

## 305 OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON



### MISSION

The 305 Operations Support Squadron combines numerous support activities into a single unit to integrate training, planning, and operations support for JB MDL's active duty and reserve flying squadrons. The 305 OSS also hosts the KC-10 Formal Training Unit, responsible for training and upgrading KC-10 aircrew members. The squadron provides support to an entire fleet of KC-10 and C-17 aircraft on their worldwide missions.

### LINEAGE

305 Airdrome Squadron (Special) constituted, 1 Apr 1943

Activated, 5 Apr 1943

Inactivated, 25 Mar 1946

Disbanded, 8 Oct 1948

305 Operations Squadron constituted, 25 Mar 1959

Activated, 1 Jun 1959

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jan 1962

305 Airdrome Squadron (Special) and 305 Operations Squadron consolidated and redesignated 305 Operations Support Squadron, 29 Aug 1991

Activated, 1 Sep 1991

### STATIONS

Dalhart AAFld, Tex, 5 Apr 1943

New Orleans, La, 26 Jan - 9 Feb 1944

Milne Bay, New Guinea, 16 Mar 1944

Finschafen, New Guinea, 26 Apr 1944  
Tadji, New Guinea, 26 Apr 1944  
Tacloban, Leyte, Philippine Islands, 24 Oct 1944  
Yontan, Okinawa, Ryukyu Islands, 7 Jul 1945  
Irumagawa, Japan, 5 Nov 1945 - 25 Mar 1946  
Bunker Hill AFB, IN, 1 Jun 1959 - 1 Jan 1962  
Grissom AFB, IN, 1 Sep 1991  
McGuire AFB, NJ, 1 Oct 1994

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Second Air Force, 5 Apr 1943  
Fifth Air Force, Feb 1944  
V Air Force Service Command, Aug 1944  
46 Service Group, (by 27 Oct) 1944  
59 Service Group, 20 Nov 1944-25 Mar 1946  
305 Combat Support Group, 1 Jun 1959-1 Jan 1962  
305 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991  
305 Support Group, 15 Oct 1993  
305 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1994

### **COMMANDERS**

Maj Frank H. Blakey, 16 Mar 44 - 10 Jun 1944  
Capt J.C. Small  
Lt Col Larry L. Wheeler, 1 Sep 1991  
Lt Col Donald S. Ellis, 8 May 1992  
Maj Steven D. Walker  
Capt Timothy L. Hershberger, 14 Mar 1994  
Lt Col Janet L. Kunciw, 1 Oct 1994  
Lt Col James E. Rennie, 30 Jun 1995  
Lt Col Gwen M. Linde, 10 May 1996  
Lt Col Marc L. Pagliaro, 27 May 1997  
Lt Col Steven F. Miller, 12 Nov 1998  
Lt Col Ronald J. Celentano, 27 Jun 2000  
Lt Col Steven Jordan, 7 Jul 2001  
Lt Col Stuart Archer, 11 Jun 2003  
Lt Col Gordon D. Bridger, 19 Jan 2005  
Lt Col Stephen D. Rotta, 23 Feb 2006  
Lt Col Geoffrey Norton, 7 Nov 2007  
Lt Col Michael Rickard, 7 Jul 2009  
Lt Col Stephen P. Snelson, 20 Jun 2011  
Lt Col Richard Tanner, 21 Jun 2013  
Lt Col Jannell C. Macaulay, 5 Jun 2015  
Lt Col Michele A. Lobianco, 9 Dec 2016  
Lt Col James G. Kerley, 25 Jun 2018

Lt Col Jonathan C. O'Dell, 10 Jan 2020

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

Global War on Terrorism Service, 11 Sep 2001

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

Asiatic-Pacific Theater

New Guinea 1943-1944

Leyte 1944-1945

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Sep 1991 – 31 May 1992

1 Jul 1994 - 30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 1996 - 30 Jun 1998

1 Jul 1998 – 30 Jun 1999

1 Jul 1999 – 30 Jun 2000

1 Jul 2000 - 30 Jun 2001

1 Jul 2001 - 30 Jun 2002

1 Jul 2002 - 30 Jun 2003

1 Jul 2003 - 30 Jun 2004

1 Jul 2004 - 30 Jun 2006

1 Jul 2006 - 30 Jun 2007

1 Jul 2007 - 30 Jun 2008

1 Jul 2009 – 30 Jun 2011

1 Jul 2018 – 30 Jun 2020

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

17 Oct 1944 - 4 Jul 1945

### **EMBLEM**

Blazon: Azure as a globe gridlined Celeste a base embattled Gules overall a stylized aircraft emitting a contrail ascending bendwise Or; all within a diminished bordure of the last. Attached below the disc a Purple scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "FOR GLOBAL REACH" in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The embattled base denotes the Squadron's commitment to defend the peace. The aircraft soaring over the globe symbolizes the unit's ability to accomplish its mission anywhere in the world. (Approved, 29 March 1995)

## **MOTTO**

SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL REACH

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 305 OSS, in its capacity as the 305th Airdrome Squadron in World War II, served with distinction in the South Pacific, and its operations of airfields in New Guinea and the Philippines meant that the squadron worked directly with some of the luminaries of American air power, including Maj Thomas B. McGuire Jr., (for whom McGuire AFB is named and a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient; the nation's second leading ace of all time) and Maj Richard Bong (also a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient and the nation's leading ace of all time). Working in extremely primitive conditions on mud strips, the 305th Aerodrome Squadron ensured that the life and death struggle for air superiority in New Guinea was not hampered by operational curtailments and failures of effort to keep the strips open after enemy ground and air attacks and in abysmal weather. So close was the enemy to the its operations, the first 305th Airdrome Squadron's first wartime commander in World War II went missing in action 10 June 1944—a victim of a Japanese infiltrator. His remains were discovered in 1999 (Maj Frank Blakely of Millbrook, Alabama). For the unit's early occupation of Tacloban Field, Leyte, Philippines, in late 1944, and its courage under fire, it was awarded the Philippines Presidential Unit Citation. The unit inactivated after the end of initial phase of Japanese Home Island occupation in early 1946, and remained dormant until it was reconstituted at Bunker Hill AFB, IN, in support of the 305th Bombardment Wing and its KC-135s, B-47s and B-58s. The unit controlled airfield operations at Bunker Hill until 1962 when it inactivated again. In 1991, the unit was again reconstituted and activated in September 1991, and has been an essential part of the 305 ARW and later 305 AMW ever since. On 1 October 1994, the 305 OSS moved to McGuire AFB, NJ, and took control of base Intelligence, weather, airfield operations, air traffic control and sundry mission planning duties for C-141s, KC-10s, C12s, KC-135s, and in 2004, C-17s. The 305 OSS operates in one of the most challenging air spaces in the world. The 305 OSS won Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards for the first 15 years of its operations in New Jersey, and has participated in near-continuous deployments to ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM—an astounding achievement perhaps never equaled by a unit with so complex a mission.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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### Sources

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