

# **345<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT WING, TACTICAL**

## **MISSION**

## **LINEAGE**

345<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, Tactical, established, 23 Mar 1953  
Activated, 8 Oct 1957  
Inactivated, 25 Jun 1959

## **STATIONS**

Langley AFB, VA, 8 Oct 1957-25 Jun 1959

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

836th Air Division, 8 Oct 1957-25 Jun 1959

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-57, 1957-1959

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Albert W. Satterwhite, 8 Oct 1957-25 Jun 1959

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

None

**EMBLEM**

On a disc azure, an orle argent surmounting all the head, in profile, of an Apache, proper, wearing a feathered headdress of the second, with markings gules, and a string of animal's teeth of the second (Approved for 345th Group, 21 May 1954 and for 345th Wing, 29 May 1958)

**MOTTO**

AIR APACHES

**NICKNAME****OPERATIONS**

Trained to maintain combat proficiency in locating, attacking, and destroying targets from all altitudes and under all conditions of weather and light.

While Tactical Bomb Wings and Groups waited for the B-57B Night Intruder models to be completed and delivered, the 345th became the first of the four Bombardment units to receive the Canberra. This was in the form of no less than five RB-57As. arriving singly at Langley AFB between June 22 and July 14. The 345th was not so designated until July 19, 1954, and therefore these assignments were to the 424th and 4400th Bomb Squadrons of the 4400th Combat Crew Training Group Langley, mainly for the purpose of proficiency training for maintenance crews. A few of the pilots were checked out before the planes were reassigned.

The 3510th Combat Crew Training Wing at Randolph AFB, Texas, provided aircrew training for overseas units beginning in late 1954. Their aircraft were distinctive only by large ship numbers painted on their tip tanks. The 461st at Hill AFB, Utah, also utilized this training while the 345th trained their own crews at Langley AFB.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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