

45 INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

15 Photographic Technical Unit constituted and activated, 27 Nov 1944
Inactivated, 20 Nov 1945

15 Reconnaissance Technical Squadron constituted, 25 Jan 1952
Activated, 16 Feb 1952

Inactivated 30 Jan 1972

15 Photographic Technical Unit and 15 Reconnaissance Technical Squadron consolidated, 16 Oct 1984. Consolidated organization remained inactive.

Consolidated organization redesignated 45 Intelligence Squadron, 16 Apr 2012
Activated, 27 Jul 2012

STATIONS

Virton, Luxembourg, 27 Nov 1944

France, Jan 1945

Virton, Luxembourg

Furth, Germany, 27 Apr–20 Nov 1945

March AFB, CA, 16 Feb 1952–30 Jan 1972

Langley AFB, VA, 27 Jul 2012

ASSIGNMENTS

XIX Tactical Air Command, 27 Nov 1944

Ninth Air Force, 01 Jul–20 Nov 1945

Strategic Air Command 25 Jan 1952

Fifteenth Air Force, 16 Feb 1952–30 Jan 1972

497 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group, 27 Jul 2012

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Europe, Africa Middle East Theater of Operations

Northern France

Rhineland

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Mar 1959 – 30 May 1960

1 Jan 1970 – 31 May 1972

EMBLEM



15 Reconnaissance Technical Squadron emblem, approved, 6 Nov 1956.



45 Intelligence Squadron emblem: On a disc Azure, an owl affronté Gules, breasted and seven clawed Or, perched upon a cloud Argent, his eyes of the same, bloodshot of the second, iris of the first, pupils Sable, voided of the fourth, emitting from the eyes two lightning bolts descending to dexter and sinister base of the third, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "SCIMUS UT VINCAMUS" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "45 INTELLIGENCE SQ" in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The emblem has historic significance related to the unit's predecessor, the 15 Reconnaissance Technical Squadron. The owl is the wisest of all birds of prey and represents the unit's ability to provide superior intelligence to military leaders and decision makers as they hunt down our nation's adversaries in both daylight and darkness. The owl is firmly perched on a white cloud, signifying its sovereignty in the Air Force domain. The owl's bloodshot eyes demonstrate relentlessness and determination in support of combat operations around the clock. The lightning bolts emanating downward from the eyes symbolize near real time speed and mastery of the electromagnetic spectrum collecting and disseminating intelligence around the globe. The seven claws of the owl represent the seven continents of the earth, illustrating the global reach of the units' intelligence enterprise. (Approved, 6 Nov 1956)

MOTTO

SCIMUS UT VINCAMUS--We Know So That We May Conquer

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

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