

70 AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

470 Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 9 Jul 1942
Activated, 16 Jul 1942
Disbanded, 1 May 1944

70 Air Refueling Squadron, Medium constituted, 3 Jun 1955
Activated, 1 Aug 1955
Redesignated 70 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 1 Nov 1963

470 Bombardment Squadron (Medium) reconstituted and consolidated with 70 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 19 Sep 1985,
Redesignated 70 Air Refueling Squadron, 1 Sep 1991
Inactivated, 1 Apr 1993
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Sep 1994

STATIONS

Greenville AAB, SC, 16 Jul 1942-1 May 1944
Little Rock AFB, AR, 1 Aug 1955
Grissom AFB, IN, 1 Jan 1970-1 Apr 1993
Travis AFB, CA, 1 Sep 1994

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Ernest Harmon AFB, Newfoundland, 26 Jun-15 Aug 1945 and 24 Jun-24 Sep 1957
Lajes Field [later, AB], Azores, 3 Sep 1958-12 Jan 1959, 5 Oct 1960-11 Jan 1961, and 31 Jul-28 Sep 1962)

ASSIGNMENTS

334 Bombardment Group, 16 Jul 1942-1 May 1944
70 Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Aug 1955
384 Bombardment Wing, 1 Aug 1961
43 Bombardment Wing, 1 Sep 1964
305 Air Refueling Wing, 1 Jan 1970
305 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991-1 Apr 1993
349 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-25, 1942-1944
KC-97, 1955
KC-135, 1964
EC-135, 1976-1993
KC-10A, 1994

COMMANDERS

2LT Michael DeFeo, by Aug 1942
Maj Elmer H. Epperson, 5 Aug 1942
Maj Austin J. Russell, 7 Jul 1943
Cpt Robert A. Price, 24 Jan-1 May 1944
Unkn, 1 Aug-1 Oct 1955
Lt Col Donald A. Broaddus, Oct 1955
Lt Col Robert M. Gorham, 22 Dec 1956
Lt Col Wilson W. Howard, 16 Jul 1959
Lt Col Samuel E. Dyke, 14 Feb 1964
Lt Col Donal B. Cunningham, 4 Aug 1965
Lt Col John C. Sunderland, Nov 1966
Lt Col Ralph H. Herman, 1968
Lt Col Caleb G. Pendley, c. Jan 1970
Lt Col Jimmy L. Cornwell, 10 Sep 1971
Lt Col Marvin L. Craig, 1973
Lt Col Gordon E. Smith, Jun 1974
Lt Col Donald B. Lyall, Sep 1975
Col Bobby G. Graham, 15 May 1977
Lt Col Anthony L. St Amant, 17 Aug 1979
Lt Col Robert L. Rathburn, 26 Oct 1980
Lt Col Gary W. Shuck, 24 May 1982
Lt Col Joseph E. Latt, 9 Jan 1984
Lt Col James E. Andrews, 17 Dec 1984
Lt Col Thomas S. Kasych, 9 Jun 1986
Lt Col Michael G. Reeves, 30 Mar 1988
Lt Col Ronald F. Sams, 12 Jun 1989
Lt Col James A. Studer, 30 Nov 1990

Lt Col Basil S. Norris, 1 Jun 1992-1 Apr 1993
Maj James D. Lynd, 1 Sep 1994
Maj James P. Lynott, 23 Nov 1996
Lt Col Stephen Vancil, Aug 2000
Lt Col Efrain Marrero, 9 Mar 2002
Lt Col David H. Goodhue, 8 Nov 2004
Lt Col Boyd C. Parker, 16 Dec 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

15 Feb-30 Dec 1957

1 Jul 1972-30 Jun 1973

1 Jul 1973-30 Jun 1974

1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1977

1 Jul 1979-30 Jun 1980

1 Jun 1990-31 May 1992

1 Jul 1994-15 Aug 1995

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

1 Aug 2000-31 Jul 2002

16 Aug 2003-17 Aug 2004

18 Aug 2004-17 Aug 2005

18 Aug 2005-17 Aug 2006

18 Aug 2006-17 Aug 2007

18 Aug 2007-17 Aug 2008

18 Aug 2008-17 Aug 2009

30 Sep 2009-30 Sep 2011

1 Oct 2011-30 Sep 2013

1 Oct 2013-31 Dec 2014

EMBLEM



In front of a light yellow-green disc, "Bomby" bear wearing a red aviator's helmet and white goggles, seated affronte on a white cloud formation in base, juggling four orange and white aerial bombs. (Approved, 5 Feb 1943)

One famous design created by Brooke B. Todd, Jr., and named by Robert D. Ewin, both of the Insignia and Design Branch of the Special Service Division of the Air Forces, has won world-wide acclaim within the Air Forces. This particular creation is "Bomby-The-Bear," a playful young black bear going through successive antics, including the juggling of aerial bombs in each of the respective insignia in which he appears. He runs through four squadron insignia of the 334th Bombardment Group.



70 Air Refueling Squadron emblem: On a disc divided bendwise abased, light blue and Air Force blue, a Light blue demiglobe issuing from base, Land areas Air Force golden yellow, grid lines Air Force blue, surmounted by a white Cloud; issuing from the cloud an Air Force blue mailed hand holding a red fuel can; overall a brown American eagle in flight, his head and tail white, his beak and talons Air Force golden yellow, receiving in his talons the proffered fuel can; outlines and details Air Force blue throughout. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the squadron's primary mission and depicts the 70 Air Refueling Squadron as a mailed hand furnishing fuel to the eagle, the tactical aircraft. The globe, moon, sun, and cloud indicate this

work is carried on all over the world, night and day, in fair weather and foul. The emblem carries the Air Force colors, ultramarine blue and golden yellow. (Approved, 8 May 1958)

70 Air Refueling Squadron emblem, alternate description: Celeste, issuant from sinister base a cloud formation Argent detailed Azure, emitting a dexter gauntlet appaume bendwise of the like garnished of the first, grasping a fuel can Gules detailed of the third which is carried by an eagle volant Proper; all within a diminished bordure Blue. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed 70 AIR REFUELING SQ in Blue letters.



70 Air Refueling Squadron emblem: The Ultramarine Blue background represents the vast skies of the Air Force's primary theater of operations and the medium through which Air Mobility Command extends the reach of all of the United States' Armed Forces. The Air Force Yellow found in the sun and moon signifies the excellence required of all Air Force personnel. The sun and moon themselves indicate the day-or-night, anytime-anywhere operational readiness attitude of the 70 Air Refueling Squadron. The image of the Killer Whale represents strength, agility, intelligence, and teamwork—operating unopposed in its domain. While the Killer Whale is generally amiable, once provoked it responds with undeniable force and finality. This corresponds to the role of the U.S. Air Force in that humanitarian relief is afforded those in need but a swift sword vanquishes any aggressor. The KC-10 moves unhindered through the skies just as the Killer Whale roams freely through the seas of our fluid, ever-changing world. Teamwork is a way of life for these creatures as they live day-to-day in social packs, also called pods, that become more cohesive and formidable for the hunt as represented by the two whales side-by-side. Similarly, the 70's personnel are quickly forged from various civilian occupations into an agile fighting machine, working beside their active duty counterparts when duty calls. Finally, the silver border that encompasses the entire emblem honors the silver wings worn by those who have gone before us.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Trained B-25 replacement aircrews, Sep 1942-Apr 1944.

Deployed on operation Full Moon for 60 days to Ernest Harmon AFB, Canada, 26 Jun 56.

Departed Little Rock AFB on 24 Jun 57 for 90/day temporary duty tour deployment to Ernest Harmon AFB, Canada, 1957

70 AREFS was hampered in Dec 58 by bad weather at their temporary duty base, as well as by problem of engine changes which affected their flying capability. Supply problems were encountered in procurement of aircraft parts used in operation Sand Piper deployment of 70 AREFS to forward bases in Atlantic/European/UK/North African areas which began in Oct 58.

70 AREFS began participation in Reflex Action operation on 9 Jan 59 with first aircraft being deployed to Goose AB, Canada on 19 Jan 59; and 70 AREFS support of Reflex Action operations was scheduled to be discontinued by 30 Jun 59

70 AREFS supported Spanish Tanker Task Force

Supported the National Emergency Airborne Command Post from 1970 to 1993.

To consolidate resources, SAC reorganized Post Attack Command Control System in 1975. The 3rd ACCS was inactivated after its functions had been assumed by the 70 AREFS at Grissom and the 2nd ACCS at Offutt.

Deployed aircrews and aircraft to Europe and the Arabian peninsula during the Persian Gulf war, 1990-1991.

Flew air refueling missions worldwide, 1994-. After 11 Sep 2001 attack on the U. S., supported Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle and Iraqi Freedom; supported Hurricane Katrina relief effort in Sep 2005.

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.