

## 310 SPACE WING



### MISSION

The mission of the 310 is to provide command and control for Department of Defense and Department of Commerce satellites, to support the Air Operations Center and COMSPACEAF, to support testing and evaluation of space assets, and to provide security for terrestrial based 14th Air Force assets. The 310 units support operations for multiple satellite systems -- the Navstar Global Positioning System (GPS), the Defense Support Program (DSP) and the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP).

The wing is composed of 16 units, under the 310 Operations Group and 310 Mission Support Group, that support various military and other government organizations including, but not limited to, the Department of Commerce, Air Force Space Command, Air Combat Command, Air Force Cyber Command, the Space Innovation and Development Center, 14th Air Force, 50th Space Wing, 21st Space Wing, and 460th Space Wing.

### LINEAGE

310 Bombardment Group (Medium) established, 28 Jan 1942

Activated, 15 Mar 1942

Redesignated 310 Bombardment Group, Medium, 20 Aug 1943

Inactivated, 12 Sep 1945

Redesignated 310 Bombardment Group, Light, and activated in the Reserve, 27 Dec 1946

Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

310 Bombardment Wing, Medium, 15 Mar 1952

Activated, 28 Mar 1952

Redesignated 310 Strategic Aerospace Wing, 1 Mar 1962

Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Jun 1965

310 Bombardment Group, Light and 310 Strategic Aerospace Wing, consolidated 31 Jan 1984

Redesignated 310 Training and Test Wing, 29 Aug 1991

Activated, 1 Sep 1991

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1993

Redesignated, 310 Space Group, 22 Aug 1997

Activated in the Reserve, 1 Sep 1997

Redesignated 310 Space Wing, 7 Mar 2008

### **STATIONS**

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 15 Mar 1942

Jackson AAB, MS, 15 Mar 1942

Key Field, MS, c. 25 Apr 1942

Columbia AAB, SC, 17 May 1942

Walterboro, SC, 14 Aug 1942

Greenville AAB, SC, 18 Sep-17 Oct 1942 (ground echelon)

Hardwick, England, Sep-Nov 1942 (air echelon)

Mediouna, French Morocco, 18 Nov 1942

Telergma, Algeria, 21 Dec 1942

Berteaux, Algeria, 1 Jan 1943

Dar el Koudia, Tunisia, 6 Jun 1943

Menzel Temime, Tunisia, 5 Aug 1943

Philippeville, Algeria, 10 Nov 1943

Ghisonaccia, Corsica, 10 Dec 1943

Fano, Italy, 7 Apr 1945

Pomigliano, Italy, 15 Aug-12 Sep 1945

Bedford AAFld, MA, 27 Dec 1946-27 Jun 1949

Forbes AFB, KS, 28 Mar 1952

Smoky Hill (later, Schilling) AFB, KS, 4 Sep 1952-25 Jun 1965

Vandenberg AFB, CA, 1 Sep 1991-1 Jul 1993

Falcon (later, Schriever) AFB, CO, 1 Sep 1997

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

III Bomber Command, 15 Mar 1942

XII Bomber Command, 2 May 1942

7 Fighter (later, 47 Bombardment) Wing, 18 Feb 1943

XII Fighter Command, 3 Nov 1943

57 Bombardment Wing, 20 Mar 1944

Twelfth Air Force, 10 Aug 1945

AAF Service Command, Mediterranean Theater of Operations, 15 Aug-12 Sep 1945

First Air Force, 27 Dec 1946

3 Bombardment Wing (later, 3 Air Division), 17 Oct 1947-27 Jun 1949

Fifteenth Air Force, 28 Mar 1952

802 Air Division, 28 May 1952  
819 Air (later, 819 Strategic Aerospace) Division, 20 Jun 1960  
22 Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Jul 1962-25 Jun 1965  
Twentieth Air Force, 1 Sep 1991-1 Jul 1993  
Tenth Air Force, 1 Sep 1997

### **ATTACHMENTS**

7 Fighter Wing, 1-17 Feb 1943  
21 Air Division, 28 Mar 1952-4 Sep 1952  
7 Air Division, 10 Mar-8 Jun 1955 and 3 Oct 1956-9 Jan 1957

### **WEAPON SYSTEM**

B-25, 1942-1945  
T-6  
T-11, 1947-1949  
B-29, 1952-1954  
KC-97, 1952-1963  
B-47, 1954-1965  
Atlas F, 1952-1965  
KC-135, 1964-1965  
Tested Minuteman III, 1991-unkn  
Tested Peacekeeper, 1991-unkn

### **COMMANDERS**

LTC William E. Lee, 15 Mar 1942  
LTC Flint Garrison Jr., 21 Apr 1942  
Cpt James A. Plant, 19 May 1942  
Col Anthony G. Hunter, c. 14 Jun 1942  
Col Peter H. Remington, 6 Oct 1944  
Col William M. Bower, Jul 1945  
Unkn, Aug-12 Sep 1945  
LTC H. E. Jones, 27 Dec 1946  
Maj Charles Collins, 1948-unkn  
None (not manned), 28 Mar-4 Apr 1952  
Col Robert J. Nolan, 5 Apr 1952  
Col John H. de Russy, 28 Nov 1952  
Col Robert J. Nolan, 12 Feb 1953  
Col John H. deRussy, 10 Mar 1953  
Col Willard W. Wilson, 16 Mar 1954  
Col Robert E. Thacker, 27 Mar 1954  
Col Willard W. Wilson, 6 May 1954  
Col John H. de Russy, 28 May 1954  
Col Murray A. Bywater, 9 Aug 1955  
Col Delmore P. Wood, by Aug 1955

Col Robert E. Thacker, 17 Aug 1955  
Col Selmon W. Wells, 20 Aug 1955  
Col Delmore P. Wood, 20 Jun 1956  
Col Bryson R. Bailey, 20 Sep 1956  
Col Jean B. Miller Jr., 13 Jan 1958  
Col Walter Y. Lucas, 11 Apr 1959  
Col James C. Robinson Jr., Jun 1960  
Col George Y. Jumper, 20 Jun 1960  
Col James C. Robinson Jr., 25 Jan 1961  
Col Jack W. Hayes Jr., 3 Feb 1961  
Col Edison F. Arnold, 15 Jul 1962  
Col Roy C. Crompton, 22 May 1964  
Col John F. Scanlon, 14-25 Jun 1965  
Col Michael J. Roggero, 1 Sep 1991-unk  
Colonel Roscoe L.O. Griffin  
Col Jeffrey Ansted  
Col Jeffrey T. Mineo 9 Jan 2011

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Rome-Arno

Southern France

North Apennines

Rhineland

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

Benevento, Italy, 27 Aug 1943

Ora, Italy, 10 Mar 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1956-1 Jan 1959

1 Sep 1991-15 May 1993  
4 Sep 1997-1 Nov 1998  
1 Oct 2000-30 Sep 2002  
1 Oct 2002-30 Jul 2004  
1 Aug 2004-31 Jul 2006  
1 Aug 2006-31 Jul 2008

## EMBLEM



310 Bombardment Group emblem

310 Training and Test Wing emblem: On a blue shield between two yellow 45-degree triangles with the long sides facing each other and placed diagonally from upper right to lower left, three white stars; in the upper triangle a white mailed right hand grasping a red lightning flash and in the lower triangle a white dove in flight to base carrying a green and black olive branch in its beak, hand and dove outlined in black; in a row across the bottom of shield ten small white stars; the shield and triangles bordered with black, edged with white against the blue. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The shield is symbolic of the unit's strength and honor. The mailed fist and the lightning flash denote war; the dove and olive twig, peace. The three large stars and the ten smaller ones allude to the numerical designation of the unit. The colors used incorporate the colors of the three bombardment squadrons and one air refueling squadron of the wing.



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## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

Ground echelon sailed direct North Africa from USA. Detachment of Air echelon sailed on Queen Mary 5 Sep. 42 for UK arriving Hardwick 12 Dec. 42 and left in three detachments for North Africa 5, 11 & 25 Nov. 42. Air echelon flew a/c via northern ferry route to UK but delayed by bad weather. First a/c arrived early Oct. 42 and last in Dec. 42. First a/c flew out to North Africa 11 Nov. 42 and remainder later in month. A few unserviceable a/c did not leave until early 43.

Trained, 1942, in the U.S. with B-25s for overseas duty. Air echelon moved to England, Sep-Nov 1942 and continued training. Ground echelon sailed to north Africa in Nov 1942, where they were joined by the aircrews and aircraft.

Engaged primarily in support and interdiction operations in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, Corsica, Sardinia, and southern France. Also flew some missions to Austria and Yugoslavia. Attacked Axis harbors and shipping in north Africa, Dec 1942-May 1943. Bombed airdromes, landing grounds, and gun emplacements on Pantelleria, Lampedusa, and Sicily, May-Jun 1943. Supported the Allied landing at Salerno in Sep 1943. Moved to Corsica, Dec 1943-Mar 1944. Assisted the Allied drive toward Rome, Jan-Jun 1944. Supported the invasion of southern France, Aug. Between

Aug 1943 and Apr 1945, the group struck German communications in Italy, including bridges, rail lines, marshalling yards, viaducts, tunnels, and road junctions. Also dropped propaganda leaflets behind enemy lines. Earned a Distinguished Unit Citation for a mission to Italy on 27 Aug 1943, when, despite persistent attacks by enemy interceptors and antiaircraft artillery, the group accurately bombed marshalling yards at Benevento and also destroyed a number of enemy planes. Earned a second DUC for another mission in Italy on 10 Mar 1945 when the group, maintaining a compact formation in the face of enemy antiaircraft fire, bombed the railroad bridge at Ora, a vital link in the German supply line. Inactivated in Italy in Sep 1945.

Activated in Dec 1946 and trained in the Reserve until inactivation. Received B-29 bombardment training from the 90th Bombardment Wing, Apr-Aug 1952 and provided bombardment replacement training to the 40th Bombardment Wing, Feb-May 1953.

Converted to B-47s in 1954. Deployed at Upper Heyford RAF Station, England, 10 Mar-8 Jun 1955, and at RAF Greenham Common, England, 3 Oct 1956-9 Jan 1957.

Gained a strategic missile squadron in Apr 1961. First Atlas missiles went on alert in Sep 1962. In Sep 1991, assumed the ICBM testing and training mission from the Strategic Missile Center at Vandenberg AFB, CA.

After removal of ICBMs from alert status at the end of the Cold War, continued to train Minuteman crews and to test accuracy and reliability of Minuteman and Peacekeeper missiles. Assisted in testing the Global Positioning System (GPS), Apr-May 1992.

310 Space Group Activates New Unit The Air Force Reserve's only space unit added another mission to its responsibilities with the formation of a new organization in January. The 310 Space Group at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., activated the Headquarters Reserve National Security Space Institute Jan. 7. The institute is an associate unit to the active duty's National Security Space Institute. The NSSI is the Department of Defense's focal point for conducting courses in space professional education, warfighter training (space mission areas), advanced space training and space familiarization as part of the Air Force and national space professional strategy. "The 310 Space Group is uniquely qualified to perform this mission," said Col. Jeff Ansted, group commander. "Our group is made up of units that run the gamut in space missions. We have space aggressors, testers, security forces and communications units in addition to people performing traditional roles as space operators executing missile warning, navigation, weather and Joint Space Operations Center missions." With a staff of 11 full-time and 44 traditional Reservists, the new unit will further enhance NSSI skill sets by bringing additional, unique civilian and military experience to course research and development, Colonel Ansted said. "Standing up the Reserve associate unit will give us the right expertise to further the development of our advanced courses," said Lt. Col. Frank Gallagher, NSSI commandant. "Most active-duty space operators have only three years experience in a particular mission area. With the Reserve associate unit, that number could triple." "Our new unit will bring unique capabilities to Air Force Space Command and the NSSI: a surge capacity to complete a lot of course development across a drill weekend, additional space expertise from the civilian

sector, long-term continuity and a firm knowledge base,” said Col. Susan Rhodes, the first commandant of the Reserve NSSI. With the activation of the Reserve institute, the 310 SG now comprises 10 units — located at Schriever, Peterson AFB, Colo., Buckley AFB, Colo., and Vandenberg AFB, Calif. — with more than 500 members. 2006

In most households, younger children depend on their older siblings for help until they are able to perform their share of chores. Things are no different with Air Force Reserve Command’s 310 Space Group at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo. As it gets bigger, the space group will take on more work and rely less on its older sibling, the 302nd Airlift Wing at nearby Peterson AFB. The 310 SG’s growth spurt recently resulted in a new facility, several additional people and an increase in mission responsibilities. All are indicators that the unit is getting ever closer to transforming into a formidable wing and a prized piece on the Department of Defense’s chessboard. The October unit training assembly marked the first steps toward the beginning of the new 45th Space Wing Reserve associate unit under the 310 SG. “We see the mission at Buckley AFB in Aurora, Colo., as a force multiplier by allowing the 310 SG to begin taking care of its own needs for medical and mission personnel flight support and thereby allowing the 302nd Airlift Wing to focus back onto its own needs,” said Col. Jeffery J. Ansted, 310 SG commander. “The 310 SG has received great support from the 302nd over the years; however, as the group has grown from three units to 10, we have overstayed our welcome.” Col. Gregory Ratterree, 310 SG deputy commander, said the group anticipates a one-year delay for the official standup of the 45th Space Warning Launch Operations Unit. “We are looking at a green light for the initial hiring of 160 traditional Reservists and air reserve technician positions in the meantime over the next year,” he said. Reserve units at Buckley AFB will also be available to meet some of the air expeditionary force demands for Air Force Space Command, said Colonel Ansted. “It is truly a win-win for everyone involved,” he said. 2007

Air Force Reserve Command recently expanded the critical role Reservists play in space operations with the establishment of its first space wing at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo. The command activated the 310 Space Wing March 7, and an official ceremony took place April 4 at Peterson AFB, Colo. The new organization is the result of an expansion of the 310 Space Group, which was already located at Schriever. Activation of the wing was a landmark event in the Air Force’s long and proud history, said Col. Jeff Ansted, 310 SW commander. Colonel Ansted served as commander of the space group prior to formation of the wing. “Our members have worked very hard over the past 15 years to provide unrivaled support in operating and defending our space systems,” he said. “By increasing our unit’s mission and responsibilities, the Air Force is again acknowledging that space is a vital component to fighting and winning our nation’s wars.” The new organization comprises 16 subordinate units located at Schriever AFB, Peterson AFB and Buckley AFB in Colorado, and Vandenberg AFB, Calif. Its mission is to provide its gaining major command, Air Force Space Command, with experienced people in seven space squadrons to man spacebased systems for weather observation, space surveillance, early missile warning and navigation. The 310’s heritage dates back to World War II when it began as the 310 Bombardment Group on March 15, 1942. The unit flew B-25 Mitchell bombers in support of operations in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, Sardinia, France, Austria and Yugoslavia. The group



perfected "skip bombing" techniques against bridge, airborne, rail yard and marshaling yard targets. After several deactivations, the 310 was activated again Sept. 4, 1997, as a space group. The group was created from its original squadron, the 7th Space Operations Squadron. Over the past 10-plus years, it has grown rapidly to meet the Air Force Reserve's expanding role in space operations. In addition to the wing, Colonel Ansted also officially activated the 310 Operations Group and 310 Mission Support Group. 2008

2008 - PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. (AFPN) - Air Force Reserve Command officials stood up its first space wing, the 310 Space Wing, April 4 at Peterson Air Force Base. The 310 SW expanded from a group to a wing March 7 and was officially recognized at the ceremony attended by Gen. C. Robert Kehler, the commander of Air Force Space Command, and officiated by Lt. Gen. John A. Bradley, the chief of Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command. "This represents the culmination of 15 years of Air Force Reserve participation in the operation and defense of America's space assets," said Col. Jeffrey Ansted, the 310 SW commander. "I think we've lived up to our vision as an unrivaled wingman to our regular Air Force counterparts," he said. "We've also had the opportunity to take the lead in certain space operations, like an unrivaled wingman should."

Reservists providing space-operations capability is not new to the Air Force, but the 310 SW, which reports to 10th Air Force, is the first AFRC wing-level unit to carry out missions in America's highest frontier. The 310 SW provides its gaining major command, Air Force Space Command, with experienced people in seven space squadrons to man space-based systems including Defense Meteorological satellites for weather observation, Midcourse Space Experiment satellites to conduct space surveillance, the Space-Based Infrared System for early missile warning and Global Positioning System satellites used for navigation. "The work you've done alongside your active-duty counterparts has benefited our entire Air Force." General Bradley said to AFRC's newest wing. "Everything you do has an impact on every Soldier, Sailor, Airman and Marine in combat operations."

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

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