

## 28<sup>th</sup> AIR DIVISION



### LINEAGE

Established as 28<sup>th</sup> Air Division (Defense), 8 Nov 1949  
Activated, 8 Dec 1949  
Inactivated, 1 Feb 1952  
Organized, 1 Feb 1952  
Redesignated 28<sup>th</sup> Air Division (SAGE), 1 Jul 1960  
Redesignated 28<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 1 Apr 1966  
Inactivated, 19 Nov 1969  
Activated, 1 Apr 1985  
Inactivated, 29 May 1992

### STATIONS

Hamilton AFB, CA, 8 Dec 1949-1 Feb 1952  
Hamilton AFB, CA, 1 Feb 1952  
Malmstrom AFB, MT, 1 Apr 1966-19 Nov 1969  
Tinker AFB, OK, 1 Apr 1985-29 May 1992

### ASSIGNMENTS

Fourth Air Force, 8 Dec 1949  
Western Air Defense Force, 1 Aug 1950-1 Feb 1952  
Western Air Defense Force, 1 Feb 1952  
Air Defense Command, 1 Jul 1960  
Tenth Air Force, 1 Apr 1966-19 Nov 1969  
Tactical Air Command, 1 Apr 1985-29 May 1992

### COMMANDERS

Unkn, 8 Dec 1949-3 Jan 1950  
Col William A. Matheny, 4 Jan 1950  
Col Hobart R. Yeager, 24 Feb 1951-1 Feb 1952  
Col Hobart R. Yeager, 1 Feb 1952  
Col Harry M. Pike, 27 Apr 1952  
BG James W. Andrew, 3 Jun 1952  
Col Philip H. Greasley, Mar 1954

BG Monro MacCloskey, 26 Apr 1954  
Col James D. Mayden, 8 Jun 1957 (temporary), 1 Jul 1957 (permanent)  
BG Curtis R. Low, 16 Aug 1957  
Col Howard A. Cheney, 1 Aug 1959  
BG Charles R. Bond Jr., 24 Aug 1959  
MG John D. Stevenson, 1 Jul 1960  
BG Thomas K. McGehee, 5 Jul 1961  
MG Conrad F. Necrason, 21 Jul 1961  
MG Carroll W. McColpin, 1 Apr 1965  
Col Leon G. Lewis, 1 Apr 1966  
Col William P. Comstock, 31 Jul 1967  
Col Edward R. Weed, 25 Sep 1968  
Col James M. Fogle, Jun Nov 1969  
BG William K. James, 1 Apr 1985  
BG John D. Logeman, 16 Sep 1986  
BG William J. Ball, 17 Apr 1989-29 May 1992

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

## **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
1 May 1985-30 Apr 1987  
1 May 1987-30 Apr 1989  
1 Dec 1989-1 Dec 1991

## **EMBLEM**

On a shield azure within a diminutive border or, a griffin passant argent on the embattlement of a wall gules, masoned sable in fess, an arched gateway in the center of the wall or, all issuing out of six waves of water in base, alternating argent and azure. (Approved, 14 Mar 1966)

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

In Dec 1949, the 28th Division assumed responsibility for conducting the air defense of an area that

embraced California, Utah, Nevada, Colorado, and Arizona. It became part of the Western Air Defense Force in 1950. With no fighter interceptor squadrons directly assigned, the division used interceptors of the 78th Fighter Wing, based at Hamilton AFB, California, as well as ANG interceptors based within its geographical area. By Nov 1954 its geographical boundaries included northern California, southern Oregon, and parts of Nevada and Utah. The division participated frequently in air defense exercises with U.S. Army artillery, U.S. Navy interceptors, and Strategic Air Command bombers. On 15 Feb 1959, it added the San Francisco Air Defense Sector to its components, and the geographical area expanded to include California and Arizona, and parts of Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, and New Mexico. The division gained the Los Angeles, Phoenix, and Reno Air Defense Sectors and also the 552d Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing, whose RC-121 aircraft augmented naval picket ships in providing radar coverage seaward from the west coast of the United States. During 1961, it transitioned to a SAGE system in all four of its sectors. Reorganization in 1963 altered the 28th's boundaries to include the states of Nevada, Arizona, Utah, and parts of California, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico. On 1 Apr 1966, the 28th moved, in name only, to Malmstrom AFB, Montana, and replaced the Great Falls Air Defense Sector. The division's area included Montana and part of North Dakota, and later, parts of South Dakota, Nebraska, and Wyoming. Beginning in Apr 1985, the 28th provided theater and Air Force commands with airborne forces for surveillance, warning, command and control, communications, and electronic combat operations. It was the Tactical Air Command single manager for the E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS), EC-130H Electronic Combat Compass Call, EC-130E Airborne Battlefield Command and Control Center (ABCCC), and EC-135K Tactical Deployment Control Squadron (TDCS) in support of unified and specified commands. The division in the 1960s and 1970s deployed aircraft and personnel from subordinate units in support of the war in Southwest Asia.



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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources  
AFHRA