

460th FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

1st Airdrome Squadron constituted, 7 Nov 1942
Activated, 20 Nov 1942
Redesignated 460th Fighter Squadron, 14 Jul 1944
Inactivated, 20 Feb 1946
Redesignated 460th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 23 Mar 1953
Activated, 18 Mar 1954
Inactivated, Mar 1966
Activated, Sep 1968
Inactivated, 15 Jul 1974

STATIONS

Syracuse AAB, NY, 20 Nov 1942
Biggs Field, TX, 2 Feb-17 Apr 1943
Sydney, Australia, 21 May 1943
Dobodura, New Guinea, c. 20 Jun 1943
Gusap, New Guinea, c. 23 Oct 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea, 23 Jul 1944
Noemfoor, New Guinea, 23 Sep 1944
Tacloban, Leyte, 10 Nov 1944
Tanauan, Leyte, 12 Dec 1944
San Marcelino, Luzon, 6 Feb 1945
Floridablanca, Luzon, 15 May 1945
Ie Shima, 12 Jul 1945
Itazuke, Japan, 24 Nov 1945-20 Feb 1946

McGhee-Tyson Aprt, TN, 18 Mar 1954
Portland Intl Aprt, OR, 18 Aug 1955
Oxnard AFB, CA 1968-1969
Kingsley Field, OR 1969-1971
Grand Forks AFB, ND 1971-1974

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Service Command, 20 Nov 1942
Second Air Force, 28 Dec 1942
16th Bombardment Training Wing, 15 Feb 1943
Fifth Air Force, c. 1 Jun 1943
V Fighter Command, 14 Ju1 1944
348th Fighter Group, 23 Sep 1944-20 Feb 1946
516th Air Defense Group, 18 Mar 1954
337th Fighter Group, 18 Aug 1955

ATTACHMENTS

310th Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1944
85th Fighter Wing, 16 May-14 Ju1 1944

WEAPON SYSTEMS

A-20, 1944
P-47, 1944-1945
P-51, 1945-1946
F-86D, 1954
F-89D, 1955-1958
F-102A, 1958
F-106A

COMMANDERS

LTC W. W. Maitland, #1963

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Japan
China Defensive
New Guinea
Bismarck Archipelago
Western Pacific
Leyte
Luzon

Ryukyus
China Offensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
Philippine Islands, 24 Dec 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
Mar 1954-Jul 1959
8 Jun 1960-30 Apr 1962
1 May 1962-31 Jul 1963

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

EMBLEM

On a shield green, edged white, a tiger's head, affronte, proper. (Approved, 17 Jan 1955)

MOTTO

CAVE TIGRIM--Beware of the Tiger

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in southwest and western Pacific, Aug 1944-15 Aug 1945.

460th Fighter Interceptor Squadron is originally a World War II Fighter Unit, that saw its beginning at the Syracuse Army Air Base, New York on 20 November 1942. Its first designation was the 1st Airdrome Squadron. On 14 July 1944, it was redesignated the 460th Fighter Squadron.

Arriving in Australia on 21 May 1943, the squadron in a succession of combat service moved through New Guinea, Netherlands, East Indies, Leyte, Luzon, the Ryukyu Islands (Okinawa) and finally on to the Southern Island of Japan proper (Kyushu).

In this series of air combat service, the 460th Fighter Squadron left behind an impressive record with its air compliment of P-47's and P-51's. 52 enemy aircraft were destroyed, 77,000 tons of enemy shipping sunk in a total of 15,507 hours of flying.

On 20 February 1946, the 460th Fighter Squadron was inactivated, but not before the organization had been awarded the Presidential Unit Citation for their effective combat service. After 8 years of retirement, the 460th on 18 March 1954. was reactivated and redesignated as a

Fighter Interceptor Squadron at McGhee-Tyson Air Force Base, Tennessee, and a year and a half later, moved to Portland (30 September 1955).

During 1956 the 460th deployed to Moody Air Force Base, Georgia and broke all existing records for rocket hits. In addition to rocketry excellence, the Squadron was cited for 34 months of accident free flying. However, in March 1958, a T-33 trainer jet crashed after takeoff. In June 1958, the 460th Fighter Interceptor Squadron converted from the F-89-D jet aircraft to the F-102-A Delta Dagger jet craft.

During the 460th career at Portland, the squadron has consistently been rated as outstanding on all of its tactical evaluations. For these accomplishments it has been awarded the Air Defense Command "A" Award and a like award from the Western Air Defense Force. In addition, they have been presented with the Air Force highest peacetime award for their performance of duty, The Outstanding Unit Award.

In October of 1959, the 460th Fighter Interceptor Squadron competed in the 7th World Wide Weapons Meet (William Tell) at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. Here they captured 1st place in their category (F-102-A). During this meet, they were compelled to fly under hurricane conditions, but proved their superiority by overcoming almost insurmountable odds of the elements.

Prior to 1971, the assigned military strength totaled as many as 2,000. With the movement of the 460 FIS from Kingsley Field in 1971, personnel strength decreased to about 500 organizational personnel. During that period, the designation of the parent unit on base changed to the 827th Air Defense Group. At the same time, a small alert detachment, 318 FIS, Detachment 1, moved to the airport to maintain an Air Defense 5-minute Identification Alert capability with the F-106A aircraft.

The 460th FIS was discontinued 15 Jul 74 with the majority of the F-106s being assigned to the 194th FIS/ 144th FIG at Fresno IAP CA ANG. Total assigned F-106s with the 460th FIS at the three locations was 44 with a loss of 1 aircraft.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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

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

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. *25th NORAD Region*. 1963.