

5th AIR DIVISION



LINEAGE

5th Bombardment Wing established 19 Oct 1940
Activated, 18 Dec 1940
Inactivated, 5 Sep 1941
Activated, 10 Jul 1942
Redesignated 5th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 1 Jan 1945
Inactivated, 2 Nov 1945
Redesignated 5th 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, c. Jan 1943
Chateaudun, Algeria, c. 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, c. 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

BG Carlyle H. Wash, Dec 1940 1941
Unkn, 10-27 Jul 1942
Maj Charles R. Simpson, 28 Jul 1942
Col John W. Monahan, 11 Sep 1942
BG Joseph H. Atkinson, 5 Jan 1943
BG Charles W. Lawrence, 24 Jan 1944
Col Wallace E. Whitson, c. 22 May 1945-unkn
Unkn, 14 Jan-24 May 1951
MG Archie J. Old Jr., 25 May 1951-25 Jan 1952
MG Archie J. Old, Jr., 25 Jan 1952
MG David W. Hutchinson, 15 Jan 1953
BG Charles B. Dougher, 5 Mar 1954
MG Joseph J. Nazzaro, 6 Jul 1955
BG K. K. Compton, 4 Jul 1957-15 Jan 1958

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Naples Foggia
Rome Arno

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

None

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)

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 5th 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 5th, 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 5th 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 5th 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.

Air Force Order of Battle
Created: 25 Aug 2010
Updated:

Sources

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