

# 69<sup>th</sup> AIR DIVISION

## MISSION

### LINEAGE

69<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing established, 9 Aug 1943  
Activated, 3 Sep 1943  
Redesignated 69<sup>th</sup> Composite Wing, 21 Dec 1943  
Inactivated, 26 Dec 1945  
Redesignated 69<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Wing, 28 Jan 1947  
Activated in the Reserve, 23 Mar 1947  
Redesignated 69<sup>th</sup> Air Division, Troop Carrier, 16 Apr 1948  
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949  
Redesignated 69<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 1 Sep 1959  
Inactivated

### STATIONS

Kunming, China, 3 Sep 1943  
Tsuyung, China, 12 Jan 1944  
Kunming, China, 30 Apr 1944-26 Dec 1945  
Greater Pittsburgh Airport, PA, 23 Mar 1947-27 Jun 1949

### ASSIGNMENTS

Fourteenth Air Force, 3 Sep 1943  
Tenth Air Force, 24 Aug-26 Dec 1945  
Eleventh Air Force, 23 Mar 1947  
First Air Force, 1 Jul 1948  
Ninth Air Force, 23 Feb-27 Jun 1949

### COMMANDERS

Unkn, 3 Sep-22 Dec 1943  
BG John C. Kennedy, 23 Dec 1943

Col Charles H. Anderson, 1 Sep 1945  
Maj James F. Rhodes, 15 Nov 1945-unkn  
Unkn, 23 Mar 1947-27 Jun 1949

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
China Defensive  
China Offensive

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation  
China, French Indochina, Manchuria, 1-30 Sep 1945

### **EMBLEM**

None

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

Activated in China in 1943, the wing engaged in sea sweeps and attacks against Japanese inland shipping. Between late 1943 and 1945 its units bombed and strafed such targets as trains, harbors, railroads in French Indochina, and the Canton Hong Kong area of South China. These units also provided air support to Chinese ground troops. Fighter aircraft defended Allied air bases, the eastern terminus of the Hump route, and the bases in the area of Kunming and attacked bridges, oil and gas storage facilities, supply dumps, convoys, and enemy troop concentrations. After the Japanese surrender, the 69th's troop carrier aircraft ferried troops and supplies in China, helped to evacuate prisoners of war, and flew mercy missions in China, French Indochina, and Manchuria. It activated in the Reserve in 1947 and performed training duties until Jun 1949.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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#### Sources

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