

46 EXPEDITIONARY SPECIAL OPERATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

46 Bombardment Squadron, Light constituted, 10 Mar 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 16 Apr 1947
Inactivated, 2 Sep 1949
Activated in the Reserve, 10 Oct 1949
Ordered to active service, 10 Mar 1951
Inactivated, 22 Mar 1951
Redesignated 46 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 12 Apr 1955
Activated in the Reserve, 18 May 1955
Inactivated, 16 Nov 1957
Redesignated 46 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy and activated, 15 Nov 1962
Organized, 1 Feb 1963
Redesignated 46 Bomb Squadron, 1 Sep 1991
Inactivated, 16 Jul 1994
Redesignated 46 Expeditionary Special Operations Squadron, and converted to provisional status, 24 Jan 2005

STATIONS

Mitchel Field (later, Mitchel AFB), NY, 16 Apr 1947
Reading Municipal Airport, PA, 27 Jun-2 Sep 1949
Birmingham Municipal Airport, AL, 10 Oct 1949-22 Mar 1951
Memphis Municipal Airport, TN, 18 May 1955-16 Nov 1957
Grand Forks AFB, ND, 1 Feb 1963-16 Jul 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

319 Bombardment Group, 16 Apr 1947-2 Sep 1949

319 Bombardment Group, 10 Oct 1949-22 Mar 1951

319 Fighter-Bomber Group, 18 May 1955-16 Nov 1957

319 Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963

319 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991

319 Bomb Group, 1 Oct 1993-16 Jul 1994

Air Force Special Operations Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 24 Jan 2005

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-84, 1955-1957

F-86 1957

B-52, 1963-1986

B-1, 1987-1994

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 16 Apr 1947-2 Sep 1949

Unkn, 10 Oct 1949-22 Mar 1951

Unkn, 18 May 1955-16 Nov 1957

Lt Col Robert J. Horrigan, 1 Feb 1963

Lt Col Richard A. Bosworth, Jul 1963

Lt Col Milton J. Jones, Mar 1964

Lt Col Robert C. Flanders, 15 Nov 1965

Lt Col William D. Coleman, 15 Mar 1966

Lt Col John N. Hoffman, 1 Aug 1966

Lt Col Henry D. Rauchenstein, 28 Mar 1968

Lt Col Thomas H. Meyers, 9 Jun 1969 (Temporary)

Lt Col Donald L. Puckett, 25 Aug 1969

Lt Col Maynard L. Park, 2 Feb 1970

Lt Col John H. Thigpen Jr., 2 Feb 1971

Lt Col Oliver J. Cook Jr., 1 Apr 1972

Lt Col Elmer Funderburk Jr., 6 Nov 1972

Lt Col Donald S. Aunapu, 17 Jul 1973

Lt Col Tim T. Daugherty, 1 Sep 1974

Lt Col Robert L. Hrubby, 1 Dec 1975

Lt Col John R. Allen, 28 Feb 1977

Lt Col Robert H. Zannini, 5 Jul 1978

Lt Col Kenneth A. Anderson, 14 Oct 1980

Lt Col Douglas B. Aitken, 2 Oct 1981

Lt Col Terry A. Burke, 27 May 1983

Lt Col Alvin W. Jorgensen, 22 Jun 1984

Lt Col William R. Hodges, 8 Jul 1985

Lt Col Silas R. Johnson, Jr., 3 17 Jun 1986

Lt Col William D. Currence, 13 Apr 1987

Lt Col John P. Priecko, 15 Jun 1988
Lt Col Ross H. Younkin, 11 Oct 1989
Lt Col William J. Moran, 14 Jun 1991
Lt Col Jack A. Wylie Jr., 26 Feb 1993
Unkn 1 Oct 1993-16 Jul 1994

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1977-30 Jun 1979

1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1989

1 Jul 1991-30 Jun 1993

EMBLEM



46 Fighter-Bomber Squadron emblem



46 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy emblem approved, 19 Sep 1983

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Active in the Reserve from 1947-1949 and 1949-1951, the 46 participated in routine training activities. Activated in the Reserve again in May 1955, the squadron evidently trained in and flew the F-84, placing emphasis on gunnery and flying training. Its primary mission became one of air defense of Memphis and the mid-South. In June 1957, the squadron underwent transition training to fly the F-86. USAF changeover to troop carrier functions led to the 46's inactivation in Nov 1957. From 1968, the squadron provided aircraft and personnel to participate in Arc Light combat mission in Southeast Asia, and over the years participated in exercises such as Bar None, Top Rung, Snowtime, Big Blast, High Noon, and Red Flag. In Sep 1987 the squadron acquired the B-1B which it flew until inactivation in 1994.

46 Bombardment Squadron supplied crews and support to tactical war in Southeast Asia 1969

46 Bombardment Squadron flew eighty-seven sorties in support of Operation Hardhead. 1964

Members of 46 Bombardment Squadron participated in mock attack against carrier group at Miramar Naval Air Station CA. 1989

Crews from 46 BS deployed to Pease AFB MA for COMLANT fleet exercise. 319 BW crews participated in Red Flag, Copper Flag and two joint exercises with navy. 1989

Acquired B-52Hs previously used by the 30 BS/4133 SW on 1/2/63 and operated this model until 1982 when re-equipped with the B-52G. Disposed of B-52G in 1986 and subsequently gained the B-1B in 1987.

USAF 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.

Unit yearbook. *319 BMW and 18th FIS, Grand Forks AFB, ND.* @1964.