

## 1st AIR SUPPORT OPERATIONS GROUP



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE<sup>1</sup>

1st Communications Squadron, Air Support constituted, 31 Mar 1942

Activated, 23 Apr 1942

Redesignated 1st Air Support Communication Squadron, 11 Jan 1943

Redesignated 1st Tactical Air Communications Squadron, 1 Apr 1944

Inactivated, 29 Oct 1945

Disbanded, 8 Oct 1948

Reconstituted and redesignated 1st Air Support Group and activated, 15 Jun 1992

Redesignated 1st Air Support Operations Group, 1 Jul 1994

#### STATIONS

Albrook Field, Canal Zone, Panama. 23 Apr 1942-Apr 1943

Birmingham AAB, Alabama, Apr 1943

Lebanon, Tennessee, 8 Sep 1943

Morris Field, North Carolina, 28 Nov 1943-11 Feb 1944

Bombay, India, 31 Mar 1944

Dinjan, India, 23 Apr 1944

Myitkyina, Burma, 23 Oct 1944

Bhamo, Burma, 15 Feb 1945

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<sup>1</sup> Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Luliang, China, 24 Apr-Sep 1945  
Camp Kilmer, New Jersey, 28-29 Oct 1945  
Ft Lewis, Washington, 15 Jun 1992

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Sixth Air Force, 23 Apr 1942  
Third Air Force, 10 Apr 1943, III Ground Air Support (later, III Air Support; III Reconnaissance)  
Command, 19 May 1943  
I Tactical Air Division, attached, 8 Sep 1943, assigned 3 Nov 1943  
Tenth Air Force, 31 Mar 1944  
Fourteenth Air Force, 19 Apr 1945  
Tenth Air Force, 1 Aug 1945 Fourteenth Air Force, 3 Sep 1945-unkn  
355th Wing, 15 Jun 1992  
Twelfth Air Force, 1 Feb 1994 Thirteenth Air Force, 2008

### **ATTACHMENTS**

72d Observation Group, Apr 1942-Apr 1943  
XIV Air Force Tactical Air Command [Prov], 21 Jun-31 Jul 1945

### **COMMANDERS**

#### **HONORS**

##### **Service Streamers**

World War II American Theater

##### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II Asiatic-Pacific Theater:  
India-Burma 1942-1945 with Arrowhead Central Burma 1945  
China Defensive 1942-1945  
China Offensive 1945

##### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device  
1 Jun 2001-31 May 2003

Meritorious Unit Award  
1 Jun 2004-31 May 2005

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
1 Jun 1996-31 May 1998  
1 Jun 1999-31 May 2001

## **EMBLEM**

Approved, 15 Sep 1997

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS<sup>2</sup>**

Combat in Burma and China, Apr 1944-Sep 1945. Teams on duty with British, Chinese, and American ground forces, directing fighter-bomber planes on missions in air support for the ground forces they served. Participated in an assault landing on 17 May 1944 in the battle for Myitkyina, Burma.

The mission of the Tactical Air Communications Squadron was to provide communication between ground commanders and combat aircraft. When combat aircraft reached its assigned patrol area, the pilot was told to stand by for instructions. The ground commander selected the target which he wanted attacked, and transmitted this information to a team of USAAF personnel with whom he was in constant touch. This team, the Tactical Air Communications Squadron, who had previously familiarized themselves with the terrain by flying over it in liaison type aircraft, was thoroughly acquainted with the problem faced by the pilot and had the additional advantage of being able to talk to him in language he understood. The Tactical Air Communications Squadron contacted the fighter pilots by radio and talked them into the target with the use of gridded photographs, maps, and their specialized knowledge of the terrain. Panels and other signals at the front lines were also used.

A ceremony moving the 1st Air Support Operations Group from under 12th Air Force into the hands of 13th Air Force occurred 1 Oct 2008 at Fort Lewis, Wash. Lt. Gen. Chip Utterback, commander of 13th Air Force, assumed control of the 1st ASOG and its subordinate units at the ceremony, nearly tripling the group's assigned forces to 400 personnel in the process. "We are focused on today's war with folks from all over our command deeply engaged in today's battle," General Utterback said. "We are organizing to bring the speed and flexibility that comes with airpower to the Pacific." With the move from Air Combat Command to Pacific Air Forces, the 1st ASOG assumes three new squadrons, in addition to two previously assigned squadrons. The new squadrons include: the 3rd Air Support Operations Squadron at Fort Wainwright, Alaska; the 25th Air Support Operations Squadron at Wheeler Army Air Field, Hawaii; and the 16th Air Support Operations Squadron at Fort Richardson, Alaska. The 1st ASOG will continue to command two subordinate squadrons: the 1st Weather Squadron and the 5th Air Support Operations Squadron, both at Fort Lewis.

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<sup>2</sup> "The Command Post." Vol 1. No. 17 June 30, 1944.