

405 AIR EXPEDITIONARY GROUP

MISSION

LINEAGE

405 Bombardment Group (Dive) constituted, 4 Feb 1943

Activated, 1 Mar 1943

Redesignated 405 Fighter-Bomber Group, Aug 1943

Redesignated 405 Fighter Group, May 1944

Inactivated, 29 Oct 1945

Redesignated 405 Fighter-Bomber Group

Activated, 1 Dec 1952

Redesignated 405 Tactical Training Group, 31 July 1985 (Remained inactive)

Redesignated 405 Expeditionary Operations Group and converted to provisional status, 4 Dec 2001

Redesignated 405 Air Expeditionary Group, 21 April 2010

STATIONS

Drew Field, FL, 1 Mar 1943

Walterboro AAFld, SC, 14 Sep 1943-14 Feb 1944

Christchurch, England, 7 Mar-22 Jun 1944

Picauville, France, 30 Jun 1944

St-Dizier, France, 14 Sep 1944

Ophoven, Belgium, 9 Feb 1945

Kitzingen, Germany, 30 Apr 1945

Straubing, Germany, 8 May-Jul 1945

Camp Patrick Henry, VA, Oct-29 Oct 1945

Godman AFB, KY, 1 Dec 1952

Langley AFB, VA, 16 Apr 1953-8 Oct 1957

Thumrait AB, Oman, 5 Dec 2001

ASSIGNMENTS

III Fighter Command, 1 March 1943
IX Fighter Command, 7 March 1944
303 Fighter Wing
100 Fighter Wing
XXIX Tactical Air Command, 8 Feb – Jul 1945
Army Service Forces, Oct 1945
405 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1 Dec 1952 – 8 Oct 1957
405 Air Expeditionary Wing, 5 Dec 2001 - 21 Apr 2010

WEAPON SYSTEMS

A-24
A-25
P-39
P-47
F-84
B-1
KC-135

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Marvin S. Zipp, 1 Mar 1943
Lt Col Mark E. Hubbard, 2 Jul 1943
Maj Fred G. Hook, Jr., 12 Jul 1943
Col James Ferguson, 5 Nov 1943
Col Robert L. Delashaw, 26 Apr 1944
Lt Col J. Garrett Jackson, 22 Oct 1944-unkn
Col George Laven, Jr., 1 Dec 1952
Col Donald A. Baccus, 16 Apr 1953
Col William S. Cowart, Jr., 6 Jul 1954
Col Robert D. Johnston, 14 May 1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
France, 24 Sep 1944

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army
6 Jun-30 Sep 1944

EMBLEM

Azure, a sphere argent, land marking and grid lines sable, surmounted by a bend gules, charged with a lightning flash or, between a fleur-de-lis of the last and two olive branches, in saltire, proper, all within a diminutive border of the second. (Approved, 10 Nov 1955)

MOTTO

MOVERE ET AGGREDI—Deploy and Attack

OPERATIONS

Entered combat with Ninth AF in Apr 1944. Until D-Day, engaged chiefly in bombing airdromes, marshalling yards, and bridges in France in preparation for the invasion of France. Flew patrols in the vicinity of Brest during the invasion and then flew armed reconnaissance missions to support operations in Normandy. Moved to the Continent at the end of Jun 1944 and engaged primarily in providing support for ground forces until May 1945. Bombed enemy vehicles and gun positions at St Lo in Jul 1944; attacked barges, troops, roads, and warehouses during the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945; and struck airfields and marshalling yards when the Allies crossed the Rhine in Mar 1945.

Received a DUC for a mission in France on 24 Sep 1944: answering a request from Third Army for support near Laneuveville-en-Saulnois, two squadrons, flying on instruments through rain and dense overcast, were directed by ground control toward a furious tank battle where, in spite of severe ground fire, one squadron repeatedly bombed and strafed enemy tanks; the second squadron, unable to find this target because of the weather, attacked a convoy of trucks and armored vehicles; later the same day, the third squadron hit warehouses and other buildings and silenced ground opposition in the area. For operations, Jun-Sep 1944, that aided the drive across Normandy and the liberation of Belgium, the group was cited by the Belgian government. Flew last mission on 8 May 1945. Returned to the US, Jul-Oct 1945.

Airmen of the 405 Air Expeditionary Group are playing a critical role in the US and allied drawdown in Afghanistan, according to an Air Forces Central Command release. The group's 800-some airmen, operating out of an undisclosed location in the Arabian Gulf, are supporting US Central Command's Deployment and Distribution Operation Center, a strategically located air, land, and sea logistics hub. C-17s loaded with gear from Afghanistan are arriving at the group's airfield, states the Jan. 12 release. The airmen then move the equipment on trucks that carry the gear to a nearby port for transfer to ships for the journey to the United States or other points of origin. The group has increased flow through the hub, moving about 400 pieces of equipment a month, up from 150 this past summer, said Col. Keith Thibodeaux, 405 AEG commander. "While

we continue to move more and more cargo, we are doing it cost-efficiently and are saving taxpayer dollars," he said. 2014

USAF Unit Histories

Created: 3 Dec 2013

Updated: 8 Aug 2018

Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit yearbook. *405 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1954*. Army and Navy Publishing Co. Inc., Baton Rouge, LA. 1954.