

## 552<sup>d</sup> FIGHTER-BOMBER SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE<sup>1</sup>

552<sup>d</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 25 Nov 1942

Activated, 1 Dec 1942

Redesignated 552<sup>d</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Light, 23 Jun 1945

Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945

Redesignated 552<sup>d</sup> Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 31 Oct 1955

Activated, 8 Apr 1956

Inactivated, 8 Jul 1957

#### STATIONS

MacDill Field, Florida, 1 Dec 1942

Lake Charles AAB, Louisiana, 8 Feb-8 May 1943

Snetterton Heath, England, 3 Jun 1943

Boxted, England, 10 Jun 1943

Great Dunmow, England, 24 Sep 1943

Beaumont-sur-Oise, France, 2 Oct 194

St-Trond, Belgium, 10 Apr-27 Jul 1945

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 13 Aug 1945

Westover Field, Massachusetts, 30 Sep-7 Nov 1945

Bunker Hill AFB, Indiana, 8 Apr 1956-Jul 1957

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<sup>1</sup> Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

386<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 1 Dec 1942-7 Nov 1945

386<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Bomber Group, 8 Apr 1956-8 Ju1 1957

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-26, 1943-1945

A-26, 1945

F-86, 1956-1957

F-100, 1957

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Walter C. Turnier, #1957<sup>2</sup>

## **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

ETO, 30 Jul 1943-30 Jul 1944

## **EMBLEM**

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<sup>2</sup> Unit yearbook. *Bunker Hill AFB, IN, 323 Fighter-Bomber Wing, 1957*. Army and Navy Publishing Co. Inc., Baton Rouge, Louisiana. 1957.



On a yellow disc, thin border black, piped white, a skull winged of black, resting on a red aerial bomb falling to dexter base. (Approved, 16 Apr 1943)

### **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

Combat in ETO, 30 Ju1 1943-3 May 1945

Maitland and Hankey selected the four Squadron Commanders. Lieutenant T.G. Corbin for the 552nd, Captain F.W. Harris for the 553rd, Captain T.I. Ramsey for the 554th and Captain S.R. Beaty for the 555th.

Twenty-one months of war brought many changes to the 386th Group and the Squadron Commanders were not an exception. Lt. Colonel Lockhart, the 552nd CO, returned to the States for a 30-day leave and Major Leland Perry succeeded him for a short time. When Perry went to Group as S-3, Captain Gene Curran took over. Then Curran went to the States and Captain Lem Burgess assumed command. Due to a physical problem, soon after arrival in France, Burgess left the squadron and Captain George Howard took command. Shortly before V-E Day, Howard became Group Operations Officer and Major Bud Lambert assumed command.



