

531 TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

58 Bombardment Squadron (Light), constituted, 22 Nov 1940
Activated, 1 Jan 1941
Redesignated 58 Bombardment Squadron (Dive), 19 Oct 1942
Redesignated 531 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 14 Aug 1943
Redesignated 531 Fighter Squadron, 18 Feb 1944
Inactivated, 10 Oct 1946
Redesignated 531 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 15 Nov 1952
Activated, 1 Jan 1953
Inactivated, 8 Feb 1958
Redesignated 531 Tactical Fighter Squadron, 19 May 1958
Activated, 1 Jul 1958
Inactivated 31 Jul 1970

STATIONS

Wheeler Field, TH, 1 Jan 1941
Bellows Field, TH, 18 Mar 1941
Hickam Field, TH, 29 Apr 1941

Bellows Field, TH, 11 Dec 1941
Wheeler Field, TH, 19 Dec 1941-18 Jun 1943
Canton, 24 Jun 1943
Makin, 18 Dec 1943
Bellows Field, TH, Mar 1944
Kuoloa, TH, 21 Apr 1944
Mokuleia Field, TH, 8 Oct 1944
Iwo Jima, 26 Mar 1945
Isley Field, Saipan, 5 Dec 1945
Northwest Field, Guam, 17 Apr-10 Oct 1946
George AFB, CA, 1 Jan 1953-26 Nov 1954
Toul/Rosieres AB, France, 13 Dec 1954
Chambley AB, France, 14 Jun 1955-8 Feb 1958
Misawa, Japan, 1 Jul 1958
England AFB, LA, 16 Jun 1964-7 Dec 1965

ASSIGNMENTS

Hawaiian (later Seventh) Air Force, 1 Jan 1941
21 Fighter Group, 15 Jun 1944-10 Oct 1946
21 Fighter-Bomber Group, 1 Jan 1953-8 Feb 1958
21 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Jul 1958
39 Air Division, 18 Jun 1960
39 Air Division, 18 Jun 1960-16 Jun 1964
3 Tactical Fighter Wing 30 Nov 1965
834 Air Division Dec 1965
3 Tactical Fighter Wing 1970

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1941-1942
A-20, 1942-1943
A-24, 1943-1944
P-39, 1944
P-38, 1944-1945
P-51, 1944-1946
RA-24B
A-20A
P-47, 1946
F-51, 1953
F-86, 1953-1957
F-100, 1958

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Alan C. Edmunds, #1957

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Central Pacific

Air Offensive, Japan

Eastern Mandates

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

Japan, 7 Apr 1945

Presidential Unit Citations 8 Jun 1966-18 Apr 1967, 6 Mar 1968-31 Jul 1969

AF Outstanding Unit Award with V

31 Jan 1968-5 Mar 1968

21 Jan 1970-31 Dec 1971 [sic]

AF Outstanding Unit Award

1 May 1964-16 Jul 1965

11 Feb 1965-16 Mar 1965

Republic of Viet Nam Gallantry Cross with Palm

25 Nov 1965-19 May 1969

29 Jun 1966-8 Mar 1967 (award to "Fighter Sq")

1 May 1970-31 Jul 1970

1 Apr 1966-31 Jul 1970

EMBLEM



58 Bombardment Squadron emblem re was n0 warning that first morning at Pearl Harbor. The mustard-yellow planes of the Japanese had descended low enough to make visible the emblem of the Rising Sun on the wings before it was known that the attack had begun. Long lines of American planes were hammered to pieces on their hangar ramps by murderous bombs that fell like rain. But some got off with half-clothed pilots at the controls. These made the Japanese pay dearly for their treachery. If and when the Japanese planes return to Pearl Harbor, the skies will tremble at their reception. Among those in the receiving line will be the 58th Bombardment Squadron of Hickam Field. Their whimsically terrifying Disney bulldog in flying togs will be eager for his chance to snap at Japanese heels. He will also be able to pass the time profitably by dropping "pineapples" on any deserving enemy target.



531st Tactical Fighter Squadron emblem: On and over a white cloud formation edged and voided of the sky, Air Force blue, a black hawk swooping in downward flight, details of wings white, his beak and talons Air Force golden yellow, outlines and details red, grasping in each foot a red lightning streak. Air Force golden yellow. (Approved, 10 Nov 1958)

MOTTO

STRIKE AND RETURN

OPERATIONS

Combat in Central Pacific, 18 Dec 1943-10 Mar 1944, and in Western Pacific, 30 Mar-14 Aug 1945.

F-86F attrition

52-5193 - Crashed in France, 30 MAR 56, fatalities unknown.

52-5228 - Crashed, engine failure, near Herford, West Germany, 5 APR 57, 1 fatality.

52-5246 - Crashed, cockpit fire, weather, 9nm N of Bitburg AB, West Germany, 25 SEP 56, 1 fatality, ejected.

52-5249 - Crashed at Chambley AB, France, 15 SEP 55, fatalities unknown.

52-5258 - Crashed, cockpit fire, weather, at Ehekirchen, West Germany, 31 MAY 56, no fatalities, ejected.

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.

Unit yearbook. *21st Fighter-Bomber Wing, France 1954-1957*.

War Insignia Stamp Album, Hearst Publications, Inc., 1942.