

28th AIR SERVICE GROUP



LINEAGE

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

28th Air Service Group (New Type)

Lineage: Activated 15 Jan 41 as the 28th Air Base Gp, redesignated 28th Service Gp (Spl) 10 Jun 42 (AG 320.2, 10 Jun 42), 28th Air Service Gp 4 Dec 44, inactivated 25 Sep 45, activated 19 Nov 45, redesignated 28th Base Svc Sq 1 Oct 46, inactivated 19 Nov 47, disbanded 8 Oct 48.

Assignments: GHQ, Air Force 1941 to Unknown, 1st Air Force to 1941, I AF Base Cmd to after Dec 41, unknown to Apr 44, 58th Bombardment Wg to May 44, Air Service Cd, CBI to Jun 44,

XX Bomber Cmd to unknown, 58th Bombardment Wg to 1945. Unknown to 1 Oct 46, 43d Bombardment Wg to 19 Nov 47.

Stations: Langley Fld, VA 1941 to 25 Mar 41; Bowman Fld, KY until after 7 Dec 41; Barksdale Fld, LA, Galveston, TX, and Blythe AAF, CA to 1 Dec 42; Great Falls AAB, MT to 31 Jan 43; Ft Dix AAF, NJ to 13 Jan 44; Camp Patrick Henry, VA (POE) to 25 Jan 44; Bombay, India 28 Apr 44-unknown; Chakulia to 24 Feb 45; West Fld, Tinian Apr-Sep 45; Castle Fld, CA 19 Nov 45-6 May 46; Davis-Monthan Fld, AZ 10 May 46-19 Nov 47.

Hq and Base Services Sq (disbanded 8 Oct 48)

39th Air Engineering Sq

Organized as Materiel Squadron, 28 Air Base Group 15 Jan 41, Langley Field, VA

Redesignated 39 Materiel Squadron Mar 41

Moved c. 17 Mar 41 to Bowman Field, KY

Redesignated 39 Service Sq (unknown)

Redesignated 39 Engineering Sq (unknown)

Redesignated 39 Air Engineering Sq (unknown)

Stationed at Barksdale Fld, LA, 31 Jan 42-31 Mar 42; unknown - 1 Nov 42; March Fld, CA 1 Nov 42-30 Nov 42; CBI Theater -Nov 45; Merced AAF, CA 19 Nov 45-6 May 46

Disbanded 8 Oct 48

585th Air Materiel Sq

Activated 6 Jul 44 at Chakulia Army Air Base, India as 585 Materiel Squadron

Redesignated 21 Jan 45 as 585 Air Materiel Squadron

Stationed at Tinian, Mariana Islands Jun-Nov 45; Camp Stoneman, CA Nov 45-19 Nov 46; Castle Field, Merced, CA 19 Nov 46-6 May 46; Davis-Monthan Fld, AZ 19 May 46-19 Nov 47

Disbanded 8 Oct 48

2071st Engineer Firefighting Det (See Engineering Units)

20th AAF split the 25th & 28th Service Groups into the 86th & 87th Air Service Groups. These groups were know to be two of the most proficient, and technically trained of the AAF's Air Service Groups. Veteran personnel from the 589th Material Squadron, and the 355th Air Engineering Squadron were the basis of the new units. Just as in the case of the aircrew members, group members in the top 10% of their respective training classes were to be assigned to the B-29 Program.

Assigned to the 58th BW on 01/25/1944, the 28th ASG left the U.S. in March of 1944. Departing Fort Dix, NJ by ship. They passed through the Panama Canal, stopping in Australia. Then on to Bombay, and finally Chakulia, India arriving on 05/01/1944. They were attached to the 444th BG(VH) & 40th BG (VH), 58th BW. Redesignated as the 87th ASG in July 1944, they had the distinction of being the first unit to supply and maintain the B-29 Superfortress' combat operations. This included the June 15, 1944 strike- the first bombing of mainland Japan since the Doolittle Raid in 1942.

25th Air Service Group (New Type)

Hq and Base Services Sq (493 NY) - Kharagpur, India
35th Air Engineering Sq (493 NY) - Kharagpur, India
578th Air Material Sq (493 NY) - Kharagpur, India

West Field, Tinian (APO 183)

2nd AAF Combat Camera Unit (Attached) 8 0 22 30
25th Air Service Group, Hq & Base Services Sq 26 1 287 314
35th Air Engineering Squadron 11 1 246 258
578th Air Material Squadron 7 1 134 142
28th Air Service Group, Hq & Base Services Sq 26 1 287 314
39th Air Engineering Squadron 11 1 246 258
585th Air Material Squadron 7 1 134 142
86th Air Service Group, Hq & Base Services Sq 26 1 287 314
349th Air Engineering Squadron 11 1 246 258
584th Air Material Squadron 7 1 134 142
87th Air Service Group, Hq & Base Services Sq 26 1 287 314
355th Air Engineering Squadron 11 1 246 258
589th Air Material Squadron 7 1 134 142

Although the numbers were few, the air was filled with excitement as preparations began to resurrect the field. The first elements of SAC's 444th Bombardment Group (BG), the 40th BG, the 25th Air Service Group, and the 28th Air Service Group arrived at Davis-Monthan on 6 May 1946. The 444th had formerly been stationed at Castle Field, California, while the 40th had arrived from Merced Army Air Field, California. Once again, the skies over Tucson began to fill with the thunderous din of flights of B-29s; this time in a strategic rather than a training role.

Although two bombardment groups were assigned to Davis-Monthan, both were considerably under strength. As a result, in September 1946, the 40th Bombardment Group and 25th Air Service Group had their assigned manning reduced to one officer and one enlisted man each. The remaining personnel and equipment were transferred to the 444th BG and the 28th ASG. Then on 1 October, both the 40th and 444th were inactivated and their personnel and equipment were transferred to the 43rd Bombardment Group which was again activated at Davis-Monthan on the same date. Along with that change came a reorganization of the existing Group-Base Unit policy. The new policy made the Base Unit subordinate to the Group. On 5 October, Colonel James C. Selser, Jr., Commander of the 43rd BG, assumed the additional position of Base Commander as a result of the reorganization.