

## 345 BOMB SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

345 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942  
Activated, 3 Feb 1942  
Redesignated 345 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 23 May 1945  
Inactivated, 5 Jul 1946  
Activated, 1 Jul 1947  
Redesignated 345 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 28 May 1948  
Inactivated  
Redesignated 345 Bomb Squadron  
Activated, 17 Oct 2015

#### STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 3 Feb 1942  
Barksdale Field, LA, 9 Feb 1942  
Ft Myers, FL, 30 Mar 1942  
Drane Field, FL, 16 May-3 Jul 1942  
Ramat David, Palestine, 5 Aug 1942  
Fayid, Egypt, 16 Nov 1942  
Tobruk, Libya, 25 Jan 1943  
Benina, Libya, 16 Feb 1943  
Hergla, Tunisia, 26 Sep 1943  
Brindisi, Italy, 18 Nov 1943

Manduria, Italy, 20 Dec 1943  
Lecce, Italy, 18 Jan 1944-19 Apr 1945  
Fairmont AAFld, NE, 8 May 1945  
McCook AAFld, NE, 25 Jun 1945  
MacDill Field, FL, 10 Nov 1945-5 Jul 1946  
Andrews Field, MD, 1 Jul 1947  
Spokane AAFld, WA, 24 Sep 1947  
Yokota, Japan, 5 Aug 1950  
Lincoln AFB, NE, 24 Jul 1954

### **DEPLOYED STATIONS**

Lakenheath RAF, England 12 Nov 1955-28 Jan 1956

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

98 Bombardment Group, 3 Feb 1942  
462 Bombardment Group, 10 Nov 1945  
Strategic Air Command, 31 Mar-5 Jul 1946  
98 Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1947  
98 Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-24, 1942-1945  
B-29 1945  
B-29, 1947-1954  
B-47, 1954

### **COMMANDERS**



Lt Col M. Brian McClanahan

### **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**  
American Theater

## **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

Egypt-Libya

Air Offensive, Europe

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

North Apennines

Rhineland

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Korean War

UN Defensive

UN Offensive

CCF Intervention

First UN Counteroffensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1952

Third Korean Winter

Korea Summer- Fall, 1953

## **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

North Africa and Sicily, Aug 1942-17 Aug 1943

Ploesti, Rumania, 1 Aug 1943

Korea, 1 Dec 199-30 Apr 1953

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

[7 Aug] 1950-27 Jul 1953

## **EMBLEM**



345<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Medium emblem: On a disc white, edged black, a stylized eagle perched on a bomb all black, detail outlines of eagle and bomb white, his head white, eyeball, feet and beak red, talons yellow; holding in his beak an arrow purple, the shaft entwined with a cord golden yellow. The fighting 345<sup>th</sup> symbolized by the American Eagle in flight with a bomb in its claws, and an arrow or shaft in its beak. The Eagle is symbolical of our country on the Great Seal of the United States of America, and is emblematic of strength, courage, ferocity, and fighting spirit, qualities appropriately used as the emblem of this fine fighting organization. The arrow in the eagle's beak is symbolical of swift, direct, unwavering flight to the heart of the target. The bomb carried in the claws of the eagle denote that the squadron is a bombardment unit. (Approved, 7 Dec 1956)

345 Bomb Squadron emblem: On a disc Argent, a stylized eagle, wings endorsed and inverted, Sable, garnished of the first, head of the first, detailed and edged of the second, feet, eye and beak Gules, talons Or, holding in its beak an arrow bendwise Azure, the shaft entwined with a cord of the fourth, grasping a bomb fesswise of the second garnished of the first, nose comb to dexter; all within a narrow border Black. Attached below the disc, a Black scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "345TH BOMB SQUADRON" in Red letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. "The Fighting 345th" is symbolized by the American eagle in flight with a bomb in its claws and an arrow or shaft in its beak. The eagle is representative of the United States on the Great Seal of the United States of America and is emblematic of strength, courage, ferocity and fighting spirit, qualities appropriately used as the emblem of a fine fighting organization. The arrow in the eagle's beak denotes swift, direct, unwavering flight to the heart of the target. The bomb carried in the claws of the eagle signifies that the Squadron is a bombardment squadron. (Approved, 19 Jul 2016)

## MOTTO

## OPERATIONS

Combat in MTO and ETO, 12 Aug 1942-15 Apr 1945. Combat in Korea, 7 Aug 1950-25 Jul 1953.

The Air Force Reserve reactivated the 489th Bomb Group at Dyess AFB, Texas, on Oct. 17. The group, which includes the 345th Bomb Squadron, the 489th Maintenance Squadron, and the 489th Aerospace Medical Flight, operates under the 307th Bomb Wing at Barksdale AFB, La. It will provide B-1 training as well as combat support alongside with its classic associate, the 7th Bomb Wing at Dyess. Col. Denis Heinz, commander of the 489th BG, said he is happy to be part of the unit. "As I read books published by former group members, I was in awe of their ability to fly, fight, and win under such austere conditions," Heinz said. "I am proud now to be part of a heritage that dates back to the early days of World War II, when the original 489th fought a much different war." 2015

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USAF Unit Histories

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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.