

859 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (HEAVY)

MISSION

LINEAGE

517 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 13 Oct 1943
Activated, 18 Oct 1942
Redesignated 12 Antisubmarine Squadron (Heavy), 29 Nov 1942
Redesignated 859 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 24 Sep 1943
Inactivated, 4 Oct 1945

STATIONS

Atlantic City, NJ, 18 Oct 1942
Langley Field, VA, 12 Jan-18 Sep 1943
Blythe AAFld, CA, 24 Sep 1943
Alamogordo AAFld, NM, 9 Dec 1943-1 Jan 1944
North Pickenham, England, 1 Jan 1944
Harrington, England, 10 Aug-17 Dec 1944
Brindisi, Italy, 20 Dec 1944
Rosignano, Italy, 24 Mar 1945
Gioia del Colle, Italy, 20 May 1945
Bari, Italy, 20 Jul-4 Oct 1945

ASSIGNMENTS

377 Bombardment Group, 18 Oct 1942
25 Antisubmarine Wing, 9 Dec 1942
492 Bombardment Group, 1 Oct 1943-c. Aug 1945 (detached on 17 Dec 1944 and sent to MTO, where the squadron operated with the 15th Special Group [Prov] and later with the 2641 Special Group [Prov])

WEAPON SYSTEMS

O-46, 1942-1943
O-47, 1942-1943
B-18, 1943
B-25, 1943

B-24, 1943-1945

C-47, 1944-1945

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

Rhineland

North Apennines

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

French Croix de Guerre with Palm

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Antisubmarine patrol, 18 Oct 1942-18 Sep 1943. Combat in ETO, 11 May-5 Aug 1944, and 17 Sep-16 Dec 1944; CARPETBAGGER missions, 10 Aug-16 Sep 1944, and 31 Dec 1944-c. May 1945.

Operation CARPETBAGGER, was designed to resupply insurgent bands in France and the low countries during the months leading up to the invasion at Normandy.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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