

451st FLYING TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

451st Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 19 Jun 1942
Activated, 17 Jul 1942
Inactivated, 11 Dec 1945
Redesignated 451st Bombardment Squadron (Light), 3 Jul 1947
Activated in the reserve, 9 Aug 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 451st Fighter-Day Squadron, 24 Mar 1954
Activated, 1 Jul 1954
Inactivated, 18 Nov 1957

STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 17 Jul 1942
Drane Field, FL, 22 Sep-14 Nov 1942
Rattlesden, England, 1 Dec 1942
Rougham, England, 22 May 1943
Great Saling, England, 12 Jun 1943
Beauvais/Tille, France, c. 23 Sep 1944
Le Culot, Belgium, 6 Apr 1945
Adsen, Germany, Jul 1945
Clastres, France, Oct 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 9-11 Dec 1945
Reading AAFld, PA, 9 Aug 1947-27 Jun 1949

Foster AFB, TX, 1 Jul 1954-18 Nov 1957

ASSIGNMENTS

322nd Bombardment Group, 17 Jul 1942-11 Dec 1945

322nd Bombardment Group, 9 Aug 1947-27 Jun 1949

322nd Fighter-Day Group, 1 Jul 1954-18 Nov 1957

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-26, 1942-1945

L-4B

B-26B

B-26C

B-26G

B-26F

F-86, 1954-1955

F-100, 1955-1957

F-100C

COMMANDERS

None (not manned), 17 Jul-9 Aug 1942

LTC Frederick E. Fair, 10 Aug 1942

Maj George B. Simler, 30 May-8 Jul 1944

Unkn, 9-11 Jul 1944

LTC Henry C. Newcomer, 12 Jul 1944

Maj Charles S. Seamans III, 2 Jun 1945

Capt Richard H. Thomas, 16 Jun 1945-unkn

LTC James A. Finley, 9 Aug 1947

Maj John B. Ertel, Dec 1947-unkn

Unkn, 1 Jul-Oct 1954

Maj William L. Craig, Oct 1954

Maj Andrew J. Ritchey, 1 Apr 1956

Maj Richard F. Kenney, 20 Jul-18 Nov 1957

LTC James C. Embry, 1 Apr 1973

Maj Donald G. Plummer, 15 Jun 1973

LTC John R. Cherrington Jr., Jan 1974

LTC Robert M. Thompson, 15 Jun 1976

LTC Jack G. Wilson, 6 Mar 1978

LTC Jimmy D. Carver, 7 Mar 1980

LTC Charles F. Bormann, 22 Jun 1982

LTC William E. Pecoul, 13 Jul 1982

LTC Thomas N. Trotta, 6 Jun 1984

LTC James B. Watt, 5 Jun 1986

LTC James R. Casteel, 18 Mar 1988

LTC W. Stephan Owens, 5 Sep 1989

LTC Scott E. Mills, 11 May 1990-15 Jan 1992

Maj William L. Craig, #1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

ETO, [17 Jul] 1943-24 Ju1 1944

EMBLEM



451st Bombardment Squadron emblem



451st Fighter-Day Squadron emblem On an American Indian war shield Air Force blue, a stylized sun with rays Air Force yellow, surmounted in base by a cloud black, with lightning yellow, superimposed over the center of the shield a peace pipe, stem white, bowl and detail red, feathered white and red, with white smoke rising from the bowl; the shield over two tomahawks in saltire, the head yellow, the handle black with leather thongs red, feathered white and red. (Approved, 2 May 1955)



451st Flying Training Squadron emblem: On an Ultramarine Blue disc, over and through a Light Blue disc outlined in Air Force Yellow, a caricatured primate in a Red jersey and Air Force Yellow football equipment, wearing Air Force Yellow goggles, Black football shoes, standing on a White cloud outlined in Ultramarine Blue and forward passing a Black aerial bomb held aloft in his right

hand, all within a narrow Yellow border. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "451 FTS" in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The primate reflects the fundamental nature of the skills taught to new aviators. The vintage football uniform represents aviation as an old game with established rules and skills for students and instructors to master. The red jersey signifies valor, and the Air Force Yellow stands for both honor and the Squadron's gold standard. The cloud alludes to the sky, the arena in which plans, actions and teamwork make a difference between success and failure. Light blue typifies communication and forms a target with the ultramarine blue that is centered on the symbol representing the fundamental aviation skills. The aerial bomb embodies the students. The effects the students have in service to their country are directly related to the skill with which the instructors propel them and the students propel themselves toward their goals.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 17 Jul 1943-24 Apr 1945. Disarmament of German Air Force, Jul-Sep 1945.

Formed as the 322nd Bombardment Group (Medium) on 16 June 1942 and activated on 17 July of that year, the unit began training with B-26s and operated them during the Second World War. Part of the group moved overseas to Europe during 1943, serving in turn with the Eighth and Ninth Air Forces. During the war, operations were conducted from England, France and Belgium. Finally, in December of 1945 it was deactivated; however, this was relatively short lived, and in August of 1947 the unit was redesignated as a Bombardment Group Light and allotted to the USAF Reserve for two years before it was deactivated again on 27 June 1949.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 28 Aug 2010

Updated: 23 Aug 2013

Sources

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

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