

## 28 BOMB SQUADRON



### MISSION

The 28 Bomb Squadron is the largest bomb squadron in the Air Force and the largest flying squadron in the command. Its primary mission is to provide all B-1 initial qualification, re-qualification and instructor upgrade training for Air Combat Command. The squadron determines, evaluates and implements formal training requirements to qualify crewmembers in long-range day and night, all-weather and air-to-ground attack. Each year the squadron trains more than 200 B-1 crewmembers from active-duty and Air National Guard B-1 units. The unit services, launches, recovers, repairs and inspects 25 B-1 aircraft. The squadron also maintains conventional combat readiness supporting higher headquarters contingency taskings worldwide.

### LINEAGE

28 Aero Squadron organized, 22 Jun 1917

Demobilized, 16 Jun 1919

28 Squadron (Bombardment) authorized, 30 Aug 1921

Organized, 20 Sep 1921

28 Aero Squadron reconstituted and consolidated with 28 Squadron (Bombardment), 9 Jan 1922

Inactivated, 28 Jun 1922

Activated, 1 Sep 1922

Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron, 25 Jan 1923

Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 6 Dec 1939

Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 16 Nov 1941

Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 28 Mar 1944  
Inactivated, 1 Apr 1944  
Activated, 1 Apr 1944  
Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 10 Aug 1948  
Redesignated 28 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 1 Jul 1961  
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1983  
Activated, 1 Jul 1987  
Redesignated, 28 Bomb Squadron, 1 Sep 1991

## **STATIONS**

Camp Kelly, TX, 22 Jul 1917  
Toronto, Canada, 25 Aug 1917  
Deseronto, Canada, 1 Sep 1917  
Taliaferro Field No. 1, TX, 5 Nov 1917  
Garden City, NY, 25 Jan–25 Feb 1918  
St Marie-Cappel, France, 20 Mar 1918 (flights operated from various Stations in Nord, Pas-de-Calais, and Somme, until squadron reassembled at St Omer on 24 Jun)  
Boisdinghem, France, 13 Apr 1918  
Alquines, France, 15 Apr 1918  
St Omer, France, 24 Jun 1918  
Issoudun, France, 26 Jun 1918  
Orly, France, 8 Jul 1918  
Vaucouleurs, France, 16 Aug 1918  
Lisle-en-Barrois, France, 20 Sep 1918  
Foucaucourt, France, 6 Nov 1918  
Grand, France, 15 Feb 1919  
Colombey-les-Belles, France, 15 Apr 1919  
Le Mans, France, 4–19 May 1919  
Mitchel Field, NY, 31 May–16 Jun 1919  
Mather Field, CA, 20 Sep 1921–28 Jun 1922  
Clark Field, Luzon, 1 Sep 1922  
Kindley Field, Corregidor, Sep 1922  
Camp Nichols, Luzon, Nov 1922  
Clark Field, Luzon, Dec 1922  
Camp Nichols, Luzon, 4 Jun 1923  
Clark Field, Luzon, 16 Jun 1938  
Batchelor, Australia, 24 Dec 1941 (ground echelon in Luzon and Mindanao, 24 Dec 1941–May 1942)  
Singosari, Java, 30 Dec 1941  
Melbourne, Australia, 4 Mar 1942  
Cloncurry, Australia, 28 Mar 1942 (detachment operated from Perth, Australia, 28 Mar–18 May 1942)  
Longreach, Australia, 5 May 1942  
Mareeba, Australia, 24 Jul–18 Nov 1942

Pocatello, ID, 30 Dec 1942  
Pyote AAB, TX, 24 Jan 1943–1 Apr 1944  
Great Bend AAFld, KS, 1 Apr–8 Dec 1944  
North Field, Guam, 16 Jan 1945  
Kadena AB, Okinawa, 27 Jun 1950–14 May 1954  
Pinecastle AFB, FL, 28 May 1954  
Homestead AFB, FL, 25 Jun 1956  
Robins AFB, GA, 25 Jul 1968–1 Oct 1983  
McConnell AFB, KS, 1 Jul 1987  
Dyess AFB, TX, 1 Oct 1994

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Unkn, 22 Jun 1917–Mar 1918  
Unkn, Jun–Aug 1918  
3 Pursuit Group, Aug 1918  
2 Pursuit Group, Dec 1918–Apr 1919  
Unkn, Apr–16 Jun 1919  
Ninth Corps Area, 20 Sep 1921–28 Jun 1922  
Philippine Department, 1 Sep 1922  
4 Composite Group, 2 Dec 1922  
19 Bombardment Group, 16 Nov 1941–1 Apr 1944 (ground echelon attached to the 5  
Interceptor Command, 24 Dec 1941–May 1942)  
19 Bombardment Group, 1 Apr 1944  
19 Bombardment Wing, 1 Jun 1953–1 Oct 1983  
384 Bombardment Wing, 1 Jul 1987  
384 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991  
384 Bomb Group, 1 Jan 1994  
7 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1994

### **ATTACHMENTS**

RAF for operations and training, Mar–Jun 1918

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

JN-4, 1917  
Spad XIII,  
Spad VII  
DH-4B, 1921  
NBS-1, 1924–1930  
LB-5A  
OA-1C  
B-3A, 1931  
B-10B, 1937–1941  
B-18  
B-17

LB-30

B-24, 1941-1942

B-17F, 1942

B-29A, 1944-1954

B-47, 1954-1961

B-52, 1962

B-1, 1988

## **COMMANDERS**

Capt James R. Alfonte, 22 Jun 1917

Maj Patrick Frissell, 14 Jul 1917

1st Ltlawton V. Smith, 20 Aug 1917

Maj Cedrick Bourne, 8 Nov 1917-Unknown

Capt C. J. Ryan, Unknown-7 Apr 1918

Capt Thomas S. Bowen, 7 Apr 1918

1st Ltr. Lochridge, 1 May 1918

1st Ltcharles N. Jones, 15 Aug 1918-Unknown

1st Ltgeorge A. Mchenry, 20 Sep 1921

1st Ltnewman R. Laughinghouse, 26 Jan 1922

1st Ltalfred E. Waller, 3 Apr 1922

1st Ltmark R. Woodward, 6 Jun 1922

Inactive, 29 Jun 1922-31 Aug 1922

Capt Junius H. Houghton, 1 Sep 1922

Maj Thomas J. Hanley, Jr., 1 May 1923

Capt Rosenham Beam, 9 Jan 1924

Capt Aubrey I. Eagle, 19 Apr 1925

Capt Dudley B. Howard, 27 Sep 1926

Capt David S. Seaton, 1 Dec 1926

1st Ltjames A. Woodruff, 20 Apr 1928

Capt Arthur W. Brock, 21 Oct 1928

Capt Edward C. Black, 1 Aug 1930

1st Ltjack Greer, 15 Mar 1933

1st Ltlevi L. Beery, 21 Dec 1933

Maj Thomas W. Hastey, 15 Mar 1935

Capt John S. Mills, 5 Sep 1935

Maj Lionel H. Dunlap, 29 Sep 1935

Maj Lloyd Barnett, 6 Nov 1936

Capt Julius T. Flock, 1 Mar 1937

1st LtEdward H. Porter, 10 Jul 1937

Maj Guy L. Mcneil, 21 Feb 1938

Maj Lester Maitland, Jan 1940

Capt Erickson S. Nichols, 14 Mar 1941

Maj Maurice Daly, 10 Jul 1941

Maj William P. Fisher, 16 Nov 1941

Unknown, 5 Feb-13 Mar 1942  
Maj Elbert Helton, 14 Mar 1942  
Maj Jack P. Thompson, Unknown-Jun 1943  
Capt Victor Poncik, Jun 1943  
Capt R. W. Beckel, 1 Jul 1943  
Maj Leland W. Johnson, 1943-Unknown  
Unknown, 1943-1 Apr 1944  
Unknown, 1 Apr-10 May 1944  
Capt James L. Coley, 11 May 1944  
1st Lt Americus Mitchell, 12 May 1944  
Maj Donald Taylor, 23 May 1944  
Maj Thomas H. Trent, Unknown  
Lt Col George T. Chadwell, Unknown-1 Jun 1945  
Maj Harry C. Mailey, 2 Jun 1945  
Maj George A. Uhrick, Unknown-Oct 1945  
Capt Jack Lomax, Oct 1945-Unknown  
Maj William C. Wilson, Unknown-7 Jul 1946  
1st Lt William F. Bradley (Temporary), 8 Jul 1946-Unknown  
Capt Paul C. Mcquat (Temporary), Unknown-16 Jul 1946  
1st Lt William F. Bradley (Temporary), 17 Jul 1946  
Maj William C. Wilson, 30 Jul 1946  
Capt Maxie A. Shirley (Temporary), Dec 1946  
Maj William C. Wilson, Dec 1946-Unknown  
Maj Joseph W. Howell, Unknown-Nov 1947  
Maj Kent J. Richens, Nov 1947  
Capt W. R. Sullivan, Feb 1948-Unknown  
Maj Charles E. Tibbs, Unknown-Jun 1948  
Maj James S. Howard, Jun 1948  
Maj H. James, Jul 1948  
Maj James S. Howard, Aug 1948  
Maj Kent J. Richens, Feb 1949-Unknown  
Maj James S. Howard, Unknown-18 Mar 1949  
Capt Frederick L. Manthe, 19 Mar 1949  
Lt Col Warren C. Miller, 5 Jul 1949  
Maj Larry D. Dennis, 27 Apr 1950  
Lt Col Fred W. Miller, 17 May 1950  
Lt Col Donald O. Tower, 12 Aug 1950  
Maj Lawrence A. Greensides, 29 Mar 1951  
Lt Col Lloyd W. Preston, Aug 1951  
Lt Col Raymond E. Buckwalter, 5 May 1952  
Lt Col Robert E. Larkin, 19 Nov 1952  
Maj Thomas Q. Jones Jr., 4 Jul 1953  
Maj Wilson C. Gammon, 15 Oct 1953  
Maj Glenn L. Mccutcheon (Temporary), 11 Jun 1954

Capt Theodore M. Jablonski (Temporary), 20 Jun 1954  
Maj Wilson C. Gammon, 27 Jun 1954  
Maj Harlis B. Koger (Temporary), 1 Aug 1954  
Lt Col Allen B. Gaston, 25 Aug 1954  
Lt Col Robert R. Barr, Oct 1954  
Lt Col Curtis N. Youngblood, 5 Nov 1954  
Maj James M. Mcfarland (Temporary), 22 Nov 1954  
Lt Col Curtis N. Youngblood, 5 Dec 1954  
Lt Col Allen B. Gaston, 29 Jan 1955  
Lt Col Ralph W. Jones, 9 May 1955  
Lt Col Wilson C. Gammon, 3 Oct 1955  
Lt Col James M. Mcfarland, Apr 1959  
Maj James G. Cary, Jul 1959  
Lt Col Richard E. Murray, May 1961  
Maj Howard Richardson, Jul 1961  
Col Marvin T. Rorrer, 24 Oct 1961  
Lt Col John F. Hargraves, Jun 1964  
Unknown, Jun 1964-30 Sep 1967  
Lt Col Vernon E. Baden, By 30 Sep 1967  
Col Berry A. Segraves Jr., 30 Sep 1968  
Lt Col Archie D. Bower, 15 Dec 1968  
Lt Col Frank S. Guzak, By 30 Sep 1969  
Lt Col Willis M. Hodges, 1 Jan 1970  
Lt Col William J. Epperson, 26 Aug 1971  
Lt Col Roderick M. Busbee, 22 Nov 1972  
Maj Harry D. Hayes, 8 Jan 1973  
Lt Col Robert D. Donaldson, 15 Jan 1973  
Lt Col Harold T. Godfrey Jr., 17 Aug 1973  
Lt Col Harry D. Hayes, 20 Sep 1973  
Lt Col Richard B. Goetze Jr., 30 Sep 1975  
Lt Col Waymon L. Sinclair, 15 Mar 1976  
Lt Col Oscar E. Bowles, 1 Sep 1977  
Lt Col John H. Kirk, (Temporary), 23 Apr 1979  
Lt Col Antonio Maldonado, 18 May 1979  
Lt Col Thomas J. Harris, 28 May 1980  
Lt Col James E. Jardon Ii, 18 Aug 1981  
Lt Col Gerald D. Dennis, 17 Aug 1982-1 Oct 1983  
Lt Col Michael A. Kenny, 18 Jun 1987  
Lt Col Karl M. Peters, 23 Oct 1988  
Lt Col William D. Howell, 12 Feb 1990  
Col William M. Fraser Iii, 1 Sep 1991  
Lt Col Robert C. Tom, 8 Jun 1993  
Lt Col Gregory A. Whaley, 2 Sep-31 Dec 1993  
Unknown, 1 Jan-30 Sep 1994

Lt Col James M. Kowalski, 1 Oct 1994  
Lt Col Stephen E. Wright, 19 Jul 1996  
Lt Col Joseph D. Brown IV, 2 Jul 1997  
Lt Col Garrett Harencak, 4 Jun 1999  
Lt Col Michael R. Shoults, 18 May 2001  
Lt Col Mick R. Guthals, 19 May 2003  
Lt Col Jeffry B. Taliaferro, 8 Jul 2005  
Lt Col Mark E. Weatherington, 23 Mar 2007  
Lt Col John J. Nichols, 30 Jun 2008  
Lt Col Ty W. Neuman, 8 Jun 2010  
Lt Col Ryan S. Sweeney, 24 May 2012  
Lt Col John Hargraves

## **HONORS**

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

## **Campaign Streamers**

World War I

Flanders

Lys

Picardy

Lorraine

St Mihiel

Meuse-Argonne

World War II

Philippine Islands

East Indies

Air Offensive, Japan

Papua

Guadalcanal

Western Pacific

Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Korea

UN Defensive

UN Offensive

CCF Intervention

First UN Counteroffensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1952

Third Korean Winter  
Korea, Summer 1953

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

**Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Philippine Islands, 7 Dec 1941–10 May 1942  
Philippine Islands, 8– 22 Dec 1941  
Philippines and Netherlands Indies, 1 Jan–1 Mar 1942  
Philippine Islands, 6 Jan 8 Mar 1942  
Papua, 23 Jul–[16 Nov 1942]  
New Britain, 7–12 Aug 1942  
Japan, 9–19 Mar 1945  
Kobe, Japan, 5 Jun 1945  
Korea, 28 Jun–15 Sep 1950

Meritorious Unit Award  
1 Jun 2013-31 May 2015

**Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards**

1 Jul 1964–30 Jun 1965  
1 Jul 1967–30 Jun 1968  
1 Jul 1982–1 Oct 1983  
1 Jul 1987–30 Jun 1989  
1 Jul 1982-1 Oct 1983  
1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1989  
30 May 1990-29 May 1992  
1 Jun 2002-31 May 2004  
1 Jun 2005-31 May 2007  
1 Jan 2016-31 Dec 2017

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation  
7 Jul 1950–27 Jul 1953

**EMBLEM**





Khaki, an American Indian (Mohawk) warrior's head couped with face markings, necklace, hair ornament and headband Proper, in dexter chief a lozenge Azure; all within a diminished bordure of the last. (Approved, 14 Feb 1924 and modified in 1996)

**MOTTO**

**NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Flying training unit, Nov–Dec 1917; combat training with units of RAF serving on the front with British Second and Fifth Armies, 20 Mar–24 Jun 1918 (C flight participated in Somme Defensive, 21 Mar–6 Apr 1918); combat as pursuit unit with American First Army, 2 Sep–10 Nov 1918. 28 flew one hundred and thirty patrols and bombing missions over Germany and areas held by the Axis powers. The squadron is credited with fifteen victories and another fifteen probables between 22 June 1917 and the war's end. It has made 128 patrols and bombing raids into Germany, fought 29 combats and received official confirmation for 15 victories. It suffered six casualties, consisting of 1 killed, 1 wounded, 2 prisoners and 2 missing.

Combat in Southwest Pacific, 7 Dec 1941–16 Nov 1942; ground echelon fought with infantry units in Philippine Islands, 24 Dec 1941–May 1942; replacement training, 1 Feb 1943–1 Apr 1944; combat in Western Pacific, 12 Feb–15 Aug 1945.

27 November 1944 During a 3,000-mile out-and-back navigation training mission from Great Bend Army Airfield Kansas, to Batista Army Airfield, Cuba, B-29 42-24447, coded '35', of the 28 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 19th Bombardment Group Very Heavy, suffers fire in number 1 engine. Aircraft commander, 1st Lt Eugene Hammond, orders crew bail-out 37 miles S of Biloxi, Mississippi. After all but pilot have departed, the burning engine nacelle drops off of the wing, Lt. Hammond returns to controls, brings the bomber into Keesler Field, Mississippi for emergency landing. Only four recovered from the Gulf of Mexico, one dead, three injured.

Combat in Korea, 28 Jun 1950–25 Jul 1953.

Furnished B–52 aircraft and crews to other SAC organizations involved in combat operations in Southeast Asia until Oct 1973.

On 30 November 2005, a B-1B aircraft, S/N 86-0136, on a training mission from Dyess Air Force Base, released a Bomb Dummy Unit (BDU)-33 training munition on the impact area of the Melrose Bombing Range (MBR), located approximately 24 miles west of Cannon AFB. The munition landed in its intended area but the munition's spotting charge started a fire that became uncontrollable due to existing hazards and inadequate resources to suppress the fire. The resulting wildland fire burned for about 12 hours consuming approximately 26,000 acres of mostly grazing and farm land. During the fire, privately-owned structures, farm equipment, fencing, wells, livestock, animal feed, and crops were destroyed or damaged. The fire resulted in no human fatalities and one civilian firefighter suffered a broken ankle. Over 195 firefighters from 19 civilian fire departments, 3 federal agencies and the Cannon AFB Fire Department were involved in suppressing and extinguishing the fire.

The 27th Fighter Wing is responsible for operations at the MBR. Small range fires are routinely controlled and extinguished by MBR assigned firefighters. Since fires were routinely controlled and extinguished at the range, the risk of an uncontrollable fire was never seriously considered by Operations Support Squadron (OSS) or Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) leadership and there was little motivation to correct known deficiencies.

On 30 November 2005, the risk of an uncontrollable fire was high due to a myriad of factors including: an understaffed MBR fire department, inoperable communication equipment, a large amount of combustible material on the range due to vegetation overgrowth, and high winds. Despite all of the existing hazards, the range did not have procedures to restrict bombing operations and permitted an aircraft to drop practice munitions known to start fires, when the fire condition and risks exceeded the capabilities of the resources available to control a potential fire.

The Board President found by clear and convincing evidence that this mishap was caused by the OSS and CES leadership's failure to appreciate the level of fire danger and implement reasonable safety measures to mitigate the risk of an uncontrollable fire at the range in an application of the principles of Operational Risk Management. A number of DoD recognized human factors present in the mishap wing prevented critical safety related information from reaching senior wing leaders, making conditions at the range ripe for an uncontrollable fire.

23 Oct–3 Nov 2000 Six B-1Bs, along with 100 maintenance and 28 BS airmen, relocated to Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth during runway repairs at Dyess AFB. MSgt Pedro Rivera, chief of airfield management, said the runway repairs removed the edges of 3,700 of the 13,500 feet of the runway to replace the asphalt. The shortened runway was problematic for the 28's training mission, leading them to temporarily relocate to NAS JRB Fort Worth. The runway shortening did not affect the 9 BS, 13 BS, or the 317th Airlift Group.

7-22 Mar 2012 The 28 BS participated in the eighth annual Mountain Roundup exercise at Mountain Home AFB, ID. This exercise simulated future NATO operations by flying sorties with multiple services and nations. Capt Alicia Datzman of the 28 BS said the exercise illustrates the importance of the B-1. As the only long-range strike aircraft in this exercise, Capt Datzman said, "Non-B-1 crewmembers are generally surprised to hear the amount of weapons we bring to a fight, as well as our wide range of capabilities with those weapons and sensors." More than 50 aircraft from the United States, Canada, Germany, and Singapore participated, including U.S. Marines from the 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company and five Joint Terminal Attack Controller teams.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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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.

USAF Accident Investigation Board Reports.

Unit yearbook. *Homestead AFB, FL. 1964.*