

## 2 BOMB WING



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

2 Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy established, 15 Oct 1947  
Organized, 5 Nov 1947  
Redesignated 2 Bombardment Wing, Medium, 12 Jul 1948  
Redesignated 2 Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 1 Apr 1963  
Redesignated 2 Wing, 1 Sep 1991  
Redesignated 2 Bomb Wing, 1 Oct 1993

### STATIONS

Davis-Monthan Field (later, AFB), AZ, 5 Nov 1947  
Chatham AFB, GA, 1 Apr 1949  
Hunter AFB, GA, 22 Sep 1950  
Barksdale AFB, LA, 1 Apr 1963

### DEPLOYED STATIONS

Mildenhall England, 4 May 1951-30 Aug 1951  
Upper Heyford, England, 17 Dec 1952-6 Mar 1953

### ASSIGNMENTS

Eighth Air Force, 5 Nov 1947  
Second Air Force, 1 Apr 1950  
38 Air Division, 10 Oct 1951  
6 Air Division, 1 Nov 1959

823 Air Division, 1 Apr 1961  
4 Air Division, 1 Apr 1963  
19 Air Division, 1 Sep 1964  
42 Air Division, 1 Jul 1965  
19 Air Division, 2 Jul 1969  
42 Air Division, 1 Dec 1982  
Eighth Air Force, 16 Jun 1988

### **ATTACHMENTS**

43 Bombardment Wing, 17 Nov 1947-31 Dec 1948  
7 Air Division, 4 May-31 Aug 1951.  
7 Air Division, 10 Sep-4 Dec 1952  
5 Air Division, 4 Aug- 20 Sep 1954 and 6 Jul-26 Aug 1956

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-29, 1949-1950  
B-50, 1949-1953  
KB-29, 1950-1953  
KC-97, 1953-1963  
B-47, 1954-1963  
B-52F, 1963-1965  
B-52G, 1965  
KC-135, 1963-1993  
EC-135, 1966-1970  
RC-135, 1977-1979  
KC-10, 1981-1992

### **COMMANDERS**

None (not manned), 5 Nov 1947-31 Dec 1948  
Col William E. Eubank, Jr., 1 Jan 1949  
Brig Gen Frederic E. Glantzberg, 4 Apr 1949  
Brig Gen John M. Reynolds, 31 Jan 1952  
Col Rollin M. Winingham, 12 Aug 1953  
Col Osce V. Jones, 5 Oct 1953  
Col Austin J. Russell, 26 Oct 1953  
Col Arthur J. Walker, 14 Jul 1955  
Col Robert M. Tuttle, 10 Sep 1956  
Col Seth J. McKee, 15 Dec 1956  
Col Robert C. Whipple, 26 Aug 1958  
Brig Gen William B. Kieffer, 1 Jun 1959  
Col Brooks A. Lawhon, 13 Jun 1960  
Col John W. Kline, 19 Jun 1961  
Col Harrison R. Christy, Jr., 7 Mar 1963  
Col Frank B. Elliott, 1 Apr 1963

Col Louis M. Sowers, 15 May 1964  
Col Melvin R. Schultz, 16 May 1966  
Col Arthur W. Holderness, Jr., 17 Dec 1966  
Col Edmund A. Rafalko, 13 Oct 1967  
Brig Gen Edward O. Martin, 11 Nov 1968  
Col Samuel E. Dyke, 5 May 1970  
Col Harold R. Jewell, 16 Jun 1972  
Col Stanley C. Beck, 2 Apr 1973  
Col Jerome R. Barnes, Jr., 10 Jun 1974  
Col Kelly H. Burke, 1 Jul 1974  
Col Jerome E. Wechter, 2 Jun 1975  
Col Jerome R. Barnes, Jr., 1 Jun 1976  
Col George A. Dugard, 2 Feb 1977  
Col Jerome R. Barnes, Jr., 20 Mar 1977  
Col George R. Dugard, 18 Apr 1977  
Col Jerome R. Barnes, Jr., 8 May 1977  
Col Kenneth M. Patterson, 27 May 1977  
Col Jack K. Farris, 15 Mar 1979  
Col Alfred D. Herring, 23 Feb 1981  
Col Loring R. Astorino, 16 Feb 1982  
Col Larry D. Fortner, 13 Jun 1983  
Col James W. Evatt, 22 May 1984  
Col Frederick A. Fiedler, 20 May 1985  
Col Eugene E. Habiger, 14 Jan 1986  
Col Brett M. Dula, 28 Jan 1987  
Col Charles T. Robertson, Jr., 14 Jan 1988  
Col Joseph F. Mudd, 17 Jan 1989  
Col Ronald C. Marcotte, 30 Jul 1990  
Col William J. Liquori, 12 Jan 1991 (temporary)  
Col Ronald C. Marcotte, 17 Apr 1991  
Col Albert W. Perez II, 20 Feb 1992  
Brig Gen George P. Cole, Jr., 23 Apr 1992  
Brig Gen David L. Young, 12 Aug 1994  
Brig Gen Andrew W. Smoak, 10 Mar 1997  
Brig Gen William M. Fraser III, 17 May 1999  
Brig Gen Curtis M. Bedke, 6 Dec 2000  
Col Stephen L. Wolborsky, 2 Oct 2001 (temporary)  
Brig Gen Curtis M. Bedke, 11 Nov 2001  
Col Anthony A. Imondi, 20 Feb 2002 (temporary)  
Brig Gen Curtis M. Bedke, 7 Jul 2002  
Col Floyd L. Carpenter, 9 Jul 2002  
Col Charles H. McGuirk, Jr., 22 Sep 2002 (temporary)  
Col Floyd L. Carpenter, 18 Oct 2002  
Col Charles H. McGuirk, Jr., 27 Nov 2002 (temporary)

Col Floyd L. Carpenter, 22 May 2003  
Col Michael R. Moeller, 17 Feb 2004  
Col Roderick E. Gillis, 11 Jul 2004 (temporary)  
Col Michael R. Moeller, 18 Jul 2004  
Col Eldon A. Woodie, 27 Mar 2005 (temporary)  
Col Michael R. Moeller, 6 May 2005  
Col Roderick E. Gillis, 10 Jun 2005 (temporary)  
Col Michael R. Moeller, 22 Jun 2005  
Col Daniel J. Charchian, 22 Sep 2005  
Col Robert E. Wheeler, 26 Jul 2007  
Col Steven L. Basham, 23 Mar 2009  
Col Timothy G. Fay, 19 Jul 2010  
Col Andrew J. Gebara, 14 May 2012  
Col Kristin E. Goodwin, 1 Oct 2014  
Col Ty W. Neuman, 20 May 2016

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

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

Grenada, 1983

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Nov 1956-1 Apr 1957

1 Jul 1986- 30 Jun 1987

1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1989

1 Oct 1993-31 May 1995

1 Jun 1995-31 May 1996

1 Jun 1996-31 May 1997

1 Jun 1998-31 May 2000

1 Jun 2000-31 May 2002

1 Jan 2008-31 Dec 2009

1 Jan 2010-31 Dec 2011

1 Jan 2012-31 Dec 2013

1 Jan-31 Dec 2014

1 Jan-31 Dec 2015

## **Bestowed Honors**

Authorized to display honors earned by the 2 Operations Group prior to 5 Nov 1947

## **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War I

St. Mihiel

Lorraine

Meuse-Argonne

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Air Offensive, Europe

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

North Apennines

Rhineland

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

Steyr, Austria, 24 Feb 1944

Germany, 25 Feb 1944

### **EMBLEM**



2 Bombardment Wing emblem: Or, in fess four aerial bombs dropping bend sinisterwise azure, on an Air Force Shield, paly of five, vert and sable, a fleurs de-lis argent. The 2d Bombardment Wing assumes an Air Force Shield, dividing it into five perpendicular stripes to represent the five major offensives in which it participated in that war--Cantigny, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, Chateau Thierry, and Meuse-Argonne—and tinctures them primitive green and black from the old colors of the Air Service it bore during that war. The shield is scalloped under each paly, leaving each standing as an individual shield. The shield bears a white fleur-de-lis in the center as a symbol of France, where these battles were fought. The shield itself is Air Force yellow and charged with four aerial bombs in ultramarine blue, the present Air Force colors, to represent the original four combatant squadrons assigned during World War I. The bombs also suggest the present mission of the Wing as a Bombardment Wing.



2 Bomb Wing emblem: Or, in fess four aerial bombs descending bendwise sinister Azure garnished Argent on a chief engrailed Vert a fleur-de-lis White between two pallets Sable, all within a diminished bordure of the first. In the shape of a heater shaped-shield, the emblem is divided into five perpendicular stripes. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The colors of the stripes--black and primitive green--are those the Army Air Service bore during World War I. The three primitive green stripes represent the three major offensives in which the wing participated in World War I: St. Mihiel, Lorraine and Meuse-Argonne. The white fleur-de-lis at the top symbolizes France, the theater of operations for the wing's World War I achievements. The lower portion of the shield is Air Force golden yellow, charged with four aerial bombs in ultramarine blue, not only representing the original four combatant squadrons (11th, 20th, 96th and 166th Aero Squadrons) but also suggesting the unit's present mission as a heavy bomb wing of Air Combat Command. (Emblem approved, 19 January 1924 for the 2 Bombardment Group; authorized for the wing, 10 August 1951. Emblem modified, 25 April 1968)

#### **MOTTO**

Mors et Destructio--Death and Destruction  
Libertatem Defendimus--Liberty We Defend

## **OPERATIONS**

Wing Headquarters not operational, 5 Nov 1947-31 Dec 1948. The 2d Bombardment Group, except for a short period it spent in England in 1948, was attached to the 43d Bombardment Group, 17 Nov 1947-31 Dec 1948.

Added air refueling mission in Dec 1950.

Service-tested a "super wing" concept with 70 B-47s, Jul 1959-Apr 1961.

Supported Second Air Force's post-attack command and control system, Apr 1963-Mar 1970.

Conducted bombardment training and air refueling operations from Apr 1963 except for periods when all aircraft and crews were on loan to SAC organizations involved in combat operations in Southeast Asia. Began supporting SAC operations in Southeast Asia with aircraft and personnel in 1965, and increasingly supported these operations in 1966 and 1967. On 15 Apr 1968, gained a second B-52 and a second KC-135 squadron, again becoming a SAC "super" wing. From late May 1972 until 26 Oct 1973, loaned all wing B-52 resources to SAC organizations in the Far East and Southeast Asia; from May 1972 to early Nov 1972, loaned all but four of the wing's KC-135s and a few aircrews to other SAC units. After the return of combat resources, the wing continued supporting SAC operations in Southeast Asia into 1975, on a reduced scale.

Gained KC-10 tankers in Nov 1981 to augment refueling operations for the USAF, AFRES, and ANG.

Provided air refueling for rescue efforts in Grenada, Oct-Nov 1983, the attack on Libya, Apr 1986, and the invasion of Panama, Dec 1989-Jan 1990.

Deployed personnel, B-52 and KC-10 to Roswell NM for Mighty Force/Red Flag. Supported European Tanker Task Force) And Alaskan Tanker Task Force on rotational basis. Participated in Operation Just Cause 20 Dec 1989 to 3 Jan 1990. Deployed personnel, B-52, and KC-10 to Fairford, England for Central Enterprise and Busy Warrior in support of NATO exercise Elder Forest and Blue Harrier.

Deployed B-52, KC-135, and KC-10 aircraft, aircrews, and support personnel to several locations in support of operations in Southwest Asia, 7 Aug 1990-17 Apr 1991. On 16 Jan 1991, launched seven B-52s from Barksdale AFB against enemy targets in Iraq, and launched conventional Air Launched Cruise Missiles (ALCM) for the first time in combat.

Gave up the 2d and 32d Air Refueling Squadrons and all KC-10s to Air Mobility Command on 1 Jun 1992.

Wing deployed personnel and aircraft to support air combat command efforts in Bosnia, Haiti



and Rwanda and flew B-52 missions to Egypt, Scotland, Jordan, Portugal, United Kingdom and Italy. Wing aircrews flew with NATO allies in Spain, Iceland and Baltic Sea, Royal Air Force in Australia and England, and other ACC units in Alaska and Guam. Wing worked with army and navy in providing air support to ground and sea forces. Participated in Global Power, Global Cruise, Weapons School Support, Busy Luggage, Rent A Buff, Ferry missions, Air Launched Cruise Missile Ferry, Hornet's Nest, Dynamic Impact, Resolute Response, Bulwark Bronze, Roving Sands, Proud Shield and Longshot special missions and deployments. 1994

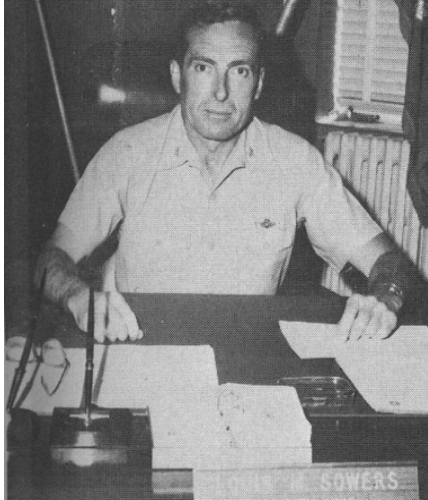
After the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START) with Russia went into force in Dec 1994, Barksdale AFB was the first base selected for compliance inspection in Jul 1995 and underwent such inspections yearly thereafter.

Continued to train for long range conventional strike capability as well as maintaining nuclear operational readiness. In response to Saddam Hussein's attacks against the Kurdish minority in northern Iraq, wing crews deployed and launched attacks against military targets in Iraq in Sep 1996.

Continued to deploy aircraft and personnel to SWA to support the Allied watch on the southern and northern "no-fly" zones in Iraq. Flew combat missions against targets in Iraq, 17-18 Dec 1998, in response to Iraq's refusal to allow UN weapons inspectors to continue work. Flew combat missions against targets in Yugoslavia, 24 Mar-9 Jun 1999, in support of NATO Operation Allied Force.

In Oct 1999 began deploying personnel in support of aerospace expeditionary forces worldwide and taking its turn being the lead wing for such AEF taskings. After the terrorist attacks against the U.S. on 11 Sep 2001, the wing has been committed to almost non-stop action in the war against global terrorism.

On 19 Sep 2001, wing elements, including the 20 BS, deployed to Diego Garcia and on 7 Oct flew early attacks on targets in Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom to rid that country of terrorist bases and its extremist Taliban rulers; later flew airborne alert missions and, in Operation Anaconda, flew bombing missions against targets in eastern Afghanistan, 1-18 Mar 2002. In the invasion of Iraq in Mar 2003, flew missions on 21 Mar in strikes against command and control targets.



Col Louis M. Sowers

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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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

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Katherine Sredl. *Defenders of Liberty: 2 Bombardment Group/Wing, 1918-1993*. Turner Publishing Company. Paducah, KY. 1996.