IV FIGHTER COMMAND



MISSION

LINEAGE

4 Interceptor Command constituted, 26 May 1941 Activated, 8 Jul 1941 Redesignated 4 Fighter Command, 15 May 1942 Redesignated IV Fighter Command, Sept 1942 Disbanded, 31 Mar 1944

STATIONS

March Field, CA, 8 Jul 1941 Riverside, CA, Jul 1941 Oakland, CA, Jun 1942-31 Mar 1944

ASSIGNMENTS

Fourth Air Force

COMMANDERS

Maj Gen Millard F. Harmon, Jul 1941 Brig Gen William O. Ryan, 3 Aug 1941 Brig Gen William E. Kepner, 23 Feb 1942 Brig Gen Edward M. Morris, 18 Mar 1943 Brig Gen Russell E. Randall, 4 Dec 1943-31 Mar 1944

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

American Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a bezant bordered blue a blue falcon with white talons volant holding in base its beak two red flashes in saltire. (Approved, 28 Nov 1942)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Fourth Interceptor command was activated 22 Apr 1941 under the command of Brigadier General William O. Bryan with headquarters in the Virginia Building in Riverside. Units of the Command are stationed at March Field and Hamilton Field.

The Interceptor Command is charged with the air defense of a region and is composed of units with pursuit planes whose function is to intercept and destroy enemy aircraft which attempt to attack ground targets in the area. The area assigned for defense by the Fourth Interceptor Command is that of California, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico and that portion of the State of Texas west of the 103rd meridian.

Coordination of the pursuit planes with other units of defense such as barrage balloons, antiaircraft artillery, etc., is also a duty of this Command together with aircraft warning service and signal units.

The Ninth Pursuit Wing, located at March Field, is made up of the 32nd Air Base Group, the 14th Pursuit Group, the 51st Pursuit Group, the 64th Transport Group and supporting units.

The 10th Pursuit Wing, located at Hamilton Field, is made up of the 45th Air Base Group, the 20th Pursuit Group, the 35th Pursuit Group and supporting units.



Brig Gen William O. Ryan

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL. Unit yearbook. *March Field Air Base, CA, 1941.* Army and Navy Publishing Co. Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1941.