The 320th Air Expeditionary Wing (320 AEW) is a provisional United States Air Force unit assigned to the Air Force District of Washington. It is stationed at Bolling AFB, District of Columbia. The 320 AEW may be activated or inactivated at any time.

LINEAGE
320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group (Medium) established, 19 Jun 1942
Activated, 23 Jun 1942
Redesignated 320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Medium, 31 Aug 1944
Inactivated, 4 Dec 1945
Redesignated 320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Light, 26 May 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 9 Jul 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, Medium established and activated, 1 Dec 1952
Discontinued, 15 Sep 1960
Redesignated 320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 15 Nov 1962
Organized, 1 Feb 1963

320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, Light and 320<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, Heavy consolidated, 31 Jan 1984

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1989
Redesignated 320<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Group, and converted to provisional status, 19 Nov 1998
Activated, 1 Dec 1998
Inactivated, 1 Dec 2001
Redesignated 320<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing, 1 Feb 2002
STATIONS
MacDill AAB, FL, 23 Jun 1942
Drane Field, FL, 8 Aug-Sep 1942; (advanced echelon: Fort Dix, NJ, 29 Aug-5 Sep 1942; Hethel, England, 12 Sep-11 Nov 1942; Oran, Algeria, 21 Nov 1942), (ground echelon: Camp Kilmer, NJ, 23-26 Sep 1942; Tibenham, England, 4 Oct-9 Nov 1942; Oran, Algeria, 21 Nov 1942 [includes advance echelon from this point on]; Tafaraoui, Algeria, 22 Nov 1942; Relizane, Algeria, 19 Dec 1942; La Senia, Algeria, 8 Jan 1943), (flight echelon: Baer Field, IN, 19 Sep 1942; Morrison Field, FL, 19 Nov-2 Dec 1942; Tafaraoui, Algeria, 29 Dec 1942 La Senia, Algeria, 5 Jan 1943)
Tafaraoui, Algeria, 28 Jan 1943
Montesquieu, Algeria, 10 Apr 1943
Massicault, Tunisia, 29 Jun 1943
El Bathan, Tunisia, 28 Jul-28 Oct 1943
Djeideida, Tunisia, 31 Oct 1943 (air echelon)
Decimomannu, Sardinia, 1 Nov 1943 (ground echelon), 9 Nov 1943 (air echelon)
Alto, Corsica, 20 Sep 1944
Dijon, France, 20 Nov 1944
Dole Airdrome, Tavaux Citie, France, 2 Apr 1945
Herzogenaurach, Germany, 20 Jun 1945;
Clastres, France, 3 Oct-20 Nov 1945
Camp Myles Standish, MA, 3-4 Dec 1945
Mitchel Field (later, AFB), NY, 9 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
March AFB, CA, 1 Dec 1952-15 Sep 1960
Mather AFB, CA, 1 Feb 1963-30 Sep 1989
Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, 1 Dec 1998-1 Dec 2001
Doha International Airport ("Camp Snoopy") and Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, 2001–2006
Seeb International Airport, Oman,
Al Ain International Airport (Al Dafta AB), Abu Dhabi, UAE,
Bolling AFB, District of Columbia, 2006; 2009

DEPLOYED STATIONS
Brize Norton RAF Station, England, 5 Jun-4 Sep 1954
Andersen AFB, Guam, 5 Oct 1956-11 Jan 1957

ASSIGNMENTS
Ill Bomber Command, 23 Jun 1942
XII Bomber Command, 14 Sep 1942
7th Fighter (later, 47th Bombardment) Wing, Feb 1943
2686th Medium Bombardment Wing (Provisional), 6 Jun 1943
42nd Bombardment Wing, 25 Aug 1943
XII Bomber Command, 1 Jan 1944
42nd Bombardment Wing, 1 Mar 1944
IX Air Force Service Command, 29 May-20 Nov 1945
Boston Port of Embarkation, 3-4 Dec 1945
4th Bombardment Wing (later, 4th Air Division), 9 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
12th Air Division, 1 Dec 1952-15 Sep 1960
Department of the Air Force, 16 Sep 1960
Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962
14th Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Feb 1963
18th Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Jul 1965
47th Air Division, 2 Jul 1966
14th Strategic Aerospace Division, 31 Mar 1970
47th Air Division, 30 Jun 1971
14th Air Division, 1 Oct 1972
47th Air Division, 1 Oct 1982
12th Air Division, 23 Jan 1987
9th Air and Space (later, 9th Aerospace) Expeditionary Task Force-SOUTHERN WATCH, 1 Dec 1998-1 Dec 2001

ATTACHMENTS
1st Air Disarmament Wing, 29 May-c. 1 Oct 1945
7th Air Division, 3 Jun-4 Sep 1954
3rd Air Division, 5 Oct 1956-11 Jan 1957

WEAPON SYSTEMS
B-26, 1942-1945
AT-6, 1947-1949
AT-11, 1947-1949
B-29, 1952-1953
KC-97, 1952-1960
YRB-47, 1953-1954
B-47, 1953-1960
B-52F, 1963-1965
B-52G
T-29, 1973
None, 1998-2001
C-130, 2001

COMMANDERS
None (not manned), 23-30 Jun 1942
Maj John F. Batjer, 1 Jul 1942
LTC John A. Hilger, 5 Aug 1942
Col Flint Garrison, Jr, 25 Oct 1942
LTC John Fordyce, 15 Feb 1943
Col Karl E. Baumeister, 25 May 1943
LTC Stanford W. Gregory, 25 Sep 1943
LTC Eugene B. Fletcher, 25 Oct 1943
Maj William L. Marble, 1 Feb 1944
Col Eugene B. Fletcher, 1 Mar 1944
Col Ashley E. Woolridge, 2 Nov 1944
LTC Blaine B. Campbell, 28 May 1945-unkn
Maj LeRoy C. Meyers, 9 Jul 1947-unkn
LTC Louis R. Black, Nov 1947-unkn [at least through 7 Aug 1948]
Col Loran D. Briggs, 1 Dec 1952
Col Francis W. Nye, c. 28 Feb 1953
Col Olbert F. Lassiter, 11 May 1953
LTC Russell F. Ireland, 21 May 1953
Col Olbert F. Lassiter, 25 May 1953
LTC Russell F. Ireland, 26 May 1953
Col Loran D. Briggs, 4 Jun 1953
Col Ernest C. Eddy, 27 Apr 1954
Col William R. Large, Jr, 1 May 1954
Col Ernest C. Eddy, 25 Jun 1955
Col Robert B. Miller, 15 Jul 1955
Col Robert J. Hughey, 12 Jan 1957
Col William J. Crumm, 22 Apr 1957
Col Robert J. Hughey, 20 Oct 1958
Col David I. Liebman, 8 May 1959
Col Thomas G. Netcher, 10 Jul 1959
Col Frank W. Hansley, (by 20) Aug-15 Sep 1960
None (not manned), 16 Sep 1960-31 Jan 1963
Col Merrill N. Moore, 1 Feb 1963
Col Van R. Parker, 20 Jun 1963
Col Owen A. Weddle, 11 Feb 1965
Col Van R. Parker, (by 26) Jul 1965-30 Nov 1965
Unkn, 1 Dec 1965-31 Mar 1966
Col Van R. Parker, 1 Apr 1966
Col Richard D. Butler, 31 Aug 1966
Col Clyde R. Denniston, Jr, 18 Jul 1969
Col Donald G. Prieve, 8 Jan 1971
Col Richard N. Cody, 28 Feb 1972
Col Lawton W. Magee, 8 Aug 1972
Col Richard N. Cody, 17 Feb 1973
Col Lawton W. Magee, 9 Mar 1973
Col William A. Eveland, 26 Mar 1973
Col Lawton W. Magee, 7 Nov 1973
Col Curtis R. Smith, 9 Sep 1974
Col William M. Charles, Jr, 31 Aug 1977
Col Sidney D. Rogers, 13 Mar 1979
Col Charles C. McDonald, 20 Aug 1979
Col Richard B. Goetze, Jr, 17 Feb 1981
Col George L. Butler, 17 Mar 1982
Col George W. Golding, 23 May 1983
Col David J. Pederson, 19 Nov 1984
Col John J. Haluska, Jr, 25 Mar 1986
Col David F. Johnson, 24 May 1987-30 Sep 1989
Col James C. Harper, by 30 Jun 1999
Col Frederick R. Rauch II, 2 Jul 2000
Unkn, 1 Dec 2000-1 Dec 2001

**HONORS**

**Service Streamers**
None

**Campaign Streamers**
World War II
Tunisia
Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Anzio
Rome-Arno
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME
Antisubmarine, EAME

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**
None

**Decorations**
Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
18 Jun-31 Jul 1965
1 Dec 1965-1 Mar 1966
2 Mar-1 Apr 1966
1 Jun 1974-30 Jun 1976

Distinguished Unit Citations
Italy, 12 May 1944
Germany, 15 Mar 1945
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with the Combat “V” Device
1 Jun 2000-31 May 2001

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
18 Jun-31 Jul 1965 and 1 Dec 1965-1 Mar 1966
2 Mar-1 Apr 1966
1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976
1 Jul 1981-30 Jun 1983
1 Jun 1999-31 May 2000

French Croix de Guerre with Palm
Apr, May, Jun 1944

EMBLEM

320th Bombardment Group 320th Bombardment Wing

320th Air Expeditionary Wing emblem: Per fess enhanced dovetailed Celeste and Azure, in chief per fess three four-pointed mullets Or, trimmed Argent, over a torch Sable, trimmed of the fourth, winged of the third, flamant elongated of the like and Gules, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “320TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING” in Blue letters. SIGNIFICANCE: Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 torch by itself represents liberty and enlightenment. The wings represent airpower. Together, the flaming winged torch represents the unit’s mission. The act of holding the torch aloft with
wings denotes lighting the way in the darkest night of adversity. The three stars represent the
three contingency missions that the unit will stand firm to preserve: continuity of government,
military support to civil authorities and support for national security events. The stars
simultaneously represent the three Air Force wings that comprise the majority of the unit’s
personnel, specifically the 11th Wing, the 316th Wing and the 79th Medical Wing. (Originally
approved, 23 Nov 1951 for 106th Bombardment Wing, Medium; officially transferred to 320th
Wing, by mutual consent of both units, 5 Dec 1952)

MOTTO
STRENGTH THROUGH AWARENESS

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 320 AEW was activated at Bolling in December 2006 for former President Gerald Ford’s state
funeral during the Christmas and New Year holidays, attaching 634 personnel to complete a 10-
day mission in three joint-operation areas. In less than 12 hours from notification, the 320 AEW
deployed 167 joint forces and equipment for JTF Ceremony Forward.

The 320 AEW was activated in December 2008 to support Air Force requirements during the 2009
Presidential Inauguration, working with the Armed Forces Inaugural Committee, or AFIC.

After training in Florida for overseas duty in the summer of 1942, the group flew antisubmarine
patrols over the Mediterranean, Feb-Mar 1943. Between Apr and Jul, it flew missions against
enemy shipping in the approaches to Tunisia, attacked installations in Sardinia, participated in the
reduction of Pantelleria, and supported the invasion of Sicily. Bombed interdiction and close
support targets in support of the invasion of Italy in Sep 1943. Supported forces at Salerno and
knocked out targets to aid the seizure of Naples and the crossing of the Volturno River. Flew
missions to Anzio and Cassino and flew interdiction operations in central Italy to support the
Allied advance on Rome. Earned the French Croix de Guerre with Palm for actions in support of
Allied offensive operations in central Italy, Apr-Jun 1944. Earned a Distinguished Unit Citation
(DUC) for a 12 May 1944 mission which bombed, in the face of intense antiaircraft fire, enemy
troop concentrations near Fondi to support a Fifth Army offensive. From Jun to Nov 1944, the
group flew interdiction missions in the Po Valley of northern Italy and close support missions for
the invasion of southern France. Bombed enemy targets in France and Germany until V-E day.
Earned a second DUC for the 15 Mar 1945 bombing of enemy installations of the Siegfried Line
that contributed to a Seventh Army breakthrough. In the summer of 1945, the group participated
in the occupation and disarmament of Germany. Returned to the U.S. in Dec 1945, where it
inactivated.

Trained as an Air Force Reserve light bombardment group from Jul 1947 to Jun 1949.


Trained B-47 cadre for 96th Bombardment Wing, Medium, Dec 1953-Jan 1955.

1957 320 bombardment wing (bw) conducted unit simulated combat missions bold guy i and crazy horse. Wing conducted pop up operations involving practice low level bombing and navigation tactics.

1957 320 bw returned from one hundred day rotation to guam. Wing’s b-47 aircraft participated in unit simulated combat mission (operation white horse).

1959 320 bombardment wing (bw) flew night mass stream missions each monday night. Wing participated in operation big sickle. Ten b-47 aircraft dispatched on operation spring tonic (test of navigation and bombing capabilities of strategic air command b-47 aircraft).


Gave up air refueling in 1986, but continued bombardment training missions until 1989, when it inactivated with the closure of its home base.

In the early 1980s, the 320 BW and the 441 BS were equipped to carry, and trained in the employment of, the US Navy’s AGM-84 Harpoon missile and various types of anti-ship mines as part of a joint USN-USAF initiative to employ USAF bomber aircraft in maritime operations.

The 904 ARS was inactivated 1 October 1986 and its older KC-135As modified to KC-135E standard and redistributed to other SAC units or sent to AMARC at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona for storage. The 441 BS with its B-52Gs was inactivated on 30 September 1989. It was the first squadron to inactivate with the gradual drawdown of the B-52G fleet pursuant to START reductions of the USAF strategic bomber force.

The 320th Bombardment Wing was inactivated on 30 September 1989. It was the first B-52 wing to be inactivated in conjunction with the phased retirement of the B-52G fleet and was also made in conjunction with the pending closure of Mather AFB in 1993 due to Base Realignment and
Closure (BRAC) action.

In 1997, the 320th was reactivated as the 320th Air Expeditionary Group at Eskan Village, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As an element of U.S. Central Command Air Forces / 9th Air Force, the 320 AEG was a ground-based non-flying organization, with the 320 AEG replacing the earlier 4409th Air Base Group (Provisional) at Eskan that had been in existence since Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM in 1990–91.

The primary mission of the 320 AEG at Eskan was to provide liaison with Saudi Arabian Ministry of Defense and Aviation for Eskan Village and to provide host base support to the combatant staff of Joint Task Force Southwest Asia and the 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force, including its associated Coalition Air Operations Center, conducting Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, which provided principal senior command and control of all U.S. and Coalition combat flying units enforcing the “No Fly Zone” over Southern Iraq prior to execution of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM in 2003. The 320 AEG also supported United States Military Training Mission Saudi Arabia, the U.S. Office of Program Management – Saudi Arabian National Guard as well as the Royal Air Force and French Air Force headquarters elements also located at Eskan Village.

Between Dec 1998 and Dec 2000, provided civil engineering, logistics, medical, communication, and security force services at Eskan Village near Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

In 2005 the 320th Air Expeditionary Group was replaced by the 64th Air Expeditionary Group, a component of the 379th Air Expeditionary Win