

781 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, HEAVY



MISSION

LINEAGE

781 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), constituted, 19 May 1943

Activated, 1 Aug 1943

Inactivated, 31 Jul 1945

Redesignated 781 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 22 Dec 1952

Activated, 1 Feb 1953

Inactivated, 8 Mar 1958

Redesignated 781 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy and activated, 15 Nov 1962

Organized, 1 Feb 1963

STATIONS

Alamogordo AAFld, NM, 1 Aug 1943

Kearns, UT, 13 Sep 1943

McCook AAFld, NE, 5 Oct 1943-1 Feb 1944

Pantanella Airfield, Italy, 28 Mar 1944-Jun 1945

Waller Field, Trinidad, 15 Jun-31 Jul 1945

Donaldson AFB, SC, 1 Feb 1953-Dec 1953

Wiesbaden AB, Germany, 26 Dec 1953

Toul/Rosieres AB, France, 1 May 1954

Evreux AB, France, 24 May 1955-8 Mar 1958

Robins AFB, GA, 1 Feb 1963

ASSIGNMENTS

465 Bombardment Group, 1 Aug 1943-31 Jul 1945

465 Troop Carrier Group, 1 Feb 1953

465 Troop Carrier Wing, 12 Mar 1957
317 Troop Carrier Wing, 8 Jul 1957-8 Mar 1958
Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962
465 Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24, 1943-1945
C-119, 1953-1957
C-130, 1957-1958
B-52, 1963

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Offensive, Europe
Air Rome-Arno
Normandy
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Vienna, Austria, 8 Jul 1944
Germany, 3 Aug 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
29 Oct-16 Dec 1956

EMBLEM



781 Bombardment Squadron



781 Troop Carrier Squadron

On a shield white, edged Ai: Force blue, over and through a white arrow, point to base, dropped shadow light red, a caricatured Indian proper, standing with arms folded, wearing yellow and white headdress, red cloak, yellow breechcloth with a black spade in the center; light green trousers striped red, and yellow shoes, flanked with twelve Air Force blue stars, on a chief arched of the last, three parachutes of the field.

MOTTO

UNITASVIRTUS-EFFECTA, Unity, Strength, and Effectiveness

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in MTO and ETO, 5 May 1944-26 Apr 1945

C-119C

51-2645 - Crashed, lost elevator control near Moulin, France, 18 APR 55, no fatalities.

51-2648 - Crashed, lost both engines near Corsica, France, 18 APR 55, no fatalities.

44-85491 - Crashed at Erding AB, West Germany, 9 JAN 53, 1 fatality.

45-8459 - Crashed, engine fire, over Belgium, 5 MAR 53, no fatalities.

45-8462 - Crashed, engine failure, near Neubiberg AB, West Germany, 10 MAR 53, no fatalities.

45-8465 - Crashed at Bitburg AB, West Germany, 21 MAR 54, no fatalities.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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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.