

## 313<sup>th</sup> TACTICAL AIRLIFT GROUP



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

313<sup>th</sup> Transport Group constituted, 28 Jan 1942  
Activated, 2 Mar 1942  
Redesignated 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, Jul 1942  
Inactivated, 15 Nov 1945  
Activated, 30 Sep 1946  
Redesignated 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group, (Heavy), Jul 1948  
Redesignated 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group (Special), Feb 1949  
Inactivated, 18 Sep 1949  
Redesignated 313<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Group (Medium)  
Activated 1 Feb 1953  
Inactivated, 8 Jun 1955  
Redesignated 313<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Group, 24 Aug 1978  
Activated 15 Sep 1978

#### STATIONS

Daniel Field, GA, 2 Mar 1942  
Bowman Field, KY, 21 Jun 1942  
Florence, SC, 4 Aug 1942  
Maxton, NC, 13 Dec 1942-24 Apr 1943  
Oujda, French Morocco, 9 May 1943  
Kairouan, Tunisia, 16 Jun 1943  
Sciacca, Sicily, 23 Aug 1943  
Trapani/Milo Airfield, Sicily, 3 Oct 1943  
Folkingham, England, 4 Feb 1944

Achiet, France, 28 Feb-5 Aug 1945  
Baer Field, IN, 14 Sep-15 Nov 1945  
Tulln AB, Austria, 30 Sep 1946-25 Jun 1947  
Langley Field, VA, 25 Jun 1947  
Bergstrom Field, TX, 15 Jul 1947-22 Oct 1948  
Fassberg, Germany, 9 Nov 1948-18 Sep 1949  
Mitchel AFB, NY, 1 Feb 1953  
Sewart AFB, TN, 2 Oct 1953-8 Jun 1955  
RAF Mildenhall, England

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Twelfth Air Force  
Ninth Air Force  
United States Air Forces in Europe  
Tactical Air Command  
United States Air Forces in Europe  
Tactical Air Command

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

C-47  
C-53  
C-46  
C-47  
C-54  
C-82  
C-119

### **COMMANDERS**

Cpt Fred W. Nelson, 7 Mar 1942  
Col James J. Roberts Jr., 26 Jun 1942  
LTC William A. Filer, 18 Mar 1945  
LTC Paul W. Stephens, 26 Mar 1945  
LTC Carl W. Campbell, c. Aug-15 Nov 1945  
Col Clinton W. Davies, 30 Sep 1946  
LTC Walter R. Washburn Jr., 15 Aug 1947  
Col Frank P. Bostrom, 3 Dec 1947  
LTC Conway S. Hall, unkn-18 Sep 49  
Col Benton R. Baldwin, Feb 1953  
Col Steward H. Nichols, 1 Oct 1953-8 Jun 55  
Col Harry W. Williamson, Jr., 15 Sep 78  
Col Edward V. McGee, 4 Jun 79  
Col Bruce F. Kolofske, 25 Jun 82  
Col Clifford A. Hodge, 11 Jul 85  
Col David O. Williams, 31 Oct 85

Col Elmer C. Lavender II, 29 Mar 88

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

American Theater

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Central Europe

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

Sicily, 11 Jul 1943

France, [6-7] Jun 1944

#### **EMBLEM**

Per bend azure and gules, the silhouette of a stylized winged aircraft or, charged with a mullet of the first between six mullets, three and three of the third. (Approved, 3 Feb 1943)

#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Trained for the invasion of Sicily and entered combat on the night of 9 Jul 1943 by dropping paratroops near Gela. Although attacked by ground and naval forces while carrying reinforcements to Sicily on the night of 11 Jul, the group completed the mission and received a DUG for the performance. Transported supplies and evacuated wounded in the Mediterranean area until late in Aug when the group moved to Sicily for the invasion of Italy. Dropped paratroops of 82d Airborne Division south of Salerno on the night of 13 Sep 1943 and flew a reinforcement mission the following night. Resumed transport activities in the theater until Feb 1944, and then joined Ninth AF in England. Prepared for the invasion of France and on D-Day 1944, released paratroops near Picauville; dropped reinforcements over the same area on 7 Jun, being awarded second DUG for its part in the invasion. Dropped paratroops near Arnheim and Nijmegen on 17 Sep during the airborne attack on Holland and released gliders carrying reinforcements to that area on 18 and 23 Sep. received C-46 for the airborne assault across the Rhine; dropped paratroops of 17th Airborne Division near Wesel on 24 Mar. When not engaged

in airborne operations the group evacuated wounded personnel and ex-prisoners of war, and also transported cargo such as ammunition, gasoline, medical supplies, and food until after V-E Day.

Moved to Germany, Oct-Nov 1948, and joined United States Air Forces in Europe for participation in the Berlin airlift. Transported cargo such as coal, food, and medicine into West Berlin from Nov 1948 to Sep 1949.

The group was formed in January 1976 as the controlling element for C-130 Hercules rotations at Mildenhall, and was subordinate to the Ramstein-based 322nd Airlift Division until the latter was disbanded in 1991.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Updated:

#### Sources

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

Unit yearbook. *Sewart AFB, 1954, Home of the 314<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Wing*. Army and Navy Publishing Co, Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1954.