

## 24<sup>th</sup> AIR DIVISION



### **MISSION**

### **LINEAGE**

24<sup>th</sup> Air Division established, 18 Nov 1969

Activated, 19 Nov 1969

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1990

### **STATIONS**

Malmstrom AFB, MT, 19 Nov 1969

Griffiss AFB, NY, 1 Dec 1983-30 Sep 1990

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Tenth Air Force, 19 Nov 1969

Aerospace Defense Command, 1 Dec 1969

Tactical Air Command, 1 Oct 1979

First Air Force, 6 Dec 1985-30 Sep 1990

### **COMMANDERS**

MG Richard S. Abbey, 19 Nov 1969

Col Franklin C. Crain, 1 Apr 1971 (temporary)

MG Richard S. Abbey, 26 Apr 1971

MG William S. Harrell, 29 Jul 1971

MG Lawrence J. Fleming, 28 Feb 1973

Col Thomas W. Liner, 28 Jun 1974

MG Louis G. Leiser, 30 Jul 1974  
Col David B. Ballou, 29 Mar 1977 (interim)  
MG Don D. Pittman, 29 Apr 1977  
MG Walter H. Baxter III, 29 Sep 1978  
Col Donald R. Williams, 22 Jan 1979  
BG John H. Bennett, 11 Feb 1980  
Col Donald R. Williams, 17 Nov 1980  
BG Milford E. Davis, 27 Feb 1981  
Col George A. Kersey Jr., 12 Aug 1982  
BG Kenneth W. North, 23 Sep 1983  
BG David M. Goodrich, 1 Oct 1985  
BG Lester P. Brown, 18 Jul 1988-30 Sep 1990

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

## **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1970-30 Jun 1972

1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976

1 Jul 1977-30 Jun 1978

## **EMBLEM**

Per quarter fimbriated or, first quarter chequy alternating sable and argent, second and third quarter azure, on the second quarter a head in armor couped at the neck with visor open gray and of the second, on the third quarter thirteen mullets of five points argent, fourth quarter gray bearing two flight symbols bend sinisterwise sable, overall in pale a sword, point to chief blade gray and sable, base gray, hilt and guard or, all within a diminished bordure of the last. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the unit and the Air Force colors, ultramarine blue and golden yellow are used. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations and yellow to the sun and the excellence required of personnel in their assigned tasks. The black and white checked design is representative of the unit's day and night commitment to the air defense mission. The knight's head in armor is symbolic of the personnel of the unit who stand alert, ever ready and maintain constant watch. The blue field not only symbolizes the sky, but space and the challenge of detecting and defending against threats from space. The stars on the field of blue represent the 13 original colonies. The sword symbolizes the armed might of the unit and ability to detect, intercept and

deter any armed opposition. Interceptor forces are symbolized by the interceptor MACH symbols being directed skyward. Radar control and direction of defense forces are symbolized by lightning impulses radiating from the sword. (Approved, 27 Jan 1972)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

In 1969, the division assumed responsibility for the air defense of Montana, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, and parts of Nebraska, Utah, Nevada, and Idaho. By 1973, this area included parts of Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. Tactical units assigned to the 24th participated in numerous training exercises such as Feudal Indian, Vigilant Overview, and Feudal Keynote. Between 1969 and 1979, the division also controlled several radar squadrons. On 1 Oct 1979, the 24th Air Division became a component of Tactical Air Command, but remained stationed in Montana, and its mission continued to be one of equipping, administering, training, and providing combat ready air defense forces for the operational control of NORAD.

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 25 Aug 2010

Updated: 13 Dec 2015

### Sources

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

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