

346th Test Squadron tests, evaluates and assesses operational and emerging IO capabilities for ops forces, national agencies, acquisition community and DoD customers. Provides USAF's only emissions security testing of critical C2 systems. Maintains ACC's operational ranges for IO test and training exercises.

LINEAGE

346th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942
Activated, 1 Jun 1942
Redesignated 346th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 29 Sep 1944
Inactivated, 8 Nov 1945
Redesignated 346th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 13 May 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 29 May 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 346th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, Heavy and activated, 1 Jan 1953
Redesignated 346th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 1 Oct 1955
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1974
Redesignated 346th Test and Evaluation Squadron, 1 Jun 1993
Activated, 15 Jun 1993
Inactivated, 21 Sep 1995
Redesignated 346th Test Squadron, 17 Jul 2000
Activated, 1 Aug 2000

STATIONS

Orlando AB, FL, 1 Jun 1942
MacDill Field, FL, 1 Jun 1942
Pendleton Field, OR, 29 Jun 1942
Gowen Field, ID, 28 Aug 1942
Walla Walla, WA, 25 Sep 1942
Sioux City AAB, IA, 18 Nov 1942-3 Jan 1943
Navarin, Algeria, 16 Mar 1943
Oudna, Tunisia, 5 Aug 1943
Tortorella Airfield, Italy, c. 13 Dec 1943
Marcianise, Italy, c. 27 Oct-8 Nov 1945
Birmingham Muni Aprt, AL, 29 May 1947-27 Jun 1949
Fairchild AFB, WA, 1 Jan 1953
Westover AFB, MA, 4 Sep 1956-31 Mar 1974
Ellsworth AFB, SD, 15 Jun 1993-21 Sep 1995
Kelly AFB, TX, 1 Aug 2000

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Andersen AFB, Guam, 29 Jan-28 Apr 1956

ASSIGNMENTS

99th Bombardment Group, 1 Jun 1942-8 Nov 1945
99th Bombardment Group, 29 May 1947-27 Jun 1949
99th Strategic Reconnaissance (later, 99th Bombardment) Wing, 1 Jan 1953-31 Mar 1974
99th Test Group, 15 Jun 1993-21 Sep 1995
318th Information Operations Group, 1 Aug 2000

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1942-1945
B-17F
B-17G
B/RB-36, 1953-1956
B-52, 1956
B-52B
B-52C
B-52D

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive Europe, 1942-1944

Tunisia, 1942-1943

Sicily, 1943

Naples-Foggia, 1943-1944

Anzio, 1944

Rome-Arno, 1944

Normandy, 1944

Northern France, 1944

Southern France, 1944

North Apennines, 1944-1945

Rhineland, 1944-1945

Central Europe, 1945

Po Valley, 1945

Air Combat, EAME Theater, 1941-1945

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Sicily, 5 Jul 1943

Austria, 23 Apr 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device

2-21 Mar and 15-31 Mar 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Oct 1967-1 Mar 1968

2 Mar-1 Apr 1968

1 Jul 1971-30 Jun 1972

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

2 Mar 1969-31 Mar 1970

EMBLEM



346th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy emblem: On a medium blue disc, border black, a rattlesnake in striking position, proper, tail entwined about large black aerial bomb, highlighted light blue and white, falling to dexter base. (Approved, 18 Feb 1944)



346th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy

346th Test Squadron emblem; On a disc Sable, a globe Azure gridlined Argent surmounted in base by a lightning bolt bendwise sinister Or entwined by a cobra coiled and erected Proper, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached below the disc, a Black scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "346TH TEST SQUADRON" in Yellow letters. Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 globe reflects the unit's worldwide mission. Historically, the king cobra alludes to the Squadron's World War II emblem, and in the present, the cobra represents the wisdom the unit possesses in defending the Air Force warfighting capabilities. The lightning bolt pertains to the swiftness and power required of the unit. (Approved, 7 Nov 2000)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Air Force Order of Battle
Created: 14 Dec 2010
Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.