

366 OPERATIONS GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

366 Fighter Group established, 24 May 1943

Activated, 1 Jun 1943

Inactivated, 20 Aug 1946

Redesignated 366 Fighter-Bomber Group, 15 Nov 1952

Activated, 1 Jan 1953

Inactivated, 25 Sep 1957

Redesignated 366 Tactical Fighter Group, 31 Jul 1985

Redesignated 366 Operations Group and activated, 1 Mar 1992

STATIONS

Richmond AAB, VA, 1 Jun 1943

Bluethenthal Field, NC, 9 Aug 1943

Richmond AAB, VA, 6 Dec 1943

Camp Myles Standish, MA, 17-28 Dec 1943

Membury, England, 10 Jan 1944

Thrupton, England, 1 Mar 1944

St. Pierre du Mont, France, 17 Jun 1944

Dreaux/Vermouillet, France, 24 Aug 1944

Laon/Couvron, France, 8 Sep 1944

Asch, Belgium, 19 Nov 1944

Munster/Handorf, Germany, 11 Apr 1945

Bayreuth/Bindlach, Germany, 25 Jun 1945

Fritzlar, Germany, 14 Sep 1945-20 Aug 1946

Alexandria (later, England) AFB, LA, 1 Jan 1953-25 Sep 1957

Mountain Home AFB, ID, 1 Mar 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

First Air Force, 24 May 1943
I Fighter Command, 1 Jun 1943
Ninth Air Force, 8 Jan 1944
IX Air Support Command, 15 Feb 1944
IX Tactical Air Command, 5 May 1944
XXIX Tactical Air Command (Prov), 1 Oct 1944
IX Tactical Air Command, 22 Oct 1944
IX Fighter Command, 28 Jan 1945
XIX Tactical Air Command, 28 Jun 1945
XII Tactical Air Command, 4 Jul 1945-20 Aug 1946
366 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1 Jan 1953-25 Sep 1957
366 Wing (later, 366 Fighter Wing), 1 Mar 1992

ATTACHMENTS

Philadelphia Air Defense Wing, 1 Jun-20 Nov 1943
XXIX Tactical Air Command, 28 Jan-21 Jun 1945

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-47, 1943-1946
F-51, 1953
F-86, 1953-1955
F-84, 1954-1957
F-15, 1992
F-16, 1992
EF-111, 1992-1993
KC-135, 1992-2002
B-52, 1992-1994
B-1, 1994-2002
EA-6, 2004

COMMANDERS

Maj Morris C. Crossen, 1 Jun 1943
Col Dyke F. Meyer, 11 Jul 1943
Lt Col James P. Tipton, 19 Apr 1944
Lt Col Donald K. Bennett, 30 Apr 1944
Col Harold N. Holt, 22 May 1944
Col Ansel J. Wheeler, 28 Apr 1945
Col Clarence T. Edwinston, May 1946-20 Aug 1946
Col Harold J. Whiteman, by Jan 1953
Lt Col Carroll B. McElroy, 9 Jul 1953

Col Timothy F. O'Keefe, 8 Aug 1953
Col Gerald J. Dix, 1 Sep 1954
Col Clyde B. Slocumb Jr., 16 Feb 1955-25 Sep 1957
Col Jerrold K. Callen, 1 Mar 1992
Col Robin E. Scott, 12 Jul 1993
Col John J. Catton Jr., 20 Jun 1994
Lt Col Jeffrey A. Remington, 28 Aug 1995
Col Douglas M. Fraser, 28 Jul 1997
Col Dennis A. Rea, 15 Jan 1999
Col William F. Andrews, 8 Aug 2000
Col David L. Goldfein, 16 Aug 2002
Col William E. Schaal Jr., 13 Jul 2004
Col Christopher Sage

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

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

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
Normandy, 11 Jul 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Mar 1992-28 Feb 1994
1 Jun 1996-31 May 1998
1 Jun 2001-31 May 2002

Citations in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army

6 Jun-30 Sep 1944
1 Oct-17 Dec 1944
18 Dec 1944-15 Jan 1945

Belgian Fourragere

EMBLEM



Group will use the wing emblem with the group designation in the scroll.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Group trained in P-47s in preparation for overseas duty. Entered combat from England in March 1944 with fighter sweeps over the Bayeaux-St. Aubin area of France. Participated in attacks on targets in France, Belgium, and Germany in preparation for the invasion of the Continent. Flew fighter sweeps over Normandy on 6 June 1944; targets included motor vehicle convoys, buildings, and gun emplacements. Moved to the Continent soon after D-Day.

Received a DUC for three missions flown in support of ground forces on 11 July 1944: on a mission to destroy pillboxes near St. Lo, Normandy, France, discovered and destroyed portion of an enemy tank column unknown to Allied infantry; after rearming, the group returned to attack the tank column and prevented the enemy from accomplishing their mission. During the third mission, despite heavy rainfall, successfully attacked another Panzer battalion from minimum altitude. Group also supported Allied ground forces during the breakthrough at St. Lo in July 1944. In August 1944 attacked tanks, trucks, and troop concentrations as enemy retreated; provided armed reconnaissance for advancing Allied armored columns. During September 1944, attacked flak positions near Eindhoven during airborne landing in Holland; bombed enemy communications and transportation lines in western Germany.

Flew armed reconnaissance missions over Battle of the Bulge during December 1944-January 1945; group flew 600 sorties from 17-27 December 1944 that resulted in the destruction of 43 enemy aircraft, 37 tanks, 328 trucks, 18 armored vehicles, four gun positions, and 15 half-tracks. Provided cover for VII Corps in January 1945 and during action destroyed over 1,000 enemy vehicles. Flew

missions against enemy transportation systems including motor vehicles, bridges, trains, railway bridges, and marshalling yards during February and March 1945. Moved to Germany in April 1945. On group's last mission of the war, attacked harbors at Kiel and Flensburg on 3 May 1945. Served in occupational status in Germany from May 1945 until group inactivated.

In January 1953 assumed a tactical air support mission. Group's squadrons became first TAC units to perform six-month TDY rotations with NATO at Aviano AB, Italy, with rotations continuing until group inactivated in September 1957.

Upon activation in 1992, assumed control of 366 Wing's operational units. Deployed assets to Southwest Asia throughout the 1990s support to Operation SOUTHERN WATCH; elements participated in Operations PROVIDE COMFORT I and PROVIDE COMFORT II in Turkey. Group's squadrons directly participated in Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and NOBLE EAGLE following the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit yearbook. *Alexandria AFB, LA, 366 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1954. Army and Navy Publishing Co, Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1954*