

## 313 TACTICAL FIGHTER SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

313 Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) constituted, 21 Jan 1942

Activated, 9 Feb 1942

Redesignated 313 Fighter Squadron, 15 May 1942

Inactivated, 7 Nov 1945

Redesignated 313 Tactical Fighter Squadron, 1 Nov 1976

Activated, 15 Nov 1976

Inactivated, 30 Dec 1991

### STATIONS

Key Field, MS, 9 Feb 1942

Orlando AB, FL, 20 Mar 1942

Leesburg AAFld, FL, 5 Jan 1943

Keystone AAFld, FL, 17 Nov 1943

Orlando AB, FL, 28 Jan-13 Mar 1944

Lyminton, England, 5 Apr 1944

Carentan, France, 24 Jun 1944

Meautis, France, 16 Aug 1944

Orly, France, 30 Aug 1944

Laon, France, 15 Sep 1944

Lyons/Bron, France, 29 Sep 1944

Toul/Ochey, France, 3 Nov 1944

Giebelstadt, Germany, 20 Apr 1945  
Mannheim, Germany, 21 May-c. 23 Jun 1945  
La Junta AAFld, CO, 6 Aug-7 Nov 1945  
Hahn AB, Germany, 15 Nov 1976

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

50<sup>th</sup> Pursuit (later Fighter) Group, 9 Feb 1942-7 Nov 1945  
50<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-40, 1942-1943  
P-47, 1943-1945  
F-16

### **COMMANDERS**

#### **HONORS**

##### **Service Streamers**

American Theater

##### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Europe  
Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe

##### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

##### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
ETO, 13-20 Mar 1945  
Germany, 25 Apr 1945

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army  
6 Jun-30 Sep 1944

### **EMBLEM**



On an orange disc, within a red border, the head and face of an English bull dog white, trimmed black, wearing a red spiked collar. (Approved, 16 Nov 1942)

#### **MOTTO**

Lucky Puppies

#### **OPERATIONS**

Conducted training in tactics and air defense for the Fighter Command School, and later trained cadres and key personnel of other units in fighter tactics while functioning as part of the AAF School of Applied Tactics, 20 Mar 1942-28 Jan 1944; combat in ETO, 1 May 1944-7 May 1945.

Following the re-assignment of the 81st TFS to Zweibrucken in 1971 as the first 'Wild Weasel' squadron in USAFE, the 50th TFW was left with the 10th TFS and the 496th TFS under its command. The 496th was a specialist air defence outfit which only in the previous year, 1970, had relinquished its F-102 Delta Dagger interceptors and been redesignated as a tactical fighter squadron rather than a fighter interceptor squadron. Its new equipment was the F-4E Phantom and although transformed therewith into the 496th TFS from the 496th FIS, the squadron retained its primary air defence mission. The Wing's other squadron, the 10th TFS, flew the F-4D version of the Phantom, and had been so equipped since the mid-1960s. The present shape of the 50th TFW materialised during 1976 as part of the Phantom re-shuffle in USAFE occasioned by the lead-in to the re-equipment of the 36th TFW at Bitburg with the F-15 Eagle. Instead of withdrawing the Bitburg F-4Es from Europe, USAFE distributed the aircraft to other wings and bases thus significantly upgrading the overall strength of the Command and permitting both the formation of new squadrons and the replacement of earlier Phantom variants by the F-4E. At Hahn these developments resulted in the re-activation of the 313 TFS to operate a newly available squadron of F-4Es, and the issue of F-4Es to the 10th TFS in place of their F-4Ds.

November 15, 1976 The 313 Tactical Fighter Squadron joined the wing. ca. Oct-Dec 1977 During exercise Midlink 77, wing F-4 crews became the first in the USAF to be refueled by a KC-747 of the Imperial Iranian Air Force.

December 30, 1981 The wing received the first F-16A delivered to the 313 Tactical Fighter Squadron.





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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.