

## 548<sup>th</sup> COMBAT TRAINING SQUADRON



### MISSION

548th Combat Training Squadron executes the Air Combat Command-sponsored Air Warrior II exercise, providing operational control, safe employment and realistic training for all Air Force participants at the U.S. Army Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La. Participating tactical aircrews and TACPs receive excellent training in light- and medium-intensity close air support and terminal air control. The squadron hosts up to 10 multi-service field exercises each year, training more than 50,000 DoD and international personnel. A diverse unit at two geographically separate locations, the squadron's mission includes exercise planning, opportunities for live ordnance delivery, field training, munitions replication, weather support, radio maintenance and air traffic control.

### LINEAGE

548<sup>th</sup> Night Fighter Squadron constituted, 23 Mar 1944  
Activated, 10 Apr 1944  
Inactivated, 19 Dec 1945  
Redesignated 548<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Training Squadron, 22 Aug 1969  
Activated, 15 Oct 1969  
Inactivated, 31 Jul 1973  
Redesignated 548<sup>th</sup> Combat Training Squadron, 24 Jun 1994  
Activated, 1 Jul 1994

### STATIONS

Salinas, CA, 10 Apr 1944  
Delano AAFld, CA, 26 Jun-2 Sep 1944  
Hickam Field, TH, 16 Sep 1944  
Kipapa Field, TH, 16 Oct 1944  
Iwo Jima, 28 Feb 1945 (air echelon stationed on Saipan 17 Feb-6 Mar 1945)  
Ie Shima, 8 Jun-1 Dec 1945

Ft Lewis, WA, 17-19 Dec 1945  
England AFB, LA, 15 Oct 1969-31 Jul 1973  
Barksdale AFB, LA, 1 Jul 1994

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Fourth Air Force, 10 Apr 1944  
7<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, 16 Sep 1944  
Seventh Air Force, 20 Oct 1944  
VII Fighter Command, 28 Oct 1944  
AAF, Pacific Ocean Area (attached to 301<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing), 8 Jun 1945  
Seventh Air Force, 14 Jul-19 Dec 1945  
4410<sup>th</sup> Combat Crew Training Wing (later, 4410<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Training Group), 15 Oct  
1969-31 Jul 1973  
608<sup>th</sup> Air Operations Group, 1 Jul 1994

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-70, 1944  
P-61, 1944-1945  
P-70B  
P-61A  
P-61B  
C/AC/EC-47, 1969-1973  
Controlled USAF, Navy and Marine aircraft, 1994

### **COMMANDERS**

None (not manned), 10 Apr-1 May 1944  
Maj Robert D. Curtis, 2 May 1944-unkn  
LTC Robert J. Masterson, c. Oct 1969  
LTC William J. Cullen, 30 Mar 1970  
LTC Jimmie R. Robertson, 31 Mar 1972-31 Jul 1973  
LTC Randy L. Howell, 1 Jul 1994  
LTC Gary G. Murphy, 1 Oct 1996  
LTC John M. Schiavi, 25 Jun 1999  
LTC Paul D. McIntosh, 25 Jun 2001  
LTC Mark F. Duffield, 20 Jun 2003  
LTC James W. Hardin, 15 Jul 2005  
LTC Richard R. McKinley, 6 Jul 2007

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

None

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Air Offensive, Japan  
Western Pacific  
Ryukyus  
Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
15 Sep 1970-31 Dec 1971  
1 Jun 1995-31 May 1997  
1 Jun 2001-31 May 2003  
1 Jun 2004-31 May 2006

Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards

1 Jun 1999-31 May 2000  
1 Jun 2002-31 May 2004

### **EMBLEM**

548<sup>th</sup> Night Fighter Squadron emblem approved, 7 Aug 1944



548<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Training Squadron emblem

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

Patrols over the Pacific, Sep 1944-Jan 1945. Combat in Western Pacific, 7 Mar-14 Aug 1945.

First enemy aircraft destroyed by P-61 crew: June 22,1945  
Squadron total enemy aircraft destroyed by P-61 crews: 5

Provided special operations training to USAF and Vietnamese aircrews, Oct 1969-Jul 1973.

Controlled multi-service close air support and forward air control aircraft and tactical air control assets in realistic combat exercises with the US Army Joint Readiness Training Center, Jul 1994.

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Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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