

4400 TACTICAL BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

4400 Training Squadron

4400 Bomb Crew Training Squadron

4400 Tactical Bombardment Squadron

STATIONS

Langley AFB, VA, 12 Mar 1951-19 Jul 1954

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

On 19 July 1954, the 500th Bombardment Squadron, Tactical, was activated, following a long, inactive period after World War II. As part of the 345th Bomb Group, they flew B-25's in the Pacific Theater of operation. Prior to this reactivation, the men and equipment were assigned to the 4400th Tactical Bombardment Squadron (Training), flying B-26 type aircraft. This organization

had long been well know on Langley Air Force Base. With the United States intervention in the Korean hostilities, the need for Stateside training of B-26 replacement crews was necessary. The 2215th Combat Crew Training Squadron was originated for this purpose on the 1st of August 1950. This Squadron was the foundation for the 4400th Tactical Bombardment Squadron, and was commanded by Lt. Col. John P. Crocker.

On the 11th of August 1950 the first class of 43 officers and airmen completed their training and left immediately for Korea. During the earlier part of 1951 the Squadron was enlarged and became the 4400th Combat Crew Training Group. However, a portion of it was retained as a squadron, known as the 4400th Bomb Crew Training Squadron, as of 12 March 1951. Lt. Col. Earl W. Cummings was the Commander. The training of crews became more vigorous and through as time went on. Many Korean returnees became instructors in the organization, making the majority Korean combat experienced and the remainder having World War II experience. On the 16th of January 1954, another change to the Squadron was made. At that time it was redesignated the 4400th Tactical Bombardment Squadron and remained as such until its deactivation. Major Alfred A. Beckner Jr. has been in command of the organization since August 1953.

The last of the Korean Combat Crew replacements departed the organization on 2 April 1954, at which time the efforts of the Squadron were turned towards the portion of its mission that ... "is to maintain combat effectiveness of crews in the night intruder capability of location, attacking and destroying both fixed and moving targets, using visual and/or electronic methods, in all weather conditions during the hours of darkness and adverse weather conditions during the hours of daylight.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.