

## 504<sup>th</sup> BOMBARDMENT GROUP, VERY HEAVY



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

504<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Very Heavy constituted, 28 Feb 1944  
Activated, 11 Mar 1944  
Inactivated, 15 Jun 1946

### STATIONS

Dalhart AAFld, TX, 11 Mar 1944  
Fairmont AAFld, NE, 12 Mar-5 Nov 1944  
North Field, Tinian, 23 Dec 1944  
Clark Field, Luzon, 6 Mar-15 Jun 1946

### ASSIGNMENTS

Second Air Force, 11 Mar-5 Nov 1944  
313<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 23 Dec 1944  
Thirteenth Air Force, 6 Mar – 15 Jun 1946

### ATTACHMENTS

17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Operational Training Wing (Very Heavy), 12 Mar-5 Nov 1944

### WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17

B-29

## **COMMANDERS**

Cpt Basil D. Murray, Mar 1944  
Col James T. Connally, 6 Apr 1944  
Col Glen W. Martin, 6 Feb 1945  
Col Charles B. Root, 18 Sep 1945  
Col John P. Kenny, 2 Apr-15 Jun 1946

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Japan  
Eastern Mandates  
Western Pacific

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Yokohama, Japan, 28 May 1945  
Japan and Korea, 27 Jul-14 Aug 1945

### **EMBLEM**

None

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

Moved to the Asiatic-Pacific Theater late in 1944 for service with Twentieth AF. Began combat operations from Tinian in Jan 1945 with attacks on Japanese airfields and other installations on Maug and Iwo Jima and in the Truk Islands. Flew its first mission against the Japanese home islands early in Feb 1945 when the group bombed the industrial area of Kobe. Continued to attack strategic targets in Japan, operating in daylight and at high altitude to bomb such objectives as aircraft factories, chemical plants, harbors, and arsenals. Received a DUC for striking the industrial center at Yokohama late in May 1945. Began incendiary raids in Mar 1945, flying at night and at low altitude to strike area targets in Japan. Started mining operations against enemy shipping late in Mar, receiving a DUC for mining Korean shipping lanes, the Shimonoseki Strait, and harbors of the Inland Sea, Jul-Aug 1945. In Apr and May 1945 the group hit airfields from which the Japanese launched kamikaze planes against the invasion force during the assault on Okinawa. After the war it dropped food and supplies to Allied prisoners, participated in show-of-force missions, and flew

over Japan to evaluate damage inflicted by bombardment operations.