

43 FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

29 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 22 Dec 1939
Activated, 1 Feb 1940
Redesignated 43 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 13 Mar 1940
Inactivated, 1 Apr 1944
Redesignated 43 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy and activated, 1 Apr 1944
Inactivated, 20 May 1946
Redesignated 43 Flying Training Squadron, 22 Mar 1972
Activated, 1 Jul 1972
Inactivated, 30 Sep 1977
Activated, 25 Jun 1990
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1992
Redesignated 43 Flying Training Flight and activated in the Reserve, 1 Apr 1997
Redesignated 43 Flying Training Squadron, 1 Apr 1998

STATIONS

Langley Field, VA, 1 Feb 1940
MacDill Field, FL, 21 May 1940
Pope Field, NC, c. 7 Dec 1941
MacDill Field, FL, 1 Jan 1942
Gowen Field, ID, 25 Jun 1942-1 Apr 1944
Pratt AAFld, KS, 1 Apr 1944
Dalhart AAFld, TX, 25 May 1944
Pratt AAFld, KS, 17 Jul (ground echelon only to 21 Aug)-7 Dec 1944

North Field, Guam, 17 Jan 1945-20 May 1946
Craig AFB, AL, 1 Jul 1972-30 Sep 1977
Columbus AFB, MS, 25 Jun 1990-1 Oct 1992
Columbus AFB, MS, 1 Apr 1997

ASSIGNMENTS

29 Bombardment Group, 1 Feb 1940-1 Apr 1944
29 Bombardment Group, 1 Apr 1944-20 May 1946
29 Flying Training Wing, 1 Jul 1972-30 Sep 1977
14 Flying Training Wing, 25 Jun 1990-1 Oct 1992
610 Regional Support Group, 1 Apr 1997
340 Flying Training Group, 1 Apr 1998

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1940-1941
B-17, 1940-1943
B-24E, 1943-1944
B-17E, 1944
B-29A, 1944-1946
T-37, 1972-1977
T-37, 1990-1992
T-37, 1998
T-38, 1998
T-1, 1998

COMMANDERS

Cpt Frank H. Robinson, 1 Feb 1940
Maj William D. Old, 13 Mar 1940
Maj Robert F. Travis, May 1941
Cpt James H. Walsh, 21 Oct 1941
Maj C.W. Bicking, Mar 1942
Maj Roland J. Bernick, Jul 1942
Cpt Chester C. Cox, 30 Jan 1943
Maj George H. Blasé, 2 Apr 1943
Cpt Robert T. Marland, 16 Apr 1943
Maj Everett C. Wessman, 29 Sep 1943-Mar 1944
None (not manned), 1 Apr-3 May 1944
Cpt William J. Barter, 4 May 1944
Maj James D. Baird, 25 May 1944
LTC Joseph G. Perry, 30 Jun 1944
Maj William Marchesi, Sep 1945-Jan 1946
None (not manned) Feb-20 May 1946
LTC William M. Pugh, 1 Jul 1972
LTC Robert L. Oliver, Dec 1973

LTC William F. Hoeft, Jun 1976
LTC Max L. Hearn, 13 Dec 1976-Jun 1977
Unkn, Jul-30 Sep 1977
LTC Gregory H. Landers, 25 Jun 1990
LTC William H. Barker, 31 Jan-1 Oct 1992
Unkn, 1 Apr 1997-Mar 1998
Col Leonard R. Kight, 1 Apr 1998
LTC Roger L. Henry, 1 Aug 1998
LTC Dean F. Matcheck, 6 Dec 2002
LTC Gerard A. Rowe, 9 Dec 2004
LTC Michael J. Gibbons, 9 Dec 2006
LTC Brian S. Bowman, 8 Jan 2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Antisubmarine, American Theater
Western Pacific
Air Offensive, Japan

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
31 Mar 1945
19-26 Jun 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 Jan-31 Dec 1973
1 Oct 2001-30 Sep 2003
1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2004

EMBLEM



43 Bombardment Squadron emblem: On a white disc edged in black a white and gray condor with black outlines, rising and grasping in both claws a red aerial bomb with black markings. (Approved, 18 Apr 1942)



43rd Flying Training Squadron emblem approved, 30 May 1973

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Antisubmarine patrols, Dec 1941-Jun 1942; operational and later replacement training unit, 1942-1944. Combat in Western Pacific, 16 Feb-15 Aug 1945.

Conducted undergraduate pilot training, 1972-1977 and 1990-1992.

Flying Training Squadrons Inactivated. With pilot production down dramatically, the command reassessed the need for four flying training squadrons at each UPT base and concluded two would do. Accordingly, on 1 October 1992, ATC inactivated the following units: the 43d and 49th Flying Training Squadrons at Columbus AFB, Mississippi; the 84th and 86th Flying Training

Squadrons at Laughlin AFB, Texas; the 7th and 26th at Vance AFB, Oklahoma; and the 33d at Reese AFB, Texas. That left one T-37 squadron and one T-38 squadron at each UPT wing. As each wing implemented specialized undergraduate pilot training, ATC intended to reactivate one of the squadrons to serve as the T-1A squadron. 1992

Trained Air Force pilots and instructor pilots, 1997.

Pilots Named in Fatal Trainer Crash: The Air Force has released the names of the two pilots killed April 23 when their T-38C crashed at Columbus AFB, Miss. They were Maj Blair Faulkner, 43rd FTS instructor pilot, and 2LT Matthew Emmons, a student pilot in SUPT class 08-14. The aircraft crashed on initial take-off. The last fatal crash at the Mississippi pilot training base was 24 years ago. An accident investigation board is investigating the April 23 crash. 2008

USAF Unit Histories

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.