

6 AIR DIVISION



MISSION

6 Air Division mission was to serve as monitoring agency over its assigned units and to exercise command jurisdiction over such units and installations as may be assigned and attest to the capability of each assigned unit to perform its emergency war order tasks.

LINEAGE

6 Pursuit Wing, established, 19 Oct 1940
Activated, 18 Dec 1940
Inactivated, 7 Dec 1941
Redesignated 6 Fighter Wing, 30 May 1942
Activated, 7 Jun 1942
Disestablished, 13 Sep 1943
Reestablished, 5 Aug 1946
Activated, 25 Aug 1946
Inactivated, 28 Jul 1948
Redesignated 6 Air Division, 1 Feb 1951
Organized, 10 Feb 1951
Discontinued, 16 Jun 1952
Activated, 16 Jun 1952
Discontinued and inactivated, 2 Jul 1966
Activated, 5 Jul 1968
Organized, 1 Aug 1968
Inactivated, 15 Dec 1969

STATIONS

Selfridge Field, MI, 18 Dec 1940-7 Dec 1941
Harrisburg Municipal Airport, PA, 7 Jun-4 Aug 1942
Bushey Hall, England, 16 Aug 1942
Atcham, England, 24 Aug 1942-13 Sep 1943
Howard Field, Canal Zone, 25 Aug 1946-28 Jul 1948
MacDill AFB, FL, 10 Feb 1951-16 Jun 1952
MacDill AFB, FL, 16 Jun 1952
Dow AFB, ME, 1 Apr 1961-2 Jul 1966
Clark AB, Philippines, 1 Aug 1968-15 Dec 1969

ASSIGNMENTS

GHQ Air Force
Northeast Air District, later 1st Air Force, 16 Jan 1941
1 Interceptor Command, 5 Jun-7 Dec 1941), 18 Dec 1940-7 Dec 1941
Eighth Air Force, 7 Jun 1942-13 Sep 1943
Caribbean Air Command, 25 Aug 1946-28 Jul 1948
Second Air Force, 10 Feb 1951-16 Jun 1952
Second Air Force, 16 Jun 1952
Eighth Air Force, 1 Jan 1959-2 Jul 1966
Pacific Air Forces, 5 Jul 1968
Thirteenth Air Force, 1 Aug 1968-15 Dec 1969

ATTACHMENTS

First Air Force, 7 Jun 1942-5 Aug 1942

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 18 Dec 1940
Brig Gen Henry B. Clagett Jan 1941
Col Lawrence P. Hickey Apr 1941
Brig Gen Carlyle H. Wash 15 Sep 1941-7 Dec 1941
Lt Col Paul M. Jacobs, 13 Jul 1942
Lt Col John W. Ranson, 17 Sep 1942
Lt Col Jack W. Hickman, 13 Mar 1943
Col Ross G. Hoyt, 18 Mar 1943
Col Jack W. Hickman, 4 Jun 1943-Unkn
Brig Gen Morris R. Nelson, Aug 1946
Col William R. Morgan, 29 Dec 1947
Col Murray C. Woodbury, 17 Feb-28 Jul 1948
Col Thayer S. Olds, 10 Feb 1951
Maj Gen Frank A. Armstrong Jr., May 1951-16 Jun 1952
Maj Gen Frank A. Armstrong Jr., 16 Jun 1952
Brig Gen Henry K. Mooney, 16 Nov 1952
Brig Gen Kenneth O. Sanborn, 31 Jul 1954

Col Paul S. Emrick, 17 Feb 1955
Brig Gen Kenneth O. Sanborn, 1 Jun 1955
Brig Gen Paul S. Emrick, 17 Feb 1956
Brig Gen Paul W. Tibbets Jr., 2 Jan 1958
Col Brooks A. Lawhon, 1 Feb 1961
Brig Gen Perry M. Hoisington II, 1 Apr 1961
Col George W. R. Zethren, 10 Jul 1961
Col Harry R. Burrell, 2 Jun 1962
Brig Gen Richard C. Neeley, 6 Jul 1962
Col Robert J. Nolan, By 11 Feb 1965-2 Jul 1966
Col Phillip C. Rawlins, 1 Aug 1968
Col Ernest W. Pate, 1 Jan 1969-15 Dec 1969

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II
European African Middle Eastern Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a shield per chevron argent and gules, in chief, a stylized silhouetted jet aircraft, issuing from chief, nose toward base azure; in base a sphere with land areas of the first and water areas of the third, grid lines black, over a branch of olive or, between two lightning bolts argent; superimposed overall and flanking the dexter and sinister, two stylized arrows or. (Approved, 5 Oct 1955)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

This organization briefly existed as the 6 Pursuit Wing between December 1940 and December 1941. As the 6 Fighter Wing, it moved to England in August, where it trained replacement pilots for fighter organizations until September 1943. The wing served in the Canal Zone 1946-1948. After becoming an Air Division in February 1951, it experienced several inactivations and activations, but its mission remained one of organizing and training assigned units for sustained long-range offensive bombardment and air to air refueling operations around the world. It supervised numerous deployments, exercises, and operations. In the 1960s, units under the division's control participated in Arc Light missions and controlled aircraft that flew weather reconnaissance missions in Southeast Asia.



6 Air Division headquarters, Dow AFB, ME

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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