

468th BOMBARDMENT GROUP, VERY HEAVY



MISSION

LINEAGE

468th Bombardment Group (Heavy) constituted, 19 May 1943
Activated, 1 Aug 1943
Redesignated 468th Bombardment Group, Very Heavy, Nov 1943
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946

STATIONS

Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 1 Aug 1943-12 Mar 1944
Kharagpur, India, 13 Apr 1944-24 Feb 1945
West Field, Tinian, 6 Apr-15 Nov 1945
Fort Worth AAFld, TX, 1 Dec 1945
Roswell AAFld, NM, 12 Jan-31 Mar 1946

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-29

COMMANDERS

Col Howard E. Engler, 8 Sep 1943
Col Ted S. Faulkner, 3 Aug 1944
Col James V. Edmundson, 5 Nov 1944-31 Mar 1946

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

India-Burma
Air Offensive, Japan
China Defensive
Western Pacific
Central Burma

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Yawata, Japan, 20 Aug 1944
Tokyo and Yokohama, Japan, 23-29 May 1945
Takarazuka, Japan, 24 Jul 1945

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Flew over the Hump to carry supplies from India to staging fields in China before entering combat with an attack on railroad shops at Bangkok, Thailand, on 5 Jun 1944. On 15 Jun participated in the first AAF attack on Japan since the Doolittle raid in 1942. From bases in India, China, and Ceylon, mined shipping lanes near Saigon, French Indochina, and Shanghai, China, and struck Japanese installations in Burma, Thailand, French Indochina, Indonesia, Formosa, China, and Japan. Targets included iron works, aircraft factories, transportation centers, and naval installations. Received a DUC for participation in a daylight raid on the iron and steel works at Yawata, Japan, in Aug 1944. Evacuated advanced bases in China in Jan 1945 but continued operations from India, bombing storage areas in Rangoon, Burma, a railroad bridge at Bangkok, Thailand, railroad shops at Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, and the drydock in Singapore harbor. Flew additional missions against Japan after moving to Tinian during Feb-May 1945. Took part in mining operations, incendiary raids on area targets, and high-altitude missions against strategic objectives. Dropped incendiaries on Tokyo and Yokohama in May 1945, being awarded a DUC for the attacks. Received another DUC for a daylight strike on an aircraft plant at Takarazuka, Japan, in Jul 1945. After the war, dropped food and supplies to Allied prisoners and participated in show-of-force missions over Japan.

Air Force Order of Battle
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.