

312th AERONAUTICAL SYSTEMS GROUP



MISSION

The 312th Aeronautical Systems Group has responsibility for program execution to develop, acquire, field and modernize capabilities; and support for life-cycle management of the Fighter Attack portfolio for the United States and coalition partners. Unit responsibilities also include identifying, coordinating and implementing horizontal integration/capability planning across weapons systems in support of the Global Strike and Global Persistent Attack concept of operations.

LINEAGE

312th Bombardment Group (Light) constituted, 28 Jan 1942

Activated, 15 Mar 1942

Redesignated 312th Bombardment Group (Dive), Jul 1942

Redesignated 312th Bombardment Group (Light), Dec 1943

Redesignated 312th Bombardment Group, Heavy, Jul 1945

Inactivated, 6 Jan 1946

Redesignated, 312th Bombardment Group, Very Heavy

Activated, 30 Jul 1947

Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

Redesignated 312th Fighter-Bomber Group, 29 Jul 1954

Activated, 1 Oct 1954

Inactivated, 8 Oct 1957

Redesignated 312th Tactical Fighter Group, 31 Jul 1985

F-16 Systems Group established, 23 Nov 2004

Activated, 18 Jan 2005

312th Tactical Fighter Group and F-16 Systems Group consolidated, 23 Jun 2006

Redesignated 312th Aeronautical Systems Group, 14 Jul 2006

STATIONS

Bowman Field, KY, 15 Mar 1942
Will Rogers Field, OK, Jun 1942
Hunter Field, GA, Aug 1942
DeRiddcr AAB, LA, 20 Feb 1943
Rice AAFld, CA, 13 Apr 1943
Salinas AAB, CA, 15 Aug-24 Oct 1943
Gusap, New Guinea, 1 Jan 1944
Hollandia, New Guinea, Jun 1944
Tanauan, Leyte, 19 Nov 1944
Mangaldan, Luzon, 10 Feb 1945
Floridablanca, Luzon, 19 Apr 1945
Okinawa, 13 Aug-13 Dec 1945
Vancouver, WA, 3-6 Jan 1946
Ellington Field, TX, 30 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
Clovis AFB, NM, 1 Oct 1954
Clovis AFB (later Cannon AFB), NM, 1954-1957
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, 18 Jan 2005

ASSIGNMENTS

III Air Support Command, 15 Mar 1942
III Bomber Command, 16 Mar 1942
XII Bomber Command, 2 May 1942
III Ground Air Support Command, 10 Aug 1942
Desert Training Center, Army Ground Forces, 20 Feb 1943
III Air Support Command, 31 May 1943
V Fighter Command, 19 Nov 1943
V Bomber Command, 16 Jan 1944
Seventh Air Force, 18 Oct-13 Dec 1945
Vancouver Barracks, WA, 3-6 Jan 1946
44th Bombardment Wing (later, 44th Air Division, Bomb), 30 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
312th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1 Oct 1954-8 Oct 1957
Fighter Attack Systems (later, 312th Aeronautical Systems) Wing: 18 Jan 2005

WEAPON SYSTEMS

V-72, 1942-1943
A-24, 1942-1943
A-36, 1943
P-40, 1943-1944
A-20, 1944-1945
B-32 1945
F-86, 1955-1956
F-100, 1956-1957

COMMANDERS

Col Robert H. Strauss, 1 Sep 1942
LTC Selmon W. Wells, 10 Mar 1945
Col Frank R. Cook, 25 Aug 1945-unkn
LTC Charles A. Appel, 1954
LTC John E. Vogt, 2 Feb 1955
Col Emmett S. Davis, 8 Jul 1955
Col Arlie J. Blood, 3 Jun-8 Oct 1957

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

American Theater
Air Offensive, Japan
New Guinea
Western Pacific
Leyte
Luzon

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
Formosa, 25 Mar~4 Apr 1945

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

EMBLEM



312th Bombardment Group, Light

312th Fighter Bomber Group emblem: Azure an eagle volant or, carrying with his talons a futuramicbomb argent, fire exhaust proper, and a branch of olive vert. (Approved, 30 Nov 1956)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Trained with A-24, A-31, and P-40 aircraft prior to moving to Southwest Pacific in Nov 1943. Began operations in New Guinea, flying patrol and escort missions. Following conversion to light bombers, attacked airfields, troop concentrations, gun positions, bridges, and warehouses on the northern and western coasts of New Guinea. Moved to Philippines in Nov 1944 and provided support for ground troops and struck airfields and transportation facilities. Received a DUC for actions against Japanese butanol plants in Formosa, 25 Mar-4 Apr 1945. Began transition to B-32s, and made test flights over Luzon and Formosa in Jun 1945. Moved to Okinawa in Aug 1945 and sailed for the US in Dec. Trained in the Reserve, 1947-1949.

The group was comprised of four squadrons, the 386th (Red), 387th (Yellow), 388th (Blue) and 477th (Green) and by late 1956, the group had re-equipped with the F-100D. The unit markings consisted of a wedge shaped design on the fin in the squadron color bordered with White or Black. No squadron insignia was carried and nose bands were only carried by Flight Leaders, Squadron Commanders, etc.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 29 Mar 2011

Updated:

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. *312th Fighter-Bomber Wing. Clovis AFB, NM, 1955.*