

560 FIGHTER-DAY SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

82 Bombardment Squadron (Light) constituted, 20 Nov 1940
Activated, 15 Jan 1941
Redesignated 82 Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 30 Dec 1941
Inactivated, 22 Jan 1946
Redesignated 82 Bombardment Squadron (Light), 29 Apr 1947
Activated, 19 May 1947
Inactivated, 10 Sep 1948
Redesignated 560 Fighter-Escort Squadron, 27 Oct 1950
Activated, 1 Nov 1950
Redesignated 560 Strategic Fighter Squadron, 20 Jan 1953
Redesignated 560 Fighter-Day Squadron, 1 Jul 1957
Inactivated, 8 Jan 1958

STATIONS

McChord Field, WA, 15 Jan 1941
Esler Field, LA, 27 Feb-3 Jul 1942 (operated from Stockton Field, CA, 24 May-24 Jun 1942)
Deversoir, Egypt, 2 Aug 1942
LG 88, Egypt, 15 Oct 1942
Gambut, Libya, 5 Dec 1942
Magrun LG, Libya, 14 Dec 1942
Gambut, Libya, 16 Dec 1942

Tmed El Chel, Libya, 10Jan 1943
Berteaux, Algeria, 4 Feb 1943
Canrobert, Algeria, 15 Mar 1943
Thibar, Tunisia, 1May 1943
Hergla, Tunisia, 2 Jun 1943
Ponte Olivo, Sicily, c. 2 Aug 1943
Gerbini, Sicily, 22 Aug 1943
Foggia, Italy, 3 Nov 1943
Gaudo Airfield, Italy, 19 Jan-4 Feb 1944
Tezgaon, India, 19 Mar 1944
Pandaveswar, India, 15 Jun 1944
Fenny, India, 20 Jun 1944 (operated from Meiktila, Burma, 10-28 Apr 1945)
Madhaiganj Airfield, India, 8 Jun 1945
Karachi, India, 18 Nov-24 Dec 1945
Ft Lawton, WA, 2i-z~ Jan 1946
Langley Field, VA, 19 May 1947-10 Sep 1948
Turner AFB, GA, 1 Nov 1950
Bergstrom AFB, TX, 5 Dec 1950-8 Jan 1958

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Misawa AB, Japan, 15 May 1953-10 Aug 1953
Misawa AB, Japan, 12 May 1954-12 Aug 1954

ASSIGNMENTS

12 Bombardment Group, 15 Jan 1941-z~ Jan 1946
12 Bombardment Group, 19 May 1947-10 Sep 1948
12 Fighter-Escort Group, 1 Nov 1950
12 Fighter Escort (later Strategic Fighter; Fighter-Day) Wing, 16 Jun 1952-8 Jan 1958

WEAPON SYSTEMS

PT-17, 1941-1942
B-18, 1941-1942
B-25, 1942-1945
A-26, 1945
F-84, 1951-1957

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Egypt-Libya
Tunisia

Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Rome-Arno
Air
Combat, EAME Theater; India-Burma
China Defensive
Central Burma

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

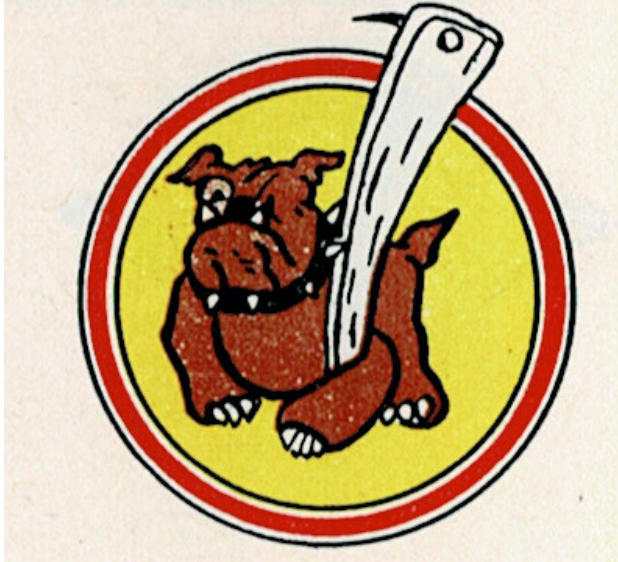
Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation: North Africa and Sicily, Oct 1942-17 A% 194.3

EMBLEM



82 Bombardment Squadron emblem Out of the "Lost Horizon" on April 18, 1942, and from the "Shangri-La" air base roared General "Jimmy" Doolittle's armada of American bombers as it sped to pay its first official visit to Tokyo. So close to Japanese housetops did America's first certification of remembrance of Pearl Harbor wing its way that surprise and incredulity was plainly visible on the upturned faces of the populace. Without loss of man or plane the air fleet returned to "Shangri-La." The aggressive spirit of this group of flyers was earlier prophesied by the 82nd Bombardment Squadron when it was activated at McChord Field in Washington, January 15, 1941, as a dive bombing squadron. Unified in purpose, the personnel envisioned the flying of kites over Tokyo, and received their Disney-created insignia accordingly. Each fuselage carries a ferocious tiger riding a high-flying kite while projecting a fused bomb from a sling-shot.



82 Bombardment Squadron emblem

560th Fighter-Escort Squadron emblem: On an arrowhead or, a gunsight azure, banded gules, thereon a lightning flash argent aimed at the piper of the sight gules, over a stylized aircraft argent, a ribbon azure encircling the base of the head of the arrow. (Approved 22 May 1951)



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Patrols over the Pacific from the west coast, Dec 1941-Feb 1942 and 24 May-24 Jun 1942; combat in MTO, 16 Aug 1942-30 Jan 1944, and in CBI, 21 Apr 1944-26 May 1945.

Not manned. 1947-1948.

8 June 1951, Eight USAF Republic F-84E Thunderjets of the 560th Fighter-Day Squadron, 12th Fighter Escort Group, Bergstrom AFB, Texas, crash near Richmond, Indiana. Mission escorting B-36 Peacemaker bombers from Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, to Selfridge AFB, Michigan. Worst mass air crash to date. Eight planes failed due to internal engine icing unknown to happen until this disaster. They were serials 50-1120, -1130, -1133, and -1209, and 51-0479, -0506, and -0679. Three pilots were killed. Classified Top Secret at time of incident out of fear that it was sabotage.

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.

War Insignia Stamp Album, Vol 3, Hearst Publishing Inc, 1942.