

65 AIR DIVISION



MISSION

LINEAGE

4 Air Defense Wing established, 25 Mar 1943
Activated, 27 Mar 1943
Redesignated 65 Fighter Wing, 24 Jul 1943
Inactivated, 21 Nov 1945
Redesignated 65 Air Division (Defense), 17 Apr 1952
Organized, 24 Apr 1952
Discontinued, 8 Mar 1954
Activated, 8 Apr 1957
Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jan 1965
Redesignated 65 Air Division and activated, 1 Jun 1985
Inactivated, 30 Jun 1991

STATIONS

Hamilton Field, CA, 27 Mar-6 May 1943
Debden, England, 4 Jun 1943
Saffron Walden, England, 17 Jun 1943
Elvedon Hall, England, 1 Sep 1945
Trosten, England, 25 Oct-21 Nov 1945
Keflavik Airport, Iceland, 24 Apr 1952-8 Mar 1954
Madrid, Spain, 8 Apr 1957
Torrejon AB, Spain, 1 Oct 1957-1 Jan 1965
Sembach AB, Germany, 1 Jun 1985

Lindsey AS, Germany, 1 Oct 1987-30 Jun 1991

ASSIGNMENTS

Fourth Air Force, 27 Mar 1943
Army Service Forces, 6 May 1943
Eighth Air Force, 2 Jun 1943
VIII Fighter Command, 4 Jun 1943
2 Bombardment (later, 2 Air) Division, 15 Sep 1944
3 Air Division, 1 Jun-21 Nov 1945
Iceland Air Defense Force, 24 Apr 1952-8 Mar 1954
Sixteenth Air Force, 8 Apr 1957
United States Air Forces in Europe, 1 Jul 1960-1 Jan 1965
Seventeenth Air Force, 1 Jun 1985-30 Jun 1991

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 27 Mar 1943
Col Jesse Auton, 10 Apr 1943
Brig Gen Ross G. Hoyt, 4 Jun 1943
Brig Gen Jesse Auton, 6 Sep 1943
Col William L. Curry, 29 Jul 1945-unkn
1st Lt John J. Brody, 24 Apr 1952
Col Meredith H. Shade, 10 Oct 1952
Col Emmett S. Davis, 5 Sep 1953-unkn
Capt Newell H. Beaty, 8 Apr 1957
Col Clay Tice Jr., 15 May 1957
Brig Gen Andrew J. Evans Jr., 1 Jul 1960
Col Thomas L. Hayes, 25 Sep 1963-1 Jan 1965
Unkn, 1 Jun-14 Jul 1985
Maj Gen John C. Scheidt Jr., 15 Jul 1985
Brig Gen Philip M. Drew, 12 Aug 1986
Brig Gen John A. Corder, 3 Aug 1987
Brig Gen Gerald A. Daniel, 22 Apr 1988
Brig Gen Glenn A. Profitt II, 24 Jan 1989-unk

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II
European-African Middle Eastern Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

20 Mar 1961-9 Feb 1962

15 Apr 1989-14 Apr 1991

EMBLEM



65 Air Division (Defense) emblem



65 Air Division emblem: Per bend azure and gules, issuant from base in pale a closed helmet in profile supporting an antenna argent emitting two lightning flashes bendwise, one to dexter chief, one to sinister base and one bend sinisterwise to chief or, in chief an eight-point mullet of the third

and all within a diminished bordure of the fourth. (Approved, 1 Aug 1961)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 65th wing and its subordinate units transferred to England in Jun 1943 and began flying combat missions. Subordinate units escorted bombers, flew counter air patrols, and dive bombing missions. They attacked airdromes, marshalling yards, missile sites, industrial areas, ordnance depots, oil refineries, trains, and highways. During "Big Week," 20-25 Feb 1944, the 65th participated in the assaults against the German Air Force and the German aircraft industry.

Its units supported the Allied invasion of Normandy (Jun 1944); the Allied ground troops during the Battle of the Bulge (Dec 1944 Jan 1945); the Allied airborne attack on Holland (Operation Market-Garden, Sep 1944); the defense of the Remagen bridgehead against German air attacks (Mar 1945); and the airborne attack across the Rhine (Mar 1945).

As an Air Division, it carried out air defense operations in Iceland 1952-1954. Activated three years later it transferred to Spain, where it cooperated with Spanish Air Force units in the Air Defense Direction Centers (ADDCs). The 65th Air Division directed base construction, and the establishment of off base housing and radar sites. Its fighter squadrons flew air defense interceptions over Spanish airspace. The 65th also controlled the operations of attached tactical fighter squadrons deployed to Spain for temporary duty.

Assigned or attached units of the division participated in numerous exercises with the Spanish Air Defense Command, and in some instances, with the U.S. Sixth Fleet. In Jun 1985, the 65th assumed responsibility for integrating USAFE's electronic combat systems to maximize overall warfighting potential.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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