

450th FIGHTER-DAY GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

450th Bombardment Group (Heavy) constituted, 6 Apr 1943

Activated, 1 May 1943

Redesignated 450th Bombardment Group (Very Heavy)

Inactivated on 15 Oct 1945

Redesignated 450th Fighter-Bomber Group and activated, 1 Jul 1954

Redesignated 450th Fighter-Day Group, Mar 1955

STATIONS

Gowen Field, ID, 1 May 1943

Clovis AAB, NM, 21 May 1943

Alamogordo AAFld, NM, 8 Jul-20 Nov 1943

Manduria, Italy, 20 Dec 1943-12 May 1945

Harvard AAFld, NE, c. 26 Jul-15 Oct 1945

Foster AFB, TX, Jul 1954

ASSIGNMENTS

Fifteenth Air Force, Jan 1944

Tactical Air Command

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24

F-86

F-100

COMMANDERS

Col John S. Mills, 12 Jun 1943

Col Robert R. Gideon, 7 Jul 1944

Col Ellsworth R. Jacoby, 17 Nov 1944-1945

Col Wallace E. Hopkins, Jul 1954

LTC James P. Hagerstrom, 17 May 1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Air Offensive, Europe

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

North Apennines

Rhineland

Po Valley

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Regensburg, Germany, [25] Feb 1944

Ploesti, Rumania, 5 Apr 1944

EMBLEM

Per bend sinister, argent and azure, a silhouetted eagle, displayed wings inverted gules, fimbriated argent on the azure, debriused by a ribbon bend sinisterwise charged with a diamond all or.
(Approved, 14 Sep 1955)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Engaged chiefly in missions against strategic targets in Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and the Balkans until Apr 1945. Bombed aircraft factories, assembly

plants, oil refineries, storage areas, marshalling yards, airdromes, and other objectives.

Contributed to the intensive Allied campaign against the enemy aircraft industry during Big Week (20-25 Feb 1944) by attacking factories at Steyr and Regensburg, being awarded a DUC for braving the hazards of bad weather, enemy fighters, and flak to bombard a Messerschmitt factory at Regensburg on 25 Feb.

Received second DUC for a mission on 5 Apr 1944 when the group fought its way through relentless attacks by enemy aircraft to bomb marshalling yards at Ploesti. Also struck such objectives as enemy defenses, troop concentrations, bridges, and marshalling yards in support of the invasion of Southern France, the advance of Russian troops in the Balkans, and the Allied effort in Italy.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Updated:

Sources

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

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