

## 305<sup>th</sup> AIR MOBILITY WING



### MISSION

the 305th Air Mobility Wing extends America's global reach by generating, mobilizing and deploying 32 KC-10 and 13 C-17 aircraft to conduct strategic airlift and air refueling missions worldwide. Additionally, the Wing operates two of America's largest strategic aerial ports supporting the delivery of cargo and personnel to combatant commanders abroad. Uniquely, as a result of Joint Base transfer, the 305 AMW directs the operations of two geographically separated airfields--one at McGuire and another at Lakehurst.

### LINEAGE

305<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, Medium established, 20 Dec 1950  
Activated, 2 Jan 1951  
Redesignated 305<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, 1 Jan 1970  
Redesignated 305<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Heavy, 1 Feb 1978  
Redesignated 305<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, 1 Sep 1991  
Redesignated 305<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing, 1 Oct 1994

### STATIONS

MacDill AFB, FL, 2 Jan 1951  
Bunker Hill (later, Grissom) AFB, IN, 1 Jun 1959  
McGuire AFB, NJ, 1 Oct 1994

### ASSIGNMENTS

Second Air Force, 2 Jan 1951  
6<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 10 Feb 1951  
Second Air Force, 1 Jun 1959  
17<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 15 Jul 1959  
19<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 1 Jan 1961  
825<sup>th</sup> Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Sep 1964

42<sup>nd</sup> Air Division, 1 Jan 1970  
40<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 1 Jul 1973  
42<sup>nd</sup> Air Division, 1 Dec 1982  
Eighth Air Force, 16 Jun 1988  
Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Sep 1991  
Twenty-First Air Force, 1 Jul 1993  
Eighteenth Air Force, 1 Oct 2003

### **ATTACHMENTS**

7<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 4 Sep-5 Dec 1953  
5<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 3 Nov 1955-8 Jan 1956 and 7 Jan-8 Mar 1957

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-29, 1951-1953  
KC-97, 1951-1959  
B-47, 1952-1961  
RB-47, 1958  
KC-135, 1959-1993  
B-58, 1961-1970  
TB-58  
EC-135, 1966-1992  
C-141, 1994-2004  
C-12, 1994-1995  
KC-10, 1995  
C-17, 2004

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Elliott Vandevanter, Jr., 2 Jan 1951  
Col James F. Wilson, 17 Jul 1954  
Col Frank A. Kurtz, 14 Feb 1956  
Col Julian M. Bleyer, 27 Jun 1956  
Col Frank L. O'Brien Jr., 24 Feb 1958  
BG Paul K. Carlton, 18 Nov 1963  
BG Gerald W. Johnson, 1 Jul 1965  
Col Howard J. Fry, 1 Jul 1966  
Col Frank L. Voightmann, 24 Jul 1967  
Col Hugh B. Robertson, Jr., 15 Jul 1968  
Col William T. Gentry, 9 Feb 1970  
Col George L. Miller, 5 Jun 1972  
Col Robert L. Nicholl, 10 May 1973  
Col Walter B. Ratliff, 20 Jun 1974  
Col Jerome R. Barnes Jr., 11 Feb 1975  
Col Lyman E. Buzard, 14 May 1976  
Col Donald K. Winston, 5 Aug 1977

Col Richard S. Wallace, 6 Apr 1979  
Col Lawrence F. McNeil, 26 Feb 1981  
Col John R. Farrington, 1 Jun 1982  
Col Norman R. Butler, 5 Oct 1984  
Col Howard L. Kravetz, 5 Feb 1985  
Col Gary R. Ebert, 15 Jan 1987  
Col Robert G. Stampfli, 8 Feb 1988  
Col Russell W. Fitch Jr., 22 Jun 1989  
Col Russell A. Rinklin, Jr., 22 Jan 1991  
Col Marc L. Drinkhahn, 31 May 1992  
BG George A. Gray III, 1 Oct 1994  
Col James S. Parker (acting), 15 Dec 1994  
Col Stephen R. Lorenz, 3 Jan 1995  
BG Craig P. Rasmussen, 12 Aug 1996  
BG John D. Becker, 29 Jun 1998  
BG Richard A. Mentemeyer, 24 May 1999  
BG Teresa M. Peterson, 1 Mar 2002  
BG Jimmie C. Jackson, Jr., 16 Jul 2003  
BG Balan R. Ayyar Oct 2007  
Col Frederick Martin  
Col Jacqueline D. Breeden

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

Grenada, 1983

## **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1954-1 Mar 1957

1 Jul 1972- 30 Jun 1973

1 Jul 1973-30 Jun 1974

1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1977

1 Jul 1979- 30 Jun 1980

1 Jun 1990-31 May 1992

1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 1999

1 Jul 1999-30 Jun 2000  
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2001  
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2002  
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003  
1 Jul 2003-30 Jun 2004

### **Bestowed Honors**

Authorized to display honors earned by the 305 Bombardment Group prior to 2 Jan 1951

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

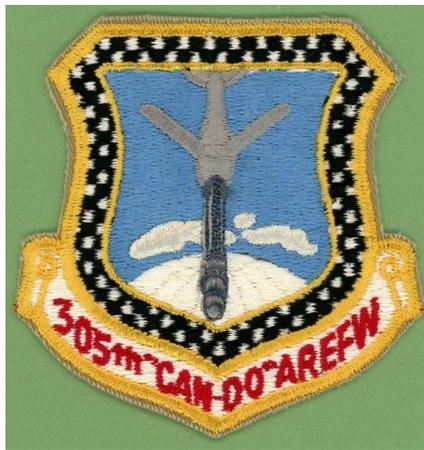
World War II  
Air Offensive, Europe, Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe  
Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
France, 4 Apr 1943  
Germany, 11 Jan 1944

### **EMBLEM**





Approved, 15 Jun 1994

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Conducted strategic bombardment training, Feb 1951-Feb 1953. Added a refueling mission in Jul 1951. Converted to jet bombers in late 1952. Deployed overseas three times, once to England (Sep-Dec 1953) and twice to North Africa (Nov 1955-Jan 1956 and Jan-Mar 1957), in keeping with its mission of global bombardment and air refueling operations.

With the fulfillment of equipment and personnel requirements at the 43rd, including the arrival of the first TB-58A, 55-670, in August, 1960, the second bomb wing to receive the B-58 became the 305th at Bunker Hill AFB, IN. Equipping the 305th BW had been initiated in December, 1960. Following official instigation of the reorganization of the unit on January 9, 1961, and its attainment of wing status on February 1, the first aircraft, 59-2461, nicknamed Hoosier Hustler was flown to Bunker Hill AFB on May 11 by Col. Frank O'Brien, 305th commander, Lt. Col. George Cohlma, and Maj. Bill Williams. Two months later, the first 305th-assigned TB-58A, 55-664, arrived. In August, 1962, the wing was declared combat ready and in September, it went on alert for the first time.

The wing operated a B-58 combat crew training school, Aug 1965-Dec 1969, and gained a post-attack command control system (PACCS) mission in mid-1966. The wing from Jan 1970 concentrated on air refueling and PACCS support. From the early 1970s, supported worldwide task forces by deploying tankers to Europe, Alaska, Greenland, and the Pacific. Provided air-refueling support to units involved in the invasion of Grenada (Oct 1983). From Aug 1990 to Jun 1991 deployed personnel and aircraft to provide refueling support for air operations to and in Southwest Asia. Wing also delivered food to the Kurds in Northern Iraq, Apr-May 1991. Lost its PACCS mission

in May 1992. No flying operations, Oct 1993-Oct 1994. On 1 Oct 1994, replaced 438 Airlift Wing and absorbed that wing's personnel and aircraft. Trained for global strategic airlift, airdrop, and air refueling missions. The wing deployed personnel, tankers, and transports to support combat operations in Afghanistan (2001) and Iraq (2003). In 2005, the wing supported humanitarian relief operations for the victims of a tsunami in the Indian Ocean and Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 11 Apr 2011

Updated: 13 Jan 2013

#### 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.

Unit yearbook. *305 Bombardment Wing, M, Can Do! 1954*. Army and Navy Publishing Co., Baton Rouge, LA. 1954.