

834 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, HEAVY



MISSION

LINEAGE

834 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 14 Sep 1943

Activated, 20 Sep 1943

Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945

STATIONS

McCook AAFld, NE, 20 Sep 1943

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 9 Nov 1943-9 Mar 1944

Sudbury England, 5 Apr 1944-Aug 1945

Drew Field, FL, 3 Sep-7 Nov 1945

ASSIGNMENTS

486 Bombardment Group, 20 Sep 1943-7 Nov 1945

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24, 1943-1944

B-17, 1944-1945

COMMANDERS

Cpt Winifred D. Howell

Maj S. E. Matthews

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 7 May 1944-21 Apr 1945, including pathfinder operations, Jun- Jul 1944.

The 834th BS had the distinction of having a thematic group of bombers depicting the 12 signs of the zodiac. Eventually, only 11 planes would have their artwork completed. Thus, the squad became known as the Zodiacs. The group was further distinguished by its war record, flying its first 77 missions without a loss. LT Shaw and crew have the distinction of being the first crew from the 834th to lose a plane. They made an emergency landing near the Belgian town of Wetteren in August of 1944.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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