

## 489<sup>th</sup> RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

77<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron organized, 13 Aug 1917  
Redesignated 489<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron, 1 Feb 1918  
Demobilized, 6 Mar 1919

489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron constituted and allotted to the reserve, 31 Mar 1924  
Activated, date unkn

489<sup>th</sup> Aero Squadron reconstituted and consolidated with 489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, 1932

Disbanded, 31 May 1942

489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 10 Aug 1942  
Activated, 20 Aug 1942  
Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945  
Redesignated 489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Light), 24 Oct 1947  
Activated in the reserve, 10 Nov 1947  
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron Consolidated with 489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Light), 1958

Redesignated 489<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 11 Aug 1958

Activated, 1 Oct 1958

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jan 1962

### **STATIONS**

Kelly Field, TX, 13 Aug 1917

Garden City, NY, 5 Nov-4 Dec 1917

St Maixent, France, 1 Jan 1918

Romorantin, France, 13 Feb 1918

Brest, France, 4 Jan 1919-unkn

Camp Stuart, VA, c. 8 Feb 1919

Camp Lee, VA, Feb-6 Mar 1919

Seattle, WA, [1924(?)]-31 May 1942

Columbia AAB, SC, 20 Aug 1942

Walterboro, SC, 30 Nov 1942-30 Jan 1943

El Kabrit, Egypt, 29 Mar 1943

Medenine, Tunisia, 13Apr 1943

Sfax, Tunisia, 26 Apr 1943

Hergla, Tunisia, 3 Jun 1943

Comiso, Sicily, 2 Aug 1943

Catania, Sicily, 27 Aug 1943

San Pancrazio, Italy, 15 Oct 1943

Foggia, Italy, 25 Nov 1943

Pompeii, Italy, 5 Jan 1944

Gaudo Airfield, Italy, 24 Mar 1944

Alesan, Corsica, 19 Apr 1944

Rimini, Italy, 4 Apr-c. 16 Jul 1945

Seymour Johnson Field, NC, 9 Aug 1945

Columbia AAB, SC, 2 Oct-7 Nov 1945

Davis Field, OK, 10 Nov 1947-27 Jun 1949

Whiteman AFB, MO, 1 Oct 1958-1 Jan 1962

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Unkn, 13 Aug 1917-Feb 1918

Air Service Production Center No. 2, Feb-Dec 1918

Unkn, Dec 1918-6 Mar 1919

Ninth Corps Area, [1924(?)]-31 May 1942

340<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 20 Aug 1942-7 Nov 1945

340<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 10 Nov 1947-27 Jun 1949

340<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 1 Oct 1958-1 Jan 1962

### **ATTACHMENTS**

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-25, 1942-1945

B-25C

B-25D

B-25G

B-25J

B-47, 1958-1961

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Donald G. Graham, Jan 1925-12 Feb 1930

Maj David G. Logg, 12 Feb 1930-20 Feb 1939

Maj Robert D. Bedinger, 2 Mar 1939-Jun 1939

Unknown, Jun 1939-7 Dec 1941

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

Theater of Operations

### **Campaign Streamers**

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Southern France

North Apennines

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

North Africa and Sicily, [Apr]-17 Aug 1943

Italy, 23 Sep 1944

## **EMBLEM**



On a white globe bordered white, land areas representing the western hemisphere, Air Force golden yellow; over all an Air Force blue dart-like weapon speeding to dexter its fins lined Air Force golden yellow; outlines and details Air Force blue throughout; all surmounted fesswise by a springing tiger in profile, natural colors. (Approved, 27 Oct 1959)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Base construction and maintenance, 1918. Combat in MTO, 25 Apr 1943-24 Apr 1945.

Constituted in the Organized Reserve on 31 March 1924, assigned to the 349th Bombardment Group (GHQR), and allotted to the Ninth Corps Area.

The squadron was one of a few in the Organized Reserve that possessed facilities, equipment, and aircraft.

Typically conducted Inactive Training Period meetings at the Butler Hotel and Boeing Field in Seattle. Conducted summer training at various locations to include Rockwell Field, CA, Pearson Field, WA, and Gray Field, WA. Inactivated on 30 January 1942 by relief of personnel.

Liberty's Red Flag: MC-12 Liberty reconnaissance aircraft are participating for the first time in a Red Flag exercise-iteration RF 12-3 that runs through Friday at Nellis AFB, Nev.-supporting air-to-ground scenarios alongside other US and allied aircraft. The 489th Reconnaissance Squadron at Beale AFB, Calif., stood up with the MC-12 last August, less than two years after the aircraft type entered service. "Being in Red Flag not only validates the capability we provide, but enables us to train and integrate with a huge list of other weapon systems," said Lt. Col. Harlie Bodine, 489th RS commander. "Being at Red Flag is critical" for Liberty aircrews, some of which will be "in combat in 14 days," he added. MC-12 crews are trained to pursue elusive high-value targets such as insurgent kingpins. At Nellis, said, Bodine, crews "exercise and work with every piece . . . before the bullets start flying." 2012

The Air Force's fleet of MC-12W information-gathering airplanes recently flew its 300,000th combat flying hour, according to officials at Beale AFB, Calif., the fleet's stateside home. The milestone occurred during a sortie over Afghanistan, states Beale's Oct. 8 release. The first MC-12 combat sortie took place in Iraq in June 2009, so it took only some four years for the fleet to reach this mark. "There is insatiable demand for this aircraft," said Col. Phil Stewart, Beale's 9th Reconnaissance Wing commander. The twin-engine MC-12s carry cameras and electronic eavesdropping equipment that gather intelligence for ground troops. "This aircraft is vital to mission success; it's essentially the eyes and ears of our ground forces," said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Allison, 489th Reconnaissance Squadron commander. However popular, the Air Force may have to divest the MC-12 fleet due to budget constraints. 2013

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 13 Oct 2011

Updated:

#### 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.

*US Army Order of Battle 1919-1941*. Steven E. Clay. Combat Studies Institute Press. US Army Combined Arms Center. Fort Leavenworth, KS. Nd.