

34th TRAINING WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

34th Bombardment Group (Heavy) established, 20 Nov 1940

Activated, 15 Jan 1941

Redesignated 34th Bombardment Group, Heavy, 15 Feb 1944

Inactivated, 28 Aug 1945

34th Tactical Group established and activated, 19 Jun 1963

Organized, 8 Jul 1963

Discontinued and inactivated, 8 Jul 1965

34th Bombardment Group, Heavy and 34th Tactical Group consolidated, 31 Jan 1984

Redesignated 34th Training Wing, 30 Sep 1994

Activated, 31 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Langley Field, VA, 15 Jan 1941

Westover Field, MA, 29 May 1941

Pendleton Field, OR, 27 Jan 1942

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 13 May 1942

Geiger Field, WA, 4 Jul 1942

Ephrata, WA, 1 Dec 1942

Blythe, CA, 15 Dec 1942-Apr 1944

Mendlesham, England, 26 Apr 1944-25 Jul 1945

Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, Aug-28 Aug 1945

Bien Hoa AB, South Vietnam, 8 Jul 1963-8 Jul 1965
United States Air Force Academy, CO, 31 Oct 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

2nd Bombardment Wing, 15 Jan 1941
4th Bombardment Wing, 3 Jun 1941
1st Bomber Command, 5 Sep 1941
2nd (later, Second) Air Force, 27 Jan 1942
16th Bombardment Training (later, 16th Bombardment Operational Training) Wing, 15 Dec 1942
93rd Combat Bombardment Wing, c. 26 Apr 1944
45th Combat Bombardment Wing, 24 May 1945
20th Bombardment Wing, 18 Jun-28 Aug 1945
Pacific Air Forces, 19 Jun 1963
2nd Air Division, 8 Jul 1963-8 Jul 1965
United States Air Force Academy, 31 Oct 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

PT-47, 1941
LB-30, 1941
B-18, 1941
B-17, 1941-1942, 1944-1945
B-24, 1942-1944
O-1, 1963-1965
U-10, 1963-1965
B-26, 1963-1964
RB-26, 1963-1964
T-28, 1963-1964
C-47, 1963-1965
A-1, 1964-1965
B-57, 1964, 1965

COMMANDERS

Maj John W. Monahan, 15 Jan 1941
LTC Harold D. Smith, 1 Mar 1941
Maj Ford J. Lauer, 9 Jan 1942
Col Ralph E. Koon, 12 Feb 1942
Maj Irvine A. Rendel, 21 Jul 1942
Maj John A. Rouse, 24 Feb 1943
LTC John E. Carmack, 15 Sep 1943
Col Ernest F. Wackwitz Jr., Jan 1944
Col William E. Creer, 8 Sep 1944
LTC Eugene B. Lebailly, 29 May-Aug 1945
None (not manned), 19 Jun-7 Jul 1963
Col Coleman O. Williams, 8 Jul 1963

Col Robert L. Loughry, 12 Nov 1963
Col Benjamin S. Preston Jr., 1 Feb 1964
Col William E. Bethea, 20 Jun 1964
Col Philip Brooks, 8 Jun-8 Jul 1965
Maj Gen Patrick K. Gamble, 31 Oct 1994
BG John Hopper Jr., 7 Nov 1994
BG Stephen R. Lorenz, 27 Aug 1996
BG Mark A. Welsh III, 14 Jun 1999
BG S. Taco Gilbert III, 3 Aug 2001
BG Johnny A. Weida, Apr 2003

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Antisubmarine, American Theater
Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Vietnam
Vietnam Advisory
Vietnam Defensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
[8 Jul] 1963-31 Jul 1964
1 Sep 1994-31 Oct 1995

EMBLEM



34th Bombardment Group emblem approved, 4 Nov 1941; modified, 15 Oct 1997



34th Tactical Group emblem

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Flew patrol missions along the east coast after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Served as a replacement training unit from mid-1942 until the end of 1943, and then prepared for overseas duty with B-24s. Moved to England in Apr 1944 and entered combat on 23 May 1944. Helped to prepare for the Normandy invasion by bombing airfields in France and Germany and supported the landing by attacking coastal defenses and communications targets. Supported ground

forces at St Lo, 24-25 Jul, and attacked V-weapons sites, gun emplacements, and supply lines during the summer, 1944. Converted to B-17s and engaged primarily in bombardment of strategic objectives from Oct 1944 to Feb 1945. Began in March 1945 the interdiction of enemy communications and support of Allied ground forces. After V-E Day, carried food to flooded areas of Holland and transported prisoners of war from German camps to Allied centers.

Redeployed US Jun and Jul 1945. First of air echelon departed, 19 Jun 1945. Ground echelon sailed Queen Elizabeth from Southampton, 6 Aug 1945.

First Mission: 23 May 1944

Last Mission: 20 Apr 1945

Total Missions: 170 (62 B-24)

Total Credit Sorties: 5,713

Total Bomb Tonnage: 13,424.6 tons

Aircraft missing in action: 34; Other aircraft operational losses: 39

Enemy aircraft claims; 8 destroyed, 4 damaged; probably destroyed

6 food missions, 446 tons, May 1945

Organized in Jul 1963 to train Republic of Vietnam Air Force (RVNAF) personnel in counterinsurgency operations. Provided training for RVNAF strike pilots, forward air controllers, and observers. Also flew a variety of combat missions, including close air support, escort and interdiction, psychological warfare, aerial supply, forward air control and tactical liaison. Pioneered tactical weapons and munitions, such as the A-1 Skyraider, the minigun, the daisycutter, and the gunship. Aircrews of the 1st Air Commando Squadron performed the first combat tests of the FC-47 gunship beginning Dec 1964. 6251st Tactical Fighter Wing replaced the group in Jul 1965.

In late 1994, the 34 Training Wing encompassed the Commandant of Cadets at the United States Air Force Academy as the administrative organization responsible for cadet leadership and military training programs, instruction in military and airmanship courses, and general supervision of cadet life activities.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 30 Nov 2010

Updated: 5 Feb 2019

Sources

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

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