12 AIR DIVISION



MISSION

LINEAGE

12 Pursuit Wing established, 19 Oct 1940 Activated, 20 Nov 1940 Inactivated, 6 Mar 1942 Redesignated 12 Bombardment Wing, 23 Aug 1942 Activated, 8 Sep 1942 Disestablished, 9 Oct 1944 Reestablished and redesignated 12th Bombardment Wing, Light, 3 Jul 1947 Activated in the Reserve, 3 Aug 1947 Redesignated 12 Air Division, Bombardment, 16 Apr 1948 Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949 Redesignated 12 Air Division, 1 Feb 1951 Organized, 10 Feb 1951 Discontinued, 16 Jun 1952 Activated, 16 Jun 1952 Redesignated 12 Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Jun 1962 Redesignated 12 Strategic Missile Division, 30 Jun 1971 Redesignated 12 Air Division, 1 Mar 1973 Inactivated, 31 Jul 1990

STATIONS

Albrook Field, CZ, 10 Nov 1940-6 Mar 1942 MacDill Field, FL, 8 Sep-28 Nov 1942 Gourock, Scotland, 15-16 Dec 1942 Chelveston, England, c. 17 Dec 1942-12 Jan 1943 Marks Hall, England, 12 Jan 1943-9 Oct 1944 Cleveland Municipal Airport, OH, 3 Aug 1947-27 Jun 1949 March AFB, CA, 10 Feb 1951-16 Jun 1952 Davis Monthan AFB, AZ, 1 Jan 1962 Dyess AFB, TX, 30 Sep 1976 Ellsworth AFB, SD, 15 Jul 1988-31 Jul 1990

ASSIGNMENTS

VI Interceptor Command, 20 Nov 1940-6 Mar 1942 Eighth Air Force, 8 Sep 1942 VIII Bomber Command (later, Eighth Air Force), Dec 1942-9 Oct 1944 Eleventh Air Force, 3 Aug 1947 First Air Force, 1 Jul 1948 Ninth Air Force, 23 Feb-27 Jun 1949 Fifteenth Air Force, 10 Feb 1951-16 Jun 195 Fifteenth Air Force, 16 Jun 1952 Eighth Air Force, 1 Jul 1989-31 Jul 1990

COMMANDERS

Brig Gen Adlai H. Gilkeson, 20 Nov 1940-6 Mar 1942 Unkn, 8-9 Sep 1942 2Lt Leonard B. Flemmons Jr., 10 Sep 1942 Maj George M. Green, 24 Sep 1942 Maj Henry G. Silleck, 17 Nov 1942 Maj Thomas L. Dawson, 25 Nov 1942-19 Jan 1943 None (not manned), 20 Jan 1943-9 Oct 1944 Brig Gen Wiley D. Ganey, 10 Feb 1951 Brig Gen Howell M. Estes Jr., 1 Mar-16 Jun 1952 Brig Gen Howell M. Estes Jr., 16 Jun 1952 Brig Gen Charles B. Westover, 23 Jul 1953 Col Frederic G. Huish, 23 Feb 1956 Col, Willard W. Smith, 5 Mar 1956 Brig Gen Robert B. Miller, 12 Jan 1957 Col Robert J. Hughey, 8 May 1959 Col William C. Bacon, 1 Jan 1962 Brig Gen William C. Garland, 2 Mar 1964 Brig Gen Everett W. Holstrom, 1 Jul 1965 Brig Gen George P. Cole, 1 Sep 1966 Brig Gen Jack C. Ledford, 9 Jul 1968 Brig Gen John A. DesPortes, 30 Sep 1970 Brig Gen Harry M. Darmstandler, 29 Feb 1972 Brig Gen James S. Murphy, 2 Feb 1973

Brig Gen Raymond L. Haupt, 9 Oct 1973 Brig Gen Christopher S. Adams Jr., 1 Dec 1975 Brig Gen Dennis B. Sullivan, 17 Jul 1978 Brig Gen Pintard M. Dyer III, 28 May 1981 Brig Gen Walter E. Webb III, 1 Aug 1985 Brig Gen Robert M. Marquette Jr., 11 Apr 1987-31 Jul 1990

HONORS

Service Streamers World War II American Theater World War II European African Middle Eastern Theater

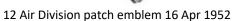
Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM











Or, issuing from chief a chevron inverted azure spattered with 15 mullets argent overall between in dexter a pattern of 15 stripes palewise throughout sable surmounted by a sphere of the second gridlined of the first and in sinister a mailed clenched fist silver, grasping four lightning flashes gules, a missile in pale, of the third emitting a flame to base gules, all within a diminished bordure of the first. **SIGNIFICANCE**: The missile in the center of the design represents the unit's primary function and mission. The three larger stars on the blue field represent the unit's three primary missile installations and the 12 smaller stars represent the numerals of the unit's parent command; Fifteenth Air Force. The gridlined globe symbolizes the unit's worldwide commitment and the mailed clenched fist and lightning bolts denote power and is also a primary element. (Approved: 5 January 1972) Emblem designed by Lt Col Steven A. Thomas.

Or, a globe azure grid lined of the first between in dexter an airplane palewise ascending argent, exhaust gules and in sinister a missile palewise of the like, overall a gauntlet of the third, grasping an olive branch vert and a lightning flash of the fourth bend sinisterwise and two lightning flashes of the last bendwise, on a chief of the second per chevron inverted seme of

mullets argent; all within a diminished bordure of argent (Approved, 30 Dec 1988).



12 Air Division emblem approved Dec 1986

ΜΟΤΤΟ

OPERATIONS

The wing operated in the Panama Canal Zone 20 November 1940-6 March 1942. It moved to England in November 1942, with assignment to the Eighth Air Force. All personnel and equipment were withdrawn in January 1943, and the organization did not serve in combat. As an Air Division, from February 1951, it conducted training for world-wide bombardment operations. From 1963-1984 and 1988-1990, it maintained an ICBM capability, conducted staff assistance visits, and monitored programs such as retention, domestic actions, and medical capabilities of its subordinate units.

USAF Unit Histories Created: 25 Aug 2010 Updated:

Sources Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.