

456th TROOP CARRIER GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

456th Bombardment Group (Heavy) constituted, 14 May 1943

Activated, 1 Jun 1943

Redesignated 456th Bombardment Group, Very Heavy Aug 1945

Inactivated, 17 Oct 1945

Allotted to the reserve, activated, 12 Jul 1947

Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

Redesignated 456th Troop Carrier Group, Medium and activated, 1 Dec 1952

Inactivated, 1 Mar 1955

STATIONS

Wendover Field, UT, 1 Jun 1943

Gowen Field, ID, 14 Jul 1943

Bruning AAFld, NE, 30 Jul 1943

Kearns, UT, c. 11 Sep 1943

Muroc AAB, CA, Oct-Dec 1943

Cerignola, Italy, Jan 1944

Stornara, Italy, Jan 1944-Jul 1945

Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 1 Aug 1945

Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 17 Aug-17 Oct 1945

McChord Field, WA, 12 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949

Miami Intl Aprt, FL, 1 Dec 1952
Charleston AFB, SC, 15 Aug 1953-1 Mar 1955

ASSIGNMENTS

Fifteenth Air Force, Feb 1944
Tactical Air Command

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24
C-119

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 1 Jun-14 Jul 1943
Col Thomas W. Steed, 14 Jul 1943
LTC Joseph G. Russell, 16 Jul 1944
Col Thomas W. Steed, Oct 1944
LTC Robert C. Whipple, 19 May 1945-unkn
Col George E. Henry, 31 Aug 1945
Col John W. White, 4 Sep 1945-unkn
Col Leonard J. Barrow Jr., Dec 1952
LTC Malcolm P. Hooker, Feb 1953
Col Jay D. Bogue, 1953-1 Mar 1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Combat, EAME Theater
Air Offensive, Europe
Rome-Arno
Normandy
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Wiener Neustadt, Austria, 10 May 1944
Budapest, Hungary, 2 Jul 1944

EMBLEM

Azure, a bar gemel debased argent over-all on a pile quarterly of the second and gules four stylized birds counterchanged. (Approved, 7 Jul 1953)

MOTTO**NICKNAME****OPERATIONS**

Began combat with Fifteenth AF in Feb 1944, operating chiefly against strategic targets until late in Apr 1945. Early operations included attacks against such objectives as marshalling yards, aircraft factories, railroad bridges, and airdromes in Italy, Austria, and Rumania. Received a DUC for performance at Wiener Neustadt on 10 May 1944: when other groups turned back because of adverse weather, the 456th proceeded to the target and, withstanding repeated attacks by enemy interceptors, bombed the manufacturing center. Helped to prepare the way for and supported the invasion of Southern France during Jul and Aug 1944. At the same time, expanded previous operations to include attacks on oil refineries and storage facilities, locomotive works, and viaducts in France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Austria, and the Balkans. Received second DUC for a mission in Hungary on 2 Jul 1944 when the group braved severe fighter attacks and antiaircraft fire to bomb oil facilities at Budapest. In Apr 1945 bombed gun positions, bridges, roads, depots, and rail lines to support US Fifth and British Eighth Army in their advance through Italy. Transported supplies to airfields in northern Italy after V-E Day.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Feb 2011

Updated:

Sources

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