

## 325<sup>th</sup> WEAPONS SQUADRON



### MISSION

325 Weapons Squadron mission is to teach graduate-level instructor courses, which provide the world's most advanced training in weapons and tactics employment to officers of the combat air forces. The squadron conducts two five and a half month courses per year for a small number of AF-level board selected B-2 instructor pilots

### LINEAGE

325<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942  
Activated, 1 Mar 1942  
Redesignated 325<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 29 Sep 1944  
Inactivated, 28 Feb 1946  
Redesignated 325<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 15 Jul 1946  
Activated, 4 Aug 1946  
Redesignated 325<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 28 May 1948  
Redesignated 325<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 16 Jun 1951  
Redesignated 325<sup>th</sup> Bomb Squadron, 1 Sep 1991  
Inactivated, 1 Jul 1994  
Activated, 6 Jan 1998  
Redesignated 325 Weapons Squadron, 9 Sep 2005

### STATIONS

Barksdale Field, LA, 1 Mar 1942  
MacDill Field, FL, 26 Mar 1942  
Sarasota, FL, 18 May-18 Jul 1942  
Bovingdon, England, 18 Aug 1942

Alconbury, England, 6 Jan 1943  
Podington, England, 15 Sep 1943  
Istres, France, 12 Jun 1945-28 Feb 1946  
Fort Worth AAFld, TX, 4 Aug 1946  
Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 26 Oct 1946  
Spokane AAFld (later, Spokane AFB; Fairchild AFB), WA, 20 Jun 1947-1 Jul 1994  
Whiteman AFB, MO, 6 Jan 1998

### **DEPLOYED STATIONS**

Yokota AB, Japan, 9 Jul-29 Oct 1950  
Andersen AFB, Guam, 16 Oct 1954-12 Jan 1955 and 26 Apr-5 Jul 1956

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

92<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-28 Feb 1946  
92<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Group, 4 Aug 1946  
92<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment (later, 92<sup>nd</sup> Strategic Aerospace; 92<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment) Wing, 16 Jun 1952  
92<sup>nd</sup> Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991-1 Jul 1994  
509<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, 6 Jan 1998  
USAF Weapons School, 9 Sep 2005

### **ATTACHMENTS**

92<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Wing, 16 Feb 1951-15 Jun 1952

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-17, 1942-1946  
B-29, 1946, 1947-1951  
B-17E  
B-17F  
B-17G  
B-29A  
B-36, 1951-1957  
B-52, 1957-1994  
B-52C  
B-52D  
B-52G  
B-52H  
B-2A, 1998

### **COMMANDERS**

Maj William E. Buck Jr., 1 Mar 1942  
Cpt Anderson, by Jan 1943  
LTC W. S. Cowart, 20 Apr 1943  
Maj George L. Ott, by Sep 1943  
Maj Francis E. Winget, 16 Oct 1943

Maj Jack S. Griffin, 28 Jun 1944-unkn  
Maj Albert L. Cox Jr., 5 Oct 1944-unkn  
Unkn, 4 Aug 1946-1948  
LTC Richard D. Stepp, by May 1948  
Maj Carl E. Jackson, by Feb 1949-unkn  
Cpt Russell H. Jenkins, by Aug 1950  
LTC Charles H. Wilkins, by Jan 1951  
Maj Robert A. Maucher, 14 May 1951  
LTC Earle L. Osborne, by Jul 1952  
LTC Warren C. Stirling, by Dec 1953  
LTC Andrew B. Creo, 1 Jun 1954  
LTC Milton C. Green, 19 Jul 1954  
LTC Granville H. Wright Jr., 23 Apr 1955  
LTC Sidney S. Pidgeon, 1 Nov 1955  
LTC George A. Robinson, 27 Nov 1956  
LTC Robert J. Ray, 22 Feb 1957  
LTC Leo J. Moffatt, by Nov 1958  
LTC John P. McKinnon, by Apr 1960  
LTC Leo J. Moffatt, by Jun 1960  
LTC Ross L. Clements, by Jun 1962  
LTC Harvey R. Downs, by Oct 1962  
LTC Francis H. Potter, by Jun 1965  
LTC James R. French, by Dec 1965  
LTC Donald L. Taylor, by Sep 1966  
LTC Albert B. Pfeiffer, Jr., Feb 1969  
LTC Richard L. Atkinson, 3 May 1971  
LTC Herbert E. Jordan, 10 Jul 1972  
LTC Joseph R. Deiss Jr., 21 Nov 1972  
LTC Robert F. Forna, 20 Jan 1973  
LTC Robert N. Melsness, 30 Mar 1973  
LTC Wilton R. Chavis, 15 Jul 1973  
LTC Donald F. Robillard, 6 Nov 1973  
LTC Ralph J. Swanson, 26 Jun 1974  
LTC Charles J. Wingert, 1 Feb 1975  
LTC Richard C. Storr, 20 Sep 1975  
LTC Gerald W. McMullen, 22 Oct 1975  
LTC Richard C. Storr, 22 Dec 1975  
LTC Gerald W. McMullen, by Mar 1976  
LTC Richard C. Storr, 2 Feb 1977  
LTC Sidney T. Hanna, Jr., 11 Feb 1977  
LTC Frank E. Cheshire Jr., 3 Aug 1979  
LTC Eugene E. Habiger, 7 Jan 1980  
LTC Richard S. Kroell, 16 Mar 1981  
LTC Joseph F. Mudd, 23 Dec 1981

LTC Edwin R. Teilborg, 1 Sep 1983  
LTC Donald G. Cook, 15 Nov 1984  
LTC Regnar C. Rider, 15 May 1986  
LTC Raymond C. Bishop, 15 Aug 1987  
LTC William J. Evans Jr., 6 Jun 1988  
LTC Stephen D. Harper, 11 Sep 1989  
LTC Jerry Schmidt, 12 Jul 1991  
LTC David E. Bullock, 8 Jan 1993  
LTC Michael G. Russell, 20 Aug 1993  
LTC Mark C. McGeehan, c. Jan-24 Jun 1994  
LTC Will R. Gildner Jr., 6 Jan 1998  
LTC Jimmy D. Smithers, 15 Jul 1999  
LTC Robert E. Wheeler, 17 Nov 2000  
LTC Scott A Vander Hamm, 5 Sep 2002  
LTC Thomas A. Bussiere, 17 Jun 2004  
LTC Glen D. Vanherck, 9 Sep 2005  
LTC Andrew Gebara, 4 Jan 2007

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Antisubmarine, American Theater  
Air Offensive, Europe  
Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe  
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Korea  
UN Defensive  
UN Offensive

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Germany, 11 Jan 1954

Germany, 11 Sep 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device  
2 Mar-30 Sep 1969

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

22 Aug-11 Sep 1953

3 Mar-6 Oct 1959

1 Jan 1961-31 Mar 1962

1 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1968

1 Jul-1 Oct 1968

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970

1 Jul 1972-30 Jun 1973

1 Jul 1976-30 Jun 1977

1 Jul 1989-30 Jan 1991

1 Jul 1991-30 Jun 1993

[6 Jan 1998]-31 May 1999

1 Jun 1999-21 May 2001

1 Jun 2003-31 May 2005

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

10 Jul-24 Oct 1950

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

2 Mar-30 Sep 1969

## EMBLEM



On a disc Argent, the comic strip character Alley Oop Proper, riding on the back of a leaping Saber Tooth Tiger Proper, and holding aloft a stone club in sinister hand in striking position, all within a narrow border Black. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "325TH WEAPONS SQUADRON" in Black 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 caveman is the physical embodiment of the unit and symbolizes strength, natural instincts and inherent abilities to adapt to and overcome the harshest conditions. The club symbolizes the ability to strike first and strike hard, clearing the way for all forces that follow. The tiger signifies the unit's capability to reach any place at anytime, providing the battlefield support necessary for a decisive and dominant victory. (Approved, 3 Jun 1943)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Antisubmarine missions while training in Florida, May-Jul 1942. Four combat missions while training replacement crews in England, 18 Aug 1942-6 Jan 1943 after reorganization, served in combat in ETO, 15 May 1943-25 Apr 1945.

The 325th Bomb Squadron (BS) has a long and colorful history that dates back to the earliest days of World War II. Constituted as the 325th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 28 January 1942, the squadron was activated on 1 March 1942 at Barksdale Field, Louisiana, equipped with the B-17, and assigned to the 92d Bombardment Group (BG). Less than a month later, on 25 March 1942, the squadron transferred to MacDill Field, Florida, and then to Sarasota, Florida. During its stay in the Florida peninsula, the squadron participated in anti-submarine patrols while undergoing training.

On 18 July 1942, the 325th BS was transferred to Royal Air Force (RAF) Bovington, England, where it arrived on 18 August 1942. The squadron, still part of the 92 BG, initially trained replacement crews for combat in the European theater. During the period from 18 August 1942 through 6 January 43, the squadron flew four combat missions while conducting replacement crew training. Upon completion of its training mission, the 325th moved to RAF Alconbury on 6 January 1943 where it and the 92 BG underwent reorganization. When they emerged in May 1943, the 92 BG and 325 BS were ready for combat. The group's B-17s, armed and ready for battle, flew their first post-reorganization combat mission on 15 May 1943. , on August 20, 1943, the personnel and aircraft, led by the commander, Capt William C Anderson, were assumed by the 813 BS (Pathfinder). In September 1943, the re-equipping 325th once again moved, this time to RAF Podington, England, where it would remain until the end of the war.

The 92d flew its last combat mission on 25 April 1945 when it had the distinction of leading the Eighth Air Force's final sortie of the conflict. During its World War II years, the 92 BG flew a total of 308 combat missions. Unlike other units, the 92d and the 325th did not immediately vanish upon the end of the conflict in Europe. On 12 June 1945, the squadron transferred to Istres, France, where it remained until 28 February 1946. While in France, the squadron used its B-17s to ferry personnel from the European Theater to North Africa for deployment back to the

United States. From 15 June to 9 September 1945, the 325th's aircraft helped move 19,935 troops while also helping to return 5,672 Frenchmen to France. After completion of this important mission, nicknamed Operation Green Project, the 325th was inactivated on 28 February 1946.

It was not long, before the squadron returned to active duty. On 15 July 1946, the unit was redesignated as the 325th Bombardment Squadron (Very Heavy). On 4 August 1946, the unit was activated and rejoined the 92 BG at Fort Worth Army Air Field (AAFld), Texas, complete with B-29s, as part of the Strategic Air Command (SAC). The squadron was moved to Smoky Hill AAFld, Kansas, (on paper) 26 October 1947, and less than a year later transferred to Spokane AAFld (later, Fairchild AFB), Washington with the 92 BG.

On 28 May 1948, the squadron became known as the 325th Bombardment Squadron (Medium).

When the Korean War began on 25 June 1950, the squadron and its B-29 aircraft were rushed to Yokota AB, Japan, and, by 13 July 1950, had entered the fray, dropping bombs on enemy targets. The 325th continued striking at North Korean targets until 29 October 1950, when the squadron returned to Spokane AAFld.

On 28 May 1951, the squadron received yet another name (the 325th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) and, in June, a new aircraft: the massive B-36. For the next six years, the Cavemen became experts in the mammoth B-36, which, with its propellers mounted on the rear of its wings, was one of the more un-usual looking aircraft ever assigned to the USAF.

In the mid-1950s, the USAF began phasing the B-36 out of service as the more advanced B-52 began entering the Air Force's inventory. In March 1957, the now called 92d Bombardment Wing and the 325th were among the first units to receive the B-52D. For the next 10 years, the 325th Cavemen became masters of the legendary B-52D. In 1968, the squadron returned to combat as it began a long involvement in Southeast Asia (SEA). From 6 March-23 September 1968 and 15 March-14 September 1969, the squadron flew to SEA to participate in ARC LIGHT operations. For service during the latter deployment, the squadron was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with the Combat "V" device and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm.

In the fall of 1971, the squadron, along with the 92 BMW, began the transition from the B-52D to the B-52G. Duty called again in 1972-1973 when the crews and aircraft of the 325th participated in BULLET SHOT operations. Over the next twenty years, the 325th continued to operate the B-52G. By the late 1980s and early 1990s, changes on the world scene had major implications for the squadron. As a prelude to these alterations, the 325th Bombardment Squadron became known as the 325th Bomb Squadron on 1 September 1991. On the same date, the 325th became a member of the 92d Operations Group as the 92d Bomb Wing transformed to the objective wing structure. In spite of the inactivation of the 325th BS on 1 July 1994, the Air Force had plans for the squadron and announced that the squadron would

join the 509th Bomb Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, to become the second operational B-2 squadron.

The following year, the 325th BS was called upon to take the B-2 bomber into combat for the first time during Operation ALLIED FORCE. From 24 March through 21 May 1999, the squadron sent its aircrews and aircraft almost nightly into harm's way attempting to end the strife in the Kosovo region. After the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001, the 325th was called into combat again as a part of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. The Cavemen were again tested on 21 March 2003, during the opening days of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM. Throughout the duration of the air campaign 325th BS crews flew sustained B-2 operations from Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory and Whiteman AFB, Missouri. This marked the first combat deployment of the B-2, a historic event which accelerated the decision to declare the weapon system Fully Operational Capable in December 2003.

Following the incorporation of the B-2 into Air and Space Expeditionary Force (AEF) normal bomber rotation, the 325th BS was deployed to Andersen AFB, Guam several times. From 30 April-30 June 2005 the Cavemen made Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, the B-2's temporary home, as part of an Air Expeditionary Force operations. This 120-day tour marked the longest in the bomber's 13-year history.

The 325th BS was also deployed with B-2s to Nellis AFB, Nevada to participate in Red Flag exercises designed to increase combat readiness, capability and survivability of participating units by providing realistic training in a combined air ground and electronic threat environment.

Effective 9 September 2005 the 325th Bomb Squadron was re-designated the 325th Weapons Squadron and replaced the 715 Weapons Squadron at Whiteman AFB. Although geographically located at Whiteman, the 325th WPS is officially assigned to the US Air Force Weapons School, 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, Nevada.

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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.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.