

## 373 INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE GROUP



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

7 Photographic Group established, 5 Feb 1943

Activated, 1 May 1943

Redesignated 7 Photographic Reconnaissance and Mapping Group, 15 May 1943

Redesignated 7 Photographic Group, Reconnaissance, 13 Nov 1943

Redesignated 7 Reconnaissance Group, Jul 1945

Inactivated, 21 Nov 1945

Disestablished, 6 Mar 1947

Reconstituted and redesignated 373 Electronic Warfare Group, 31 Jul 1985

Redesignated 373 Intelligence Group, 17 Jul 2000

Activated, 7 Sep 2000

Redesignated 373 Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group, 1 Jan 2009

### STATIONS

Peterson AAFld, CO, 1 May-7 Jul 1943

Mount Farm, England, 7 Jul 1943

Chalgrove, England, c. 8 Apr 1945

Hitcham, England, Oct-21 Nov 1945

Misawa AB, Japan, 7 Sep 2000

### ASSIGNMENTS

Third Air Force, 1 May 1943

Eighth Air Force, 21 Jun 1943

325 Photographic (later, 325 Reconnaissance) Wing, Aug 1944  
VIII Fighter Command, 18 Oct-21 Nov 1945  
70 Intelligence Wing, 7 Sep 2000

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-38/F-5  
Spitfire, L-5, 1943-1945  
P-51, 1945  
F-5A 1943  
F-5B 1943  
F-5C 1944  
F-5E 1944  
Spitfire XI 1943

## **COMMANDERS**

Unkn, 1 May-7 Jul 1943  
Col James G. Hall, 7 Jul 1943  
Col Homer L. Sanders, 14 Sep 1943  
Unkn, Nov 1943  
Col Homer L. Sanders, 30 Nov 1943  
Col Paul T. Cullen, 1 Jan 1944  
Lt Col George A. Lawson, 17 Feb 1944  
Lt Col Norris E. Hartwell, Jr., 7 May 1944  
Lt Col Clarence A. Shoop, 5 Jun 1944  
Lt Col Norris E. Hartwell, Jr., 24 Jun 1944  
Lt Col Clarence A. Shoop, 9 Aug 1944  
Maj George W. Humbrecht, 26 Oct 1944  
Unkn, Nov 1944  
Lt Col George W. Humbrecht, 4 Dec 1944  
Maj Carl J. Chapman, 19 Jan 1945  
Lt Col George W. Humbrecht, 28 Jan 1945  
Capt John J. Anderson, 29 Mar 1945  
Col George W. Humbrecht, 31 Mar 1945  
Maj Hubert M. Childress, 19 Jun 1945  
Maj Kermit E. Bliss, Sep 1945-unkn  
Col Elise Vander Vennet  
Col Paul Nelson 27 Aug 2007

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe  
Air Combat, EAME

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device  
1 Jun 2001-31 May 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jun 2004-31 May 2005

1 Jun 2006-31 Dec 2007

1 Jun 2008-31 May 2009

Distinguished Unit Citation: ETO, 31 May-30 Jun 1944.

French Croix de Guerre with Palm: 1944.

#### **EMBLEM**



373 Intelligence Group Azure emblem: issuing from sinister base a globe of the same its pole tilted and gridlined Argent, emitting three lightning bolts terminating two to dexter, one to dexter chief and extending over a knight chess piece Sable detailed of the first, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "373D INTELLIGENCE GROUP" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of

Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe symbolizes global reach and support of the national intelligence mission. The three lightning bolts represent communications and support of the unit mission. The knight chess piece signifies intelligence. (Approved, 18 Jul 2007)



373 Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group emblem: Azure, issuing from sinister base a globe of the field its pole tilted and gridlined Argent, emitting three lightning bolts terminating two to dexter, one to dexter chief and extending over a knight chess piece Sable detailed of the first, fimbriated of the second, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow bordure and inscribed "373D ISR GROUP" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe symbolizes global reach and support of the national intelligence mission. The three lightning bolts represent communications and support of the unit mission. The knight chess piece signifies intelligence. (Approved, 1 Dec 2010)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

Activated in Colorado on 1 May 1943; assigned to Eighth Air Force, and transferred, without personnel and equipment, to England on 7 Jul 1943. Flew P-38 and F-5 (photographic version of P-38), Spitfire, and L-5 aircraft to obtain information about bombardment targets and damage inflicted by bombardment operations; provide mapping service for air and ground units; observe and report on enemy transportation, installations, and positions; and obtain data on weather conditions.

Prior to Jun 1944, photographed airfields, cities, industrial establishments, and ports in France, the Low Countries, and Germany. Received a DUC for operations during the period 31 May-30 Jun

1944, when its coverage of bridges, marshalling yards, canals, highways, rivers, and other targets contributed much to the success of the Normandy campaign. Photographed missile sites in France during Jul, and in Aug carried out photographic mapping sorties for ground forces advancing across France. Provided reconnaissance support for the airborne attack on Holland in Sep and for the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945. Beginning in Jan 1945, operated P-51s to escort its own reconnaissance planes as the group supported the Allied drive toward and into Germany. Took part in the final bomb-damage assessment following V-E Day. Inactivated in England on 21 Nov 1945.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 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.