

## 5 AIR DIVISION



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

5 Bombardment Wing established 19 Oct 1940  
Activated, 18 Dec 1940  
Inactivated, 5 Sep 1941  
Activated, 10 Jul 1942  
Redesignated 5 Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 1 Jan 1945  
Inactivated, 2 Nov 1945  
Redesignated 5 Air Division, 10 Jan 1951  
Activated, 14 Jan 1951  
Inactivated, 25 Jan 1952  
Organized, 25 Jan 1952  
Inactivated, 15 Jan 1958

### STATIONS

McChord Field, WA, 18 Dec 1940  
Fort George Wright, WA 9 Jan-5 Sep 1941  
Bolling Field, DC, 10 Jul 1942  
Westover Field, MA, 31 Jul-Oct 1942  
Casablanca, French Morocco, Nov 1942  
Oujda, French Morocco, Dec 1942  
Biskra, Algeria, Jan 1943

Chateaudun, Algeria, Mar 1943  
Depienne, Tunisia, Aug 1943  
Foggia, Italy, Dec 1943-2 Nov 1945  
Offutt AFB, NE, 14 Jan 1951  
Rabat/Sale Airfield, French Morocco, 25 May 1951-25 Jan 1952  
Rabat/Sale Airfield, French Morocco, 25 Jan 1952  
Sidi Slimane, French Morocco (later, Morocco), 29 May 1954-15 Jan 1958

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

GHQ Air Force, 18 Dec 1940-unkn  
Second Air Force, unkn-5 Sep 1941  
Eighth Air Force, 10 Jul 1942-unkn  
XII Air Support Command, 13 Oct 1942  
Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Nov 1943-15 Sep 1945  
Unkn, 16 Sep-2 Nov 1945  
Strategic Air Command, 14 Jan 1951-25 Jan 1952  
Strategic Air Command, 25 Jan 1952  
Sixteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1957-15 Jan 1958

### **ATTACHMENTS**

First Air Force, 10 Jul 1942-unkn

### **COMMANDERS**

Brig Gen Carlyle H. Wash, Dec 1940  
Unkn, 10-27 Jul 1942  
Maj Charles R. Simpson, 28 Jul 1942  
Col John W. Monahan, 11 Sep 1942  
Brig Gen Joseph H. Atkinson, 5 Jan 1943  
Brig Gen Charles W. Lawrence, 24 Jan 1944  
Col Wallace E. Whitson, c. 22 May 1945-unkn  
Unkn, 14 Jan-24 May 1951  
Maj Gen Archie J. Old Jr., 25 May 1951  
Maj Gen David W. Hutchinson, 15 Jan 1953  
Brig Gen Charles B. Dougher, 5 Mar 1954  
Maj Gen Joseph J. Nazzaro, 6 Jul 1955  
Brig Gen K. K. Compton, 4 Jul 1957-15 Jan 1958

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Naples Foggia  
Rome Arno

## **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

#### **EMBLEM**

On a shield gules, a stylized silhouetted aircraft volant, nose to the chief argent; on a chief per fess gules and argent, five stars argent in chief, and a ribbon of the firmament, sky blue, in base charged with semee of stars of the second. (Approved, 3 Nov 1954)

#### **MOTTO**

#### **OPERATIONS**

The 5 moved to North Africa in Nov 1942, and its subordinate units began flying missions from Algeria in January 1943. Targets included airdromes, marshalling yards, bridges, and troop concentrations. For example, in February 1943, the 5, in direct support of ground operations, bombed enemy troop concentrations in the Kasserine Pass. As 1943 progressed, subordinate units bombed Pantelleria, Sicily, and marshalling yards and airdromes on the Italian mainland. In early 1944, the 5 began bombing targets in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Greece, and Bulgaria. In June 1944, it began shuttle bombing on the Russian front. American aircraft took off from airdromes in Italy, made a bombing attack, and landed on airdromes in the Soviet Union. Then they reversed the process. In August 1944, the 5th wing supported the invasion of southern France. It continued strategic bombing missions until the Germans surrendered in May 1945.

Moved without personnel and equipment to French Morocco in May 1951, the 5 Air Division absorbed the resources and responsibilities of the USAF Mission to Morocco. It then manned, trained, and equipped assigned units and prepared installations in French Morocco for the support of other SAC units, in accordance with emergency war plans and operations orders, until the end of 1957.

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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.