

553^d FIGHTER-BOMBER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE¹

553^d Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 25 Nov 1942

Activated, 1 Dec 1942

Redesignated 553^d Bombardment Squadron (Light), 23 Jun 1945

Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945

Redesignated 553^d 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, 9 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, 1 Oct 1944

St-Trond, Belgium, 9 Apr-27 Jul 1945

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 7 Aug 1945

Westover Field, Massachusetts, 30 Sep-7 Nov 1945

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

¹ Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

ASSIGNMENTS

386th Bombardment Group, 1 Dec 1942-7 Nov 1945

386th Fighter Bomber Group, 8 Apr 1956-8 Jul 1957

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-26, 1943-1945

A-26, 1944-1945

F-86, 1956-1957

COMMANDERS

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

MOTTO

OPERATIONS²

Combat in ETO, 30 Jul 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.

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

In the 553d, Lt. Colonel Franklin Harris moved to 99th Wing and was replaced by Major Dave Dewhurst who turned the squadron over to Major C.W. Hoover when he went home. Then Captain Howard Burris took over the squadron when Major Hoover returned to the States.