

304th AIR DIVISION, BOMBARDMENT

MISSION

LINEAGE

304th Bombardment Wing (Heavy) established, 7 Dec 1943
Activated, 29 Dec 1943
Redesignated 304th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 4 May 1945
Inactivated, 13 Oct 1945
Redesignated 304th Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy, 11 Mar 1947
Activated in the Reserves, 19 Apr 1947
Redesignated 304th Air Division, Bombardment, 16 Apr 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

STATIONS

Cerignola, Italy, 29 Dec 1943-26 Sep 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 12-13 Oct 1945
Long Beach, CA, 19 Apr 1947-27 Jun 1949

ASSIGNMENTS

Fifteenth Air Force, 29 Dec 1943-26 Sep 1945
Army Service Forces, 26 Sep-13 Oct 1945
Fourth Air Force, 19 Apr 1947-27 Jun 1949

COMMANDERS

Col John K. Brown Jr., c. 29 Dec 1943
BG Fay R. Upthegrove, 27 Jan 1944
LTC William R. Boutz, 5 Jul 1945-unkn
Unkn, 19 Apr 1947-27 Jun 1949

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II: Naples-Foggia; Rome-Arno

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

None

EMBLEM**MOTTO****NICKNAME****OPERATIONS**

Activated in Italy as a Bombardment wing in Dec 1943, the 304th participated in the strategic Bombardment of enemy occupied Europe. Targets included harbors, marshalling yards, airdromes, bridges, industrial areas, and troop concentrations in Italy, Austria, Germany, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, and Greece. In May 1944, some subordinate units began an intensive bombing campaign against enemy oil resources, which included refineries at Ploesti, Rumania, and oil and storage plants in Austria, Germany, and Hungary. During Jul and Aug 1944, subordinate units also prepared for and supported the invasion of southern France. While active in the Reserve in California, 1947-1949, the 304th was redesignated as a division.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 25 Aug 2010

Updated:

Sources

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