

27 FIGHTER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

21 Aero Squadron organized, 15 Jun 1917
Redesignated 27 Aero Squadron, 23 Jun 1917
Redesignated 27 Squadron (Pursuit), 14 Mar 1921
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron, 25 Jan 1923
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor), 6 Dec 1939
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron (Fighter), 12 Mar 1941
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron (Twin-Engine), 15 May 1942
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Two-Engine, 28 Feb 1944
Inactivated, 16 Oct 1945
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Single-Engine, 5 Apr 1946
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Jet-Propelled, 20 Jun 1946
Activated, 3 Jul 1946
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Jet, 15 Jun 1948
Redesignated 27 Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 16 Apr 1950
Redesignated 27 Tactical Fighter Squadron, 1 Jul 1971
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, 1 Nov 1991

STATIONS

Camp Kelly, TX, 15 Jun 1917
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 18 Aug 1917 (detachments at various Canadian stations, 5 Sep–22

Oct 1917)
Taliaferro Field No. 1, TX, 29 Oct 1917
Garden City, NY, 26 Jan–25 Feb 1918
Tours, France, 20 Mar 1918
Issoudun, France, 29 Mar 1918
Epiez, France, 24 Apr 1918
Toul, France, 1 Jun 1918
Touquin, France, 28 Jun 1918
Saints, France, 9 Jul 1918
Rembercourt, France, 3 Sep 1918 (flight operated from Verdun, 25 Sep 1918–unkn)
Colombey-les-Belles, France, 12 Dec 1918
Brest, France, 5 Feb–8 Mar 1919
Garden City, NY, 19 Mar 1919
Selfridge Field, MI, 28 Apr 1919
Kelly Field, TX, 31 Aug 1919
Ellington Field, TX, 1 Jul 1921
Selfridge Field, MI, 1 Jul 1922
San Diego NAS, CA, 11 Dec 1941
Los Angeles, CA, 29 Dec 1941–20 May 194
Goxhill, England, 9 Jun 1942 (operated from Reykjavik, Iceland, 3 Jul–26 Aug 1942)
Atcham, England, 9 Aug 1942
High Ercall, England, 20 Aug 1942
Colerne, England, 12 Sep–23 Oct 1942
St Leu, Algeria, 9 Nov 1942
Tafaraoui, Algeria, 13 Nov 1942
Nouvion, Algeria, 20 Nov 1942 (detachments operated from Maison Blanche, Algeria, 7–21 Dec 1942, and Biskra, Algeria, 21–30 Dec 1942)
Biskra, Algeria, 30 Dec 1942
Chateaudun-du-Rhumel, Algeria, 18 Feb 1943
Mateur, Tunisia, 28 Jun 1943 (detachments operated from Dittaino, Sicily, 6–18 Sep 1943, and Gambut, Libya, 5–13 Oct 1943)
Djedeida, Tunisia, 1 Nov 1943
Monserrato, Sardinia, 29 Nov 1943
Gioia del Colle, Italy, 9 Dec 1943
Salsola Airfield, Italy, 8 Jan 1944 (detachments operated from Aghione, Corsica, 11–21 Aug 1944, and Vincenzo Airfield, Italy, 10 Jan–21 Feb 1945)
Lesina, Italy, 16 Mar 1945
Marcianise, Italy, 26 Sep–16 Oct 1945
March Field (later AFB), CA, 3 Jul 1946
George AFB, CA, 14 Jul 1950
Griffiss AFB, NY, 15 Aug 1950
Loring AFB, ME, 1 Oct 1959
MacDill AFB, FL, 1 Jul 1971
Langley AFB, VA, 30 Jun 1975

DEPLOYED STATIONS

King Abdul Aziz AB, Saudi Arabia, 8 Aug 1990–8 Mar 1991

ASSIGNMENTS

Unkn, 15 Jun 1917–May 1918
1 Pursuit Group, May–Dec 1918
Unkn, Dec 1918–22 Aug 1919
1 Pursuit (later, 1 Fighter) Group, 22 Aug 1919–16 Oct 1945
1 Fighter Group, 3 Jul 1946
4711 Defense (later, 4711 Air Defense) Wing, 6 Feb 1952
32 Air Division, 1 Mar 1956
4727 Air Defense Group, 8 Feb 1957
Bangor Air Defense Sector, 1 Oct 1959
36 Air Division, 1 Apr 1966
35 Air Division, 15 Sep 1969
21 Air Division, 19 Nov 1969
1 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Jul 1971
1 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1991

ATTACHMENTS

Eastern Air Defense Force, 15 Aug 1950–3 Jun 1951
103 Fighter Interceptor Group, 4 Jun 1951–6 Feb 1952
14 Fighter Group, 1 Mar 1956–17 Feb 1957
1 Tactical Fighter Wing Provisional, 8 Aug 1990–8 Mar 1991

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-40, 1939–1941
DH-4, 1919–1925
F-4, 1971–1975
F-15A, 1975
F-22
F-86, 1949
F-89, 1952–1953
F-94, 1954–1960
F-102, 1957–1960
F-106, 1960–1971
Fokker D-7, 1921
JN-4, 1917–1918
MB-3A, 1922–1925
Nieuport 28, 1918
P-1, 1925–1931
P-6, 1928–1929
P-12, 1930–1934

P-16, 1932
P-26A, 1934–1938
P-35, 1938–1941
P-36, 1939
P-38, 1941–1945
P-80A, 1946–1949
PB-2A, 1936–1937
PW-8, 1924–1926
SE-5, 1919–1922
Sopwith F-1 Camel, 1918
Spad XIII, 1918–1922
T-38
YP-43, 1939–1941
XP-6
YP-12K
YP-38

COMMANDERS

Maj Michael Davis, 15 Jan 1917
1st Lt Fred R. Harvey, 15 Aug 1917
Maj Harold E. Hartney, 22 Oct 1917
Capt Alfred A. Grant, 21 Aug 1918-Unkn
Capt Robert J. Bell, Apr 1919
2nd Lt Armor S. Heffley, 16 May 1919
Maj John J. Houghton, 13 Jul 1919
Capt Clayton Bissell, 2 Sep 1919-Unkn
1st Lt Richard T. Aldworth, Dec 20-16 May 21
1st Lt Thomas A. Mcginnis, May 1921
1st Lt John H. Wilson, 23 Sep 1921
1st Lt Frank O. D. Hunter, 1 Oct 1921
1st Lt Harold A. Mcginnis, 13 Dec 1921
1st Lt Harold A. Mcginnis 16 May 21-29 Sep 21
1st Lt Frank O' D. Hunter 29 Sep 21-3 Nov 21
Capt William F. Donnelly 3 Nov 21-5 Jan 22
Capt Burt E. Skeel 5 Jan 22-4 Oct 24
1st Lt Alfred J. Lyon 4 Oct 24-14 May 25
1st Lt Russell L. Meredith 14 May 25-14 Jul 25
1st Lt J. Thad Johnson 14 Jul 25-2 Jul 27
1st Lt Louis Simon 2 Jul 27-5 Sep 27
1st Lt Rex K. Stoner 5 Sep 27-23 Aug 28
1st Lt Virgil Hine 23 Aug 28-21 May 29
Capt Lotha A. Smith 21 May 29-11 Jan 30
1st Lt Marion L. Elliot 11 Jan 30-30 Sep 30
Capt Rowland W. Blessey 30 Sep 30-1 Jul 33

1st Lt Alfred A. Kessler 1 Jul 33-19 Nov 34
Capt Rowland W. Blessey 19 Nov 34-27 Feb 35
1st Lt Alfred A. Kessler 27 Feb 35-1 Mar 35
Maj James E. Parker 1 Mar 35-27 Aug 35
Capt Leo H. Dawson, 27 Aug 1935
Maj Warren A. Maxwell, 1 Sep 1935
Maj Warren A. Maxwell 2 Sep 35-15 Jun 37
Capt Dixon M. Allison 15 Jun 37-5 Aug 37
Maj Willis R. Taylor 5 Aug 37-Aug 41
Maj William E. Covington Jr. Aug 41-Apr 42
Maj John W. Weltman, Apr 1942
Capt Joseph A. Glenn Jr., 9 Dec 1942
Maj Joel A. Owens Jr., 3 Jan 1943
Maj Darrel G. Welch, 26 Mar 1943
Capt James E. Pate, 10 May 1943
Maj Edward S. E. Newbury, 3 Sep 1943
Maj Gilbert E. Butler, 27 Sep 1943
Maj Thomas F. Rafael, 11 Apr 1944
Lt Col Francis J. Pope, 20 Jul 1944
Maj Marvin J. Migl, 9 May 1945-Unkn
Maj Rex T. Barber, 1946
Lt Col Jack T. Bradley, 22 Aug 1946
Lt Col Loren G. Mccallom, Aug 1947
Lt Col Hugh D. Dow, Jun 1948
Lt Col John R. Murphy, Aug 1948
Lt Col Clayton L. Peterson, 16 Feb 1949
Lt Col Jack W. Hayes Jr., 21 Feb 1949
Lt Col Clayton L. Peterson, 6 Jun 1949
Maj Dwight S. Beckhan, 16 Oct 1951
Lt Col Benjamin H. Emmert Jr., 29 Oct 1951
Lt Col William M. Shelton, 1953
Maj John H. Recher, 1954
Maj Robert R. Wright, Apr 1956
Lt Col David E. Latane, By June 1956-Unkn
Col Grant R. Smith, By Jan 1958
Lt Col William H. Stewart, 10 Jul 1958
Unkn, May 1959-1961
Lt Col Eugene L. Hinkley, By Jul 1961
Lt Col Robert Tomlinson, Aug 1963
Lt Col Bernard H. Barton, By Jun 1965
Col William W. Moore, 8 Dec 1967
Lt Col Francis J. Burkhardt, Mar 1969 (Temporary)
Col James M. Thomas, Apr 1969
Lt Col Harold Compton, By Nov 1970

Lt Col Daniel O. Walsh, 1 Jul 1971
Lt Col Larry D. Armstrong, 24 Aug 1971
Lt Col Alan S. Christner Jr., 28 May 1973
Lt Col Jerry D. Cobb, 11 Sep 1974
Lt Col James Woods, 2-29 Jun 1975
None (Not Manned), 30 Jun-14 Aug 1975
Lt Col Richard L. Craft, 15 Aug 1975
Lt Col John E. Jaquish, 15 Mar 1977
Lt Col George A. Devorshak, 5 Jan 1979
Lt Col Edward J. Hardenbrook, 5 Dec 1980
Lt Col Ronald R. Torgler, 16 Jul 1982
Lt Col Hal M. Hornburg, 31 Jul 1984
Lt Col John W. Rutledge, 15 May 1985
Lt Col Roy E. Parker, 15 May 1987
Lt Col Donald G. Kline, 21 Apr 1989
Lt Col Gerald F. Pease Jr., 19 Apr 1991
Lt Col Mark E. Smith, 12 Jun 1992
Lt Col Mark L. Jefferson, 11 Jun 1993
Lt Col James E. Hartney, 27 Jun 1994
Lt Col Stanley T. Kresge, 16 Feb 1996
Lt Col Charles K. Shugg, 30 Jan 1998
Lt Col James M. Holmes, 27 May 1999
Lt Col Brian Dickerson, 7 Jul 2000
Lt Col Keith P. Feaga, 4 Jan 2002
Lt Col Stuart Nichols, 12 Feb 2003
Lt Col James B. Heckler, 1 Oct 2004

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War I
Lorraine
Champagne
Ile-de-France
Champagne-Marne
Aisne-Marne
Oise-Aisne
St Mihiel
Muese-Argonne

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater
Egypt-Libya

Air Offensive, Europe
Algeria-French Morocco, with Arrowhead
Tunisia
Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Anzio
Rome-Arno
Normandy
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Italy, 25 Aug 1943
Italy, 30 Aug 1943
Ploesti, Rumania, 18 May 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jun 1970–1 Jul 1971
1 Jan 1976–31 Oct 1976
15 Jun 1982–15 Jun 1984
16 Jun 1984–15 Jun 1986
28 Apr 1990– 27 Apr 1992
1 May 1992–30 Apr 1994
1 Jun 1995–31 May 1997
1 Jun 1998–31 May 2000
1 Jun 2000–31 May 2001

EMBLEM

On 18 May 1918, 1st Lt Malcolm Gunn was entrusted with the design of a squadron insignia. An insignia proposed to have a shield in cloud background and pierced by an arrow was disapproved by the Chief of Air Service due to confusion 'with the insignia granted the 94th Squadron.

Corporal Blumberg drew up the insignia, an American eagle with outspread wings and extended talons, which was said to have originated on the side of an Annhauser Busch Beer Wagon.



27 Pursuit Squadron emblem approved, 4 Mar 1924



27 Fighter Interceptor Squadron



27 Tactical Fighter Squadron emblem: On a Yellow disc edged with a narrow Black border, a small Red disc, overall a Gray falcon in attack flight, head and talons White, eye and tongue Red, beak

and feet Yellow, underside of wings Black detailed Grey. (Approved, 17 Sep 1971)



MOTTO

Fighting Falcons

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

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

Unit yearbook. *32nd Air Division. 1955.*