

511th TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

626 Bombardment Squadron (Dive) constituted, 4 Feb 1943

Activated, 1 Mar 1943

Redesignated 511 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, Aug 1943

Redesignated 511 Fighter Squadron, 30 May 1944

Inactivated, 19 Oct 1945

Redesignated 511 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 15 Oct 1952

Activated, 1 Dec 1952

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1958

STATIONS

Drew Field, FL, 1 Mar 1943

Walterboro AAFld, SC, 14 Sep 1943-14 Feb 1944

Christchurch, England, 6 Mar-22 Jun 1944

Picauville, France, 29 Jun 1944

St Dizier, France, 14 Sep 1944

Ophoven, Belgium, 9 Feb 1945

Kitzingen, Germany, 23 Apr 1945

Straubing, Germany, 13 May-2 Jul 1945

Camp Patrick Henry, VA, 19 Oct 1945

Godman AFB, KY, 1 Dec 1952

Langley AFB, VA, 17 Apr 1953-1 Jul 1958

Langley AFB, VA, 16 Apr 1953-1 Jul 1958

Myrtle Beach AFB, SC, 1 Apr 1970-15 Jul 1971

RAF Bentwaters, England, 1 Jan 1980

ASSIGNMENTS

405th Bombardment (later Fighter-Bomber; Fighter) Group, 1 Mar 1943-19 Oct 1945

405th Fighter-Bomber Group, 1 Dec 1952

405th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 8 Oct 1957-1 Jul 1958

WEAPON SYSTEMS

A-24, 1943

P-39, 1943

P-47, 1943-1945

F-84, 1953-1956

F-100, 1956-1958

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Charles R. Croner, #1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

France, 24 Sep 1944

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army

6 Jun-30 Sep 1944

EMBLEM



On a disc grayed light blue violet, thin border white, edged black, a caricatured, black vulture with red beak, feet, and rough neck feathers, diving toward dexter base, having four machine guns in leading edge of each wing, and dropping two, large, red aerial bombs in direction of flight, while losing feathers from the tail as result of near hits by two "ack-ack" bursts in chief, proper. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Despite damage by flak, the heavily armed vulture is able to continue its attack on the enemy. The grim expression betrays the spirit with which the squadron pilots operate against their objective. (Approved, 12 Feb 1945)

MOTTO

Vultures

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 11 Apr 1944-4 May 1945.

The 511th moved from RAF Upper Heyford and transferred to the 10th TFW in August, 1988. The 511th ceased operations on March 27, 1992, remaining a paper organization until its inactivation on December 18, 1992.

Surprisingly, the A-10 managed to score two air-to-air kills during Desert Storm, both made using the GAU-8/A cannon. The first was scored by Capt. Bob Swain from the 706th TFS against a BO-105 helicopter on 6 February 1991. The A-10 (77-0205) was later named "Chopper Popper" and is now displayed at the Air Force Armament Museum at Eglin AFB, Florida. The other was by Captain Todd "Shanghai" Sheehy from the 511th TFS, who shot down an Mi-8 on 15 February 1991.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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