

## 27 FIGHTER SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

21 Aero Squadron organized, 15 Jun 1917  
Redesignated 27 Aero Squadron, 23 Jun 1917  
Redesignated 27 Squadron (Pursuit), 14 Mar 1921  
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron, 25 Jan 1923  
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor), 6 Dec 1939  
Redesignated 27 Pursuit Squadron (Fighter), 12 Mar 1941  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron (Twin-Engine), 15 May 1942  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Two-Engine, 28 Feb 1944  
Inactivated, 16 Oct 1945  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Single-Engine, 5 Apr 1946  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Jet-Propelled, 20 Jun 1946  
Activated, 3 Jul 1946  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, Jet, 15 Jun 1948  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 16 Apr 1950  
Redesignated 27 Tactical Fighter Squadron, 1 Jul 1971  
Redesignated 27 Fighter Squadron, 1 Nov 1991

#### STATIONS

Camp Kelly, TX, 15 Jun 1917  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, 18 Aug 1917 (detachments at various Canadian stations, 5 Sep–22

Oct 1917)

Taliaferro Field No. 1, TX, 29 Oct 1917

Garden City, NY, 26 Jan–25 Feb 1918

Tours, France, 20 Mar 1918

Issoudun, France, 29 Mar 1918

Epiez, France, 24 Apr 1918

Toul, France, 1 Jun 1918

Touquin, France, 28 Jun 1918

Saints, France, 9 Jul 1918

Rembercourt, France, 3 Sep 1918 (flight operated from Verdun, 25 Sep 1918–unkn)

Colombey-les-Belles, France, 12 Dec 1918

Brest, France, 5 Feb–8 Mar 1919

Garden City, NY, 19 Mar 1919

Selfridge Field, MI, 28 Apr 1919

Kelly Field, TX, 31 Aug 1919

Ellington Field, TX, 1 Jul 1921

Selfridge Field, MI, 1 Jul 1922

San Diego NAS, CA, 11 Dec 1941

Los Angeles, CA, 29 Dec 1941–20 May 1942

Goxhill, England, 9 Jun 1942 (operated from Reykjavik, Iceland, 3 Jul–26 Aug 1942)

Atcham, England, 9 Aug 1942

High Ercall, England, 20 Aug 1942

Colerne, England, 12 Sep–23 Oct 1942

St Leu, Algeria, 9 Nov 1942

Tafaraoui, Algeria, 13 Nov 1942

Nouvion, Algeria, 20 Nov 1942 (detachments operated from Maison Blanche, Algeria, 7–21 Dec 1942, and Biskra, Algeria, 21–30 Dec 1942)

Biskra, Algeria, 30 Dec 1942

Chateaudun-du-Rhumel, Algeria, 18 Feb 1943

Mateur, Tunisia, 28 Jun 1943 (detachments operated from Dittaino, Sicily, 6–18 Sep 1943, and Gambut, Libya, 5–13 Oct 1943)

Djedeida, Tunisia, 1 Nov 1943

Monserato, Sardinia, 29 Nov 1943

Gioia del Colle, Italy, 9 Dec 1943

Salsola Airfield, Italy, 8 Jan 1944 (detachments operated from Aghione, Corsica, 11–21 Aug 1944, and Vincenzo Airfield, Italy, 10 Jan–21 Feb 1945)

Lesina, Italy, 16 Mar 1945

Marcianise, Italy, 26 Sep–16 Oct 1945

March Field (later AFB), CA, 3 Jul 1946

George AFB, CA, 14 Jul 1950

Griffiss AFB, NY, 15 Aug 1950

Loring AFB, ME, 1 Oct 1959

MacDill AFB, FL, 1 Jul 1971

Langley AFB, VA, 30 Jun 1975

## **DEPLOYED STATIONS**

King Abdul Aziz AB, Saudi Arabia, 8 Aug 1990–8 Mar 1991

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Unkn, 15 Jun 1917–May 1918  
1 Pursuit Group, May–Dec 1918  
Unkn, Dec 1918–22 Aug 1919  
1 Pursuit (later, 1 Fighter) Group, 22 Aug 1919–16 Oct 1945  
1 Fighter Group, 3 Jul 1946  
4711 Defense (later, 4711 Air Defense) Wing, 6 Feb 1952  
32 Air Division, 1 Mar 1956  
4727 Air Defense Group, 8 Feb 1957  
Bangor Air Defense Sector, 1 Oct 1959  
36 Air Division, 1 Apr 1966  
35 Air Division, 15 Sep 1969  
21 Air Division, 19 Nov 1969  
1 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Jul 1971  
1 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1991

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Eastern Air Defense Force, 15 Aug 1950–3 Jun 1951  
103 Fighter Interceptor Group, 4 Jun 1951–6 Feb 1952  
14 Fighter Group, 1 Mar 1956–17 Feb 1957  
1 Tactical Fighter Wing Provisional, 8 Aug 1990–8 Mar 1991

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

C-40, 1939–1941  
DH-4, 1919–1925  
F-4, 1971–1975  
F-15A, 1975  
F-22  
F-86, 1949  
F-89, 1952–1953  
F-94, 1954–1960  
F-102, 1957–1960  
F-106, 1960–1971  
Fokker D-7, 1921  
JN-4, 1917–1918  
MB-3A, 1922–1925  
Nieuport 28, 1918  
P-1, 1925–1931  
P-6, 1928–1929  
P-12, 1930–1934

P-16, 1932  
P-26A, 1934-1938  
P-35, 1938-1941  
P-36, 1939  
P-38, 1941-1945  
P-80A, 1946-1949  
PB-2A, 1936-1937  
PW-8, 1924-1926  
SE-5, 1919-1922  
Sopwith F-1 Camel, 1918  
Spad XIII, 1918-1922  
T-38  
YP-43, 1939-1941  
XP-6  
YP-12K  
YP-38

#### **COMMANDERS**

Maj Michael Davis, 15 Jan 1917  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Fred R. Harvey, 15 Aug 1917  
Maj Harold E. Hartney, 22 Oct 1917  
Capt Alfred A. Grant, 21 Aug 1918-Unkn  
Capt Robert J. Bell, Apr 1919  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Armor S. Heffley, 16 May 1919  
Maj John J. Houghton, 13 Jul 1919  
Capt Clayton Bissell, 2 Sep 1919-Unkn  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Richard T. Aldworth, Dec 20-16 May 21  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Thomas A. Mcginnis, May 1921  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt John H. Wilson, 23 Sep 1921  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Frank O. D. Hunter, 1 Oct 1921  
**1<sup>st</sup> Lt Harold A. Mcginnis, 13 Dec 1921**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Lt Harold A. Mcginnis 16 May 21-29 Sep 21**  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Frank O' D. Hunter 29 Sep 21-3 Nov 21  
Capt William F. Donnelly 3 Nov 21-5 Jan 22  
Capt Burt E. Skeel 5 Jan 22-4 Oct 24  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Alfred J. Lyon 4 Oct 24-14 May 25  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Russell L. Meredith 14 May 25-14 Jul 25  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt J. Thad Johnson 14 Jul 25-2 Jul 27  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Louis Simon 2 Jul 27-5 Sep 27  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Rex K. Stoner 5 Sep 27-23 Aug 28  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Virgil Hine 23 Aug 28-21 May 29  
Capt Lotha A. Smith 21 May 29-11 Jan 30  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Marion L. Elliot 11 Jan 30-30 Sep 30  
Capt Rowland W. Blessey 30 Sep 30-1 Jul 33

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Alfred A. Kessler 1 Jul 33-19 Nov 34  
Capt Rowland W. Blessey 19 Nov 34-27 Feb 35  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Alfred A. Kessler 27 Feb 35-1 Mar 35  
Maj James E. Parker 1 Mar 35-27 Aug 35  
Capt Leo H. Dawson, 27 Aug 1935  
Maj Warren A. Maxwell, 1 Sep 1935  
Maj Warren A. Maxwell 2 Sep 35-15 Jun 37  
Capt Dixon M. Allison 15 Jun 37-5 Aug 37  
Maj Willis R. Taylor 5 Aug 37-Aug 41  
Maj William E. Covington Jr. Aug 41-Apr 42  
Maj John W. Weltman, Apr 1942  
Capt Joseph A. Glenn Jr., 9 Dec 1942  
Maj Joel A. Owens Jr., 3 Jan 1943  
Maj Darrel G. Welch, 26 Mar 1943  
Capt James E. Pate, 10 May 1943  
Maj Edward S. E. Newbury, 3 Sep 1943  
Maj Gilbert E. Butler, 27 Sep 1943  
Maj Thomas F. Rafael, 11 Apr 1944  
Lt Col Francis J. Pope, 20 Jul 1944  
Maj Marvin J. Migl, 9 May 1945-Unkn  
Maj Rex T. Barber, 1946  
Lt Col Jack T. Bradley, 22 Aug 1946  
Lt Col Loren G. McCallom, Aug 1947  
Lt Col Hugh D. Dow, Jun 1948  
Lt Col John R. Murphy, Aug 1948  
Lt Col Clayton L. Peterson, 16 Feb 1949  
Lt Col Jack W. Hayes Jr., 21 Feb 1949  
Lt Col Clayton L. Peterson, 6 Jun 1949  
Maj Dwight S. Beckhan, 16 Oct 1951  
Lt Col Benjamin H. Emmert Jr., 29 Oct 1951  
Lt Col William M. Shelton, 1953  
Maj John H. Recher, 1954  
Maj Robert R. Wright, Apr 1956  
Lt Col David E. Latane, By June 1956-Unkn  
Col Grant R. Smith, By Jan 1958  
Lt Col William H. Stewart, 10 Jul 1958  
Unkn, May 1959-1961  
Lt Col Eugene L. Hinkley, By Jul 1961  
Lt Col Robert Tomlinson, Aug 1963  
Lt Col Bernard H. Barton, By Jun 1965  
Col William W. Moore, 8 Dec 1967  
Lt Col Francis J. Burkhardt, Mar 1969 (Temporary)  
Col James M. Thomas, Apr 1969  
Lt Col Harold Compton, By Nov 1970

Lt Col Daniel O. Walsh, 1 Jul 1971  
Lt Col Larry D. Armstrong, 24 Aug 1971  
Lt Col Alan S. Christner Jr., 28 May 1973  
Lt Col Jerry D. Cobb, 11 Sep 1974  
Lt Col James Woods, 2-29 Jun 1975  
None (Not Manned), 30 Jun-14 Aug 1975  
Lt Col Richard L. Craft, 15 Aug 1975  
Lt Col John E. Jaquish, 15 Mar 1977  
Lt Col George A. Devorshak, 5 Jan 1979  
Lt Col Edward J. Hardenbrook, 5 Dec 1980  
Lt Col Ronald R. Torgler, 16 Jul 1982  
Lt Col Hal M. Hornburg, 31 Jul 1984  
Lt Col John W. Rutledge, 15 May 1985  
Lt Col Roy E. Parker, 15 May 1987  
Lt Col Donald G. Kline, 21 Apr 1989  
Lt Col Gerald F. Pease Jr., 19 Apr 1991  
Lt Col Mark E. Smith, 12 Jun 1992  
Lt Col Mark L. Jefferson, 11 Jun 1993  
Lt Col James E. Hartney, 27 Jun 1994  
Lt Col Stanley T. Kresge, 16 Feb 1996  
Lt Col Charles K. Shugg, 30 Jan 1998  
Lt Col James M. Holmes, 27 May 1999  
Lt Col Brian Dickerson, 7 Jul 2000  
Lt Col Keith P. Feaga, 4 Jan 2002  
Lt Col Stuart Nichols, 12 Feb 2003  
Lt Col James B. Heckler, 1 Oct 2004

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War I

Lorraine

Champagne

Ile-de-France

Champagne-Marne

Aisne-Marne

Oise-Aisne

St Mihiel

Muese-Argonne

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Egypt-Libya

Air Offensive, Europe  
Algeria-French Morocco, with Arrowhead  
Tunisia  
Sicily  
Naples-Foggia  
Anzio  
Rome-Arno  
Normandy  
Northern France  
Southern France  
North Apennines  
Rhineland  
Central Europe  
Po Valley  
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Southwest Asia  
Defense of Saudi Arabia  
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Italy, 25 Aug 1943  
Italy, 30 Aug 1943  
Ploesti, Rumania, 18 May 1944

#### Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jun 1970–1 Jul 1971  
1 Jan 1976–31 Oct 1976  
15 Jun 1982–15 Jun 1984  
16 Jun 1984–15 Jun 1986  
28 Apr 1990– 27 Apr 1992  
1 May 1992–30 Apr 1994  
1 Jun 1995–31 May 1997  
1 Jun 1998–31 May 2000  
1 Jun 2000–31 May 2001

#### **EMBLEM**

On 18 May 1918, 1st Lt Malcolm Gunn was entrusted with the design of a squadron insignia. An insignia proposed to have a shield in cloud background and pierced by an arrow was disapproved by the Chief of Air Service due to confusion 'with the insignia granted the 94th Squadron.

Corporal Blumberg drew up the insignia, an American eagle with outspread wings and extended talons, which was said to have originated on the side of an Annhauser Busch Beer Wagon.



27 Pursuit Squadron emblem approved, 4 Mar 1924



27 Fighter Interceptor Squadron



27 Tactical Fighter Squadron emblem: On a Yellow disc edged with a narrow Black border, a small Red disc, overall a Gray falcon in attack flight, head and talons White, eye and tongue Red, beak



and feet Yellow, underside of wings Black detailed Grey. (Approved, 17 Sep 1971)



**MOTTO**

Fighting Falcons

**OPERATIONS**

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Unit yearbook. *32<sup>nd</sup> Air Division. 1955.*