

871 AIR EXPEDITIONARY SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

871 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy constituted, 19 Nov 1943

Activated, 20 Nov 1943

Inactivated, 7 Mar 1946

Redesignated 871 Air Expeditionary Squadron and converted to provisional status, 2 Jul 2007

Activated, 30 Jan 2008

Inactivated, 4 Mar 2008

STATIONS

El Paso Mun Aprt, TX, 20 Nov 1943

Clovis AAFld, NM, 1 Dec 1943

Pratt AAFld, KS, 13 Apr 18 Jul 1944

Isley Field, Saipan, 17 Sep 1944 1 Nov 1945

Camp Stoneman, CA, 14 Nov 1945

March Field, CA, 26 Nov 1945

MacDill Field, FL, 5 Jan 7 Mar 1946

Accra, Ghana, 30 Jan 2008-4 Mar 2008

ASSIGNMENTS

497 Bombardment Group, 20 Nov 1943 7 Mar 1946

United States Air Forces Europe to activate or inactivate as required, 2 Jul 2007

409 Air Expeditionary Group, 30 Jan 2008 - 4 Mar 2008

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B 17, 1944

B 29, 1944 1946

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Japan

Eastern Mandates
Western Pacific

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Japan, 27 Jan 1945
Japan, 26 Jul 22 Aug 1945

EMBLEM

Over and through a light pastel green disc, wide border orange, an ancient warrior of giant stature, standing affronte, feet apart, left hand resting on hip, attired in battle dress of gold mail, and wearing a winged gold helmet and metallic gloves, having a broad sword of metal, proper, strapped about the waist by green sword belt, holding a white fire bomb in the right mailed hand; all in front of three lavender and purple mountain peaks in base, and casting a dark green line shadow on background. (Approved, 5 Aug 1944)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in Western Pacific, 2 Nov 1944 14 Aug 1945

US Begins Iceland Air Surveillance and Policing Deployment A deployment of USAF F-15Cs, a KC-135, and some 200 airmen have begun air surveillance and policing operations in Iceland, US Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa officials announced. Four F-15Cs from RAF Lakenheath, England deployed as part of the package, along with a KC-135 from RAF Mildenhall and some 200 airmen from various USAFE-AF Africa bases, kicking off 871st AES operations on April 17. Since 2008, the Keflavik International Airport has hosted NATO partner nation aircraft in support of the Icelandic air security mission. The US removed its permanently stationed forces from the nation when it closed Naval Air Station Keflavik in 2006, but NATO has maintained its commitment to providing defense for Iceland by rotating air defense forces from its member states in the years since. "We've been honoring these commitments with our partners here in Iceland for a long time," said USAF Lt. Col. John Stratton commander of the 871st AES. "It's an extremely important relationship, an extremely important partnership and a very, very important mission we do."
2015

Air Force Lineage and Honors
Created: 29 Jul 2020
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Sources

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