

VIII BOMBER COMMAND, VERY HEAVY

MISSION

LINEAGE

20 Bombardment Wing constituted, 19 Oct 1940
Activated, 18 Dec 1940
Inactivated, 1 Sep 1941
Activated, 1 Nov 1942
Redesignated 20 Bombardment Wing (Heavy), Feb 1943
Redesignated 20 Combat Bombardment Wing (Heavy), Aug 1943
Redesignated 20 Bombardment Wing, Heavy, Jun 1945
Redesignated 20 Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy, Aug 1945
Redesignated VIII Bomber Command, Very Heavy, Oct 1945
Inactivated, 10 Nov 1946
Disbanded, 8 Oct 1948

STATIONS

Ft Douglas, UT, 18 Dec 1940-1 Sep 1941
MacDill Field, FL, 1 Nov 1942-8 May 1943
Camp Lynn, England, 9 Jun 1943
Cheddington, England, 1 Jul 1943
Horsham St Faith, England, 14 Sep 1943
Hethel, England, 24 Sep 1943
Hardwick, England, 7 Nov 1943
Snetterton Heath, England, 13 Jun-6 Aug 1945
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 15 Aug 1945
Peterson Field, CO, 17 Aug 1945
MacDill Field, FL, 14 May-10 Nov 1946

ASSIGNMENTS

Eighth AF

WEAPON SYSTEMS

COMMANDERS

Col Shepler W. Fitzgerald, 16 Jan 1941
Brig Gen Walter H. Frank, 6 Feb 1941
Brig Gen Ralph Royce, 2 Mar 1941
Col Lowell H. Smith, 6 May-1 Sep 1941
Col John H. Hayden, 30 Oct 1943
Col Jack W. Wood, 29 Dec 1943
Brig Gen Edward J. Timberlake, Jr., 25 Sep 1944
Col Leland G. Fiegel, 17 May 1945
Brig Gen Archie J. Old, Jr., 18 Jun 1945-unkn
Col Brooke E. Allen, 18 Aug 1945
Col John W. Warren, 22 Aug 1945
Brig Gen Hugo P. Rush, 2 Nov 1945-unkn
Col Neil B. Harding, 14 May 1946
Maj Gene A. Nelson, 16 Aug 1946
Maj Leroy S. English, 10 Sep 1946
Lt Col Ermanno D. Grana, 3-10 Nov 1946

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

American Theater
Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Received its first groups in Nov 1943 and served in combat in the European theater from Dec 1943 until Apr 1945.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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