

25 ATTACK GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE¹

25 Bombardment Group (Heavy) constituted, 22 Dec 1939

Activated, 1 Feb 1940

Redesignated 25 Bombardment Group (Medium), May 1942

Disbanded, 20 Jun 1944

25 Bombardment Group, Reconnaissance established, 17 Jul 1944

Activated, 9 Aug 1944

Inactivated, 8 Sep 1945

Redesignated 25 Tactical Reconnaissance Group and activated, 19 Apr 1965

Organized, 1 Jul 1965

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Oct 1965

25 Bombardment Group (Medium) reconstituted and consolidated with 25 Tactical Reconnaissance Group, 19 Apr 1965. Consolidated unit designated 25 Tactical Reconnaissance Group

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Oct 1965

25 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing established and activated, 24 Sep 1965

Organized, 1 Oct 1965

Discontinued and inactivated, 15 Oct 1966

¹ Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

25 Tactical Reconnaissance Group and 25 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing consolidated, 31 Jan 1984

Redesignated 25 Attack Group, 13 Feb 2018

Activated, 27 Feb 2018

STATIONS

Langley Field, VA, 1 Feb-26 Oct 1940

Borinquen Field, PR, 1 Nov 1940

Edinburgh Field, Trinidad, 1 Nov 1942

Ft Amsterdam, Curacao, 1 Aug 1943

Borinquen Field, PR, 5 Oct 1943-24 Mar 1944

Alamogordo AAFld, NM, 6 Apr-20 Jun 1944

Watton, England, 9 Aug 1944-23 Jul 1945

Drew Field, FL, 6 Aug-8 Sep 1945

Chambley AB, France, 1 Jul 1965-15 Oct 1966

Shaw AFB, SC, 27 Feb 2018

ASSIGNMENTS

General Headquarters Air Force, 1 Feb 1940

13 Composite Wing, 1 Nov 1940

VI Bomber Command, 25 Oct 1941

Second Air Force, 1 Apr 1944-20 Jun 1944

325 Photographic Reconnaissance (later, 325 Reconnaissance) Wing, 9 Aug 1944

Third Air Force, 6 Aug-8 Sep 1945

United States Air Forces in Europe, 19 Apr 1965

Seventeenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1965-15 Oct 1966

432 Wing, 27 Feb 2018

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1940-1943

A-17, 1940-1941

B-17, 1940

A-20, 1942-1943

B-25, 1943-1944

B-17, 1944-1945

B-25, 1944-1945

B-24, 1944

F-8, 1944-1945

F-5, 1944-1945

B-26, 1944-1945

EB/RB-66, 1965-1966

COMMANDERS

Maj Theodore J. Koenig, 1 Feb 1940
Maj. William B. Souza 1 Oct 40-6 Jan 41
Lt Col Caleb V. Haynes, 7 Jan 1941
Maj Alva L. Harvey, 1 Jun 1941
Maj Neil B. Harding, 10 Sep 1941
Maj Jasper N. Bell, unkn
Lt Col Robert Alan, unkn
Maj Mathew J. McKeever Jr., unkn
Maj Milton E. Lipps, unkn
Maj Howard A. Cheney, unkn
Col Charles F. Born, 1942
Maj John J. Mullen, unkn
Col Kenneth O. Sanborn, 1 Aug 1943-7 Apr 1944
Unkn, Apr-Jun 1944
Lt Col Joseph A. Stenglein, 9 Aug 1944
Col Leon W. Gray, 25 Sep 1944
Lt Col John R. Hoover, 14 Apr 1945
Maj Ernest H. Patterson, 19 Jul 1945-unkn
Col Jack N. Fancher, 1 Jul 1965
Col Clayton L Peterson, 6 Oct 1965
Col Jack N. Fancher, 1 Jul-15 Oct 1966

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Antisubmarine, American Theater
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



Azure, issuing out of sinister side an arm embowed grasping a trident bend sinisterwise prongs to base or, on and over the junction of the shaft and prongs a compass rose of the first on a background of the second. (Approved, 3 Oct 1940)



25 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing emblem



MOTTO

GUARD WITH POWER

OPERATIONS

Flew antisubmarine patrols, escorted convoys, and served as part of the defense force of the area.

Ground elements departed from Fort Monroe, VA, on 27 October 1940 on an army transport and arrived 2 November 1940 at San Juan, PR. Aircraft and crews departed Langley Field on 1 November 1940 for Borinquen Field, PR, and arrived several days later.

Activated on 1 Feb 1940. Trained at Langley Field, VA, Feb-Oct 1940. Moved to the Caribbean Sea in late Oct. The group and its components, based at various bases in the Caribbean, flew antisubmarine patrols, escorted convoys, and served as part of the defense force of the area until Oct 1943. Returned to the USA in late Mar 1944 and disbanded at Alamogordo AAFld, NM, in Jun 1944. Activated in England on 9 Aug 1944 and served with Eighth Air Force until V-E Day. The 652 Bombardment Squadron flew weather flights between England and the Azores from 1 Sep 1944 until 1 Aug 1945. For a few months late in 1944, it used B-24s, but otherwise it flew B-17s. Data collected by the squadron was vital to the preparation of weather forecasts the Allies needed for operations in the combat theaters. The 653 Bombardment Squadron, equipped with Mosquito (F-8) aircraft, flew short flights to gather weather data in areas over enemy territory in western and central Europe. The 654 Squadron, equipped with F-8s, and later with F-5s (reconnaissance version of P-38), B-25s, and B-26s, took radar scope photographs of target areas and photographed prospective targets from very low altitudes; photographed the war-ravaged transportation systems in Belgium, France, and Germany; tested Loran equipment with specially-fitted B-26s; and flew weather reconnaissance missions and jammed enemy radars by dropping chaff ahead of Allied bomber formations. Returned to the USA in late Jul 1945 and inactivated on 8 Sep 1945. Organized in France in Jul 1965. Maintained proficiency in night photographic and day photographic/visual reconnaissance and electronic warfare techniques. Furnished aircraft and crews for combat in Southeast Asia, Oct 1965-Jun 1966. Phased down operations at Chambley AB, France, and inactivated there on 15 Oct 1966.

Operations included reconnaissance over the waters adjacent to the British Isles and occasionally to the Azores to obtain meteorological data; flights over the Continent for weather information needed in planning operations; night photographic missions to detect enemy activity; and daylight photographic and mapping missions over the Continent. Occasionally engaged in scout missions to target areas for last-minute weather information that was furnished to approaching bomber formations, on-the-scene visual evaluation of bombardment strikes, and electronic-countermeasure missions in which chaff was spread to confuse enemy defenses during Allied attacks.

First Operation: 22 Apr 1944

Total Credit Sorties: 3,370