

## 446 OPERATIONS GROUP



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

446 Bombardment Group (Heavy) established, 20 Mar 1943  
Activated, 1 Apr 1943  
Redesignated 446 Bombardment Group, Heavy, 20 Aug 1943  
Inactivated, 28 Aug 1945  
Redesignated 446 Bombardment Group, Very Heavy, 26 Sep 1947  
Activated in the Reserve, 26 Mar 1948  
Redesignated 446 Bombardment Group, Heavy, 27 Jun 1949  
Ordered to Active Duty, 1 May 1951  
Inactivated, 25 Jun 1951  
Redesignated 446 Troop Carrier Group, Medium, 11 Apr 1955  
Activated in the Reserve, 25 May 1955  
Inactivated, 14 Apr 1959  
Redesignated 446 Military Airlift Group, 31 Jul 1985  
Redesignated 446 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Aug 1992

#### STATIONS

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 1 Apr 1943  
Lowry Field, CO, 8 Jun-19 Oct 1943  
Flixton, England, 2 Nov 1943-6 Jul 1945  
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 15 Jul-28 Aug 1945

Carswell AFB, TX, 26 Mar 1948-25 Jun 1951  
Ellington AFB, TX, 25 May 1955-14 Apr 1959  
McChord AFB, WA, 1 Aug 1992

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Second Air Force, 1 Apr 1943  
II Bomber Command, Apr 1943  
Eighth Air Force, 2 Nov 1943  
VIII Bomber Command, 5 Nov 1943  
2 Bombardment Division, 9 Nov 1943  
20 Combat Bombardment Wing, Nov 1943  
96 Combat Bombardment Wing, 1 Jun 1945  
Second Air Force, 15 Jul-28 Aug 1945  
309 Bombardment Wing (later, 309 Air Division), 26 Mar 1948  
Eighth Air Force, 27 Jun 1949-25 Jun 1951  
446 Troop Carrier Wing, 25 May 1955-14 Apr 1959  
446 Airlift Wing, 1 Aug 1992

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-24, 1943-1945  
Unkn, 1948-1951  
C-45, 1955-1958  
C-46, 1955-1958  
C-119, 1958-1959  
C-141, 1992

### **COMMANDERS**

Unkn, 1 Apr 1943  
Lt Col Arthur Y. Snell, 25 Apr 1943  
Col Jacob J. Brogger, 28 Sep 1943  
Col Troy W. Crawford, 23 Sep 1944  
Lt Col William A. Schmidt, 4 Apr-Aug 1945  
Unkn, 26 Mar 1948-25 Jun 1951  
Unkn, 25 May 1955-1958  
Lt Col Stuart G. Haynsworth, Apr 1958-unkn  
Col Martin M. Mazick, 1 Aug 1992  
Lt Col James F. Blackman, 1 Oct 1992  
Col Michael L. Tyler, 1 Jan 1993  
Col James H. Monbeck, 22 Aug 1997  
Col Martin M. Mazick, 1 Aug 1992  
Lt Col James F. Blackman, 1 Oct 1992  
Col Michael L. Tyler, 1 Jan 1993  
Col James H. Monbeck, 17 Aug 1997-unkn  
Col Steve Vautrain, 1 Jan 2006

Lt Col David Pavey, 10 Dec 2006  
Col James D. Digan, 26 Sep 2010

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

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

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

#### **Decorations**

Meritorious Unit Awards  
1 Oct 2005-30 Sep 2006  
1 Oct 2006-30 Sep 2007

#### **EMBLEM**

The emblem is symbolic of freedom and liberty which is our heritage. The falling bombs and bomb bursts depicted on the right half of the shield is symbolic of precision bombs to maintain that heritage. On the left half of the shield the torch of liberty displayed there symbolizes that freedom and liberty which the life and heritage of every American.

#### **MOTTO**

VOLER VENGER VAINCRE - Fly Avenge Vanquish

#### **OPERATIONS**

Trained in the US with B-24s before moving to England, Oct-Nov 1943.

Ground echelon left 18 Oct 1943 for Camp Shanks, NY and embarked on Queen Mary 25 Oct 1943. Sailed 27 Oct 1943 arriving Clyde 2 Nov 1943. Air echelon left Lowery AAB, 20 Oct 1943 for Lincoln AAB, Neb. Then to UK via southern route; Florida, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Dakar, Marrakesh. One aircraft missing on Puerto Rico, and one shot down by enemy aircraft when off course over France.

Assigned to the Eighth Air Force, the 446 operated chiefly against strategic objectives on the European continent from Dec 1943 until Apr 1945. Targets included U-Boat installations at Kiel, the port at Bremen, a chemical plant at Ludwigshafen, ball-bearing works at Berlin, aero-engine

plants at Rostock, aircraft factories at Munich, marshalling yards at Coblenz, motor works at Ulm, and oil refineries at Hamburg. Besides strategic missions, the group supported the Normandy invasion in Jun 1944 by attacking strong points, bridges, airfields, and other targets in France. The 446 aided ground forces at Caen and St Lo during Jul by hitting bridges, gun batteries, and enemy troops, dropped supplies to Allied troops near Nijmegen during the airborne attack on Holland in Sep, bombed marshalling yards, bridges, and road junctions during the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945, and dropped supplies to airborne and ground troops near Wesel during the Allied assault across the Rhine in Mar 1945. The 446 flew its last combat mission on 25 Apr, attacking a bridge near Salzburg.

First Mission: 16 Dec 1943

Last Mission: 25 Apr 1945

Total Missions: 273

Total Credit Sorties: 7,259

Total Bomb Tonnage: 16,819

Aircraft missing in action: 58

Other Operational losses: 28

Enemy aircraft claims: 34-11-8

Redeployed USA Jun 1945. Aircraft departed mid-Jun 1945. One lost in UK-Azores leg. Ground echelon sailed Greenock on Queen Mary, 6 Jul 1945 and arrived New York 11 Jul 1945. Camp Kilmer and 30 days R & R for personnel. Some assembled Sioux Falls AAFd, SD. where group inactivated 28 Aug 1945.

Beginning Mar 1948, the group conducted bombardment training until inactivated. From 1955 to 1959, trained for and flew various airlift missions.

Since 1992, the group has flown channel, special assignment, and humanitarian airlift missions worldwide and taken part in joint and combined training exercises, both within the United States and abroad.

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USAF Unit Histories

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Sources

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