

## 34 BOMB SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

34 Aero Squadron organized, 11 Jun 1917

Demobilized, 10 Jun 1919

Reconstituted and redesignated 34 Pursuit Squadron, 24 Mar 1923

Activated, 15 Jul 1931

Redesignated 34 Attack Squadron, 1 Mar 1935

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 17 Oct 1939

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 9 Oct 1944

Inactivated, 26 Nov 1945

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron, Light, 29 Apr 1947

Activated, 19 May 1947

Inactivated, 10 Sep 1948

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron, Light, Night Intruder, 8 May 1952

Activated, 10 May 1952

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron, Tactical, 1 Oct 1955

Inactivated, 25 Jun 1958

Redesignated 34 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, and activated, 15 Nov 1962

Organized, 1 Feb 1963

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1976

Redesignated 34 Bomb Squadron, and activated, 1 Jul 1992

#### STATIONS

Camp Kelly, TX, 11 Jun–11 Aug 1917

England, 15 Sep–19 Dec 1917

Tours, France, 23 Dec 1917–1919

Mitchel Field, NY, 27 May–10 Jun 1919  
March Field, CA, 15 Jul 1931  
McChord Field, WA, 24 Jun 1940  
Pendleton, OR, 29 Jun 1941  
Portland, OR, 28 Dec 1941  
Pendleton, OR, 13 Jan 1942  
Lexington County Aprt, SC, 16 Feb 1942  
Barksdale Field, LA, 24 Jun–18 Nov 1942  
Telergma, Algeria, 23 Dec 1942  
Sedrata, Algeria, 13 May 1943  
Djedeida, Tunisia, 25 Jun 1943  
Villacidro, Sardinia, 6 Dec 1943  
Poretta, Corsica, 21 Sep 1944  
Dijon, France, 20 Nov 1944  
Linz, Austria, 18 Jun 1945  
Horsching, Austria, 8 Jul 1945  
Marchtrenk, Austria, 10 Aug 1945  
Clastres, France, 3 Oct–17 Nov 1945  
Camp Myles Standish, MA, 25–26 Nov 1945  
Langley Field (later, AFB), VA, 19 May 1947–10 Sep 1948  
Pusan AB, Korea, 10 May 1952  
Miho AB, Japan, 10 Oct 1954–19 Mar 1955  
Eglin AF Aux Field No 9, FL, 1 Apr 1955  
RAF Sculthorpe, England, 18 Jan–4 Mar 1958  
Eglin AF Aux Field No 9, FL, 4 Mar–25 Jun 1958  
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, 1 Feb 1963  
Beale AFB, CA, 30 Sep 1975–30 Sep 1976  
Castle AFB, CA, 1 Jul 1992  
Ellsworth AFB, SD, 4 Apr 1994

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Unkn, 11 Jun–Dec 1917  
Second Aviation Instruction Center, Dec 1917–1919  
Unkn, 1919–10 Jun 1919  
17 Pursuit (later, 17 Attack; 17 Bombardment) Group, 15 Jul 1931–26 Nov 1945  
17 Bombardment Group, 19 May 1947–10 Sep 1948  
17 Bombardment Group, 10 May 1952–25 Jun 1958  
Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962  
17 Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963–30 Sep 1976  
366 Operations Group, 1 Jul 1992

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-12, 1931–1934, 1935–1936  
P-26A, 1934–1935

A-17A  
YA-19  
B-18A, 1939-1940  
B-23, 1940-1941  
B-25, 1941-1942  
B-26, 1942-1945  
B-26, 1952-1956  
B-57, 1955-1956  
B-66, 1956-1958  
B-52, 1963-1976  
B-52, 1992

### **COMMANDERS**

Unkn, 11 Jun-14 Jul 1917  
Capt H. B. S. Burwell, 15 Jul 1917  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt E. E. Weise, 7 Aug 1917  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt H. S. Armstrong, 5 Mar 1918  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt H. D. Hale, 6 Mar 1918  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt W. C. Repass, 8 Jul 1918  
2<sup>nd</sup> Lt W. J. Lund, 4 Nov 1918-Unkn  
Capt Charles Douglas, 15 Jul 1931  
1st Lt John C. Crossthwaite 21 Jan 1933  
Capt Ira C. Eaker, 2 Sep 1933  
Maj Walter R. Peck 26 Nov 1934  
Capt John F. Wadman, Jul 1935  
Maj Early E. W. Duncan 14 Mar 1936  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Nathan B. Forrest 27 Jul 1936  
Maj Albert C. Foulk, 12 Jan 1937  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Robert H. Terrill, 8 Jun 1937  
Maj Emil C. Kiel, 23 Aug 1937  
Capt John J. O'hara Jr., 1 Jul 1939  
Maj Eugene L. Eubank, 1 Oct 1939  
Maj John J. O'hara Jr., 27 Mar 1940-2 May 1941  
Maj Alvord Rutherford, May 1941  
Capt Joseph A. Cunningham, Feb 1942  
Maj Elwynn M. Quinn, Jun 1942  
Maj Joseph R. Klein, 1 Aug 1942  
Maj John E. Criswell, 13 Oct 1943  
Maj Edward A. Durell, 24 Apr 1944  
Maj Joseph Magdich, 24 Sep 1944  
Capt James A. King Jr., 26 Dec 1944  
Capt John Naymik, 17 Jan 1945  
Maj Luther W. Gurkin Jr., 26 Mar 1945  
Capt James D. Fahs, Sep 1945-Unkn

Unkn, 19 May 1947-10 Sep 1948  
Lt Col St Clair Thompson Jr., 10 May 1952  
Maj Jacob C. James Jr., Oct 1952  
Lt Col Adolph Kurek, Jan 1953  
Lt Col William A. Hoy Jr., Jun 1953-1955  
Lt Col Abraham E. Shook, Jun 1955  
Unkn, Jan-25 Jun 1958. Unkn, 1-14 Feb 1963  
Lt Col Oran T. O'conner, 15 Feb 1963  
Lt Col Delmar L. Morgan, 31 Dec 1963  
Lt Col William N. Mccullough, 27 Jul 1964  
Lt Col Delmar L. Morgan, By 30 Sep 1965  
Lt Col Malcolm L. Landess, 1 Mar 1967  
Lt Col Coy Hendrix, 25 Sep 1968  
Lt Col Robert E. Coleman, 10 Nov 1968  
Lt Col Otis A. Sleep, 2 Jul 1969  
Lt Col Richard J. Weigman Jr., 1 Apr 1970  
Lt Col Lavern E. Williams, 13 Sep 1971  
Lt Col Hendsley R. Conner, 26 Mar 1973  
Lt Col Roger W. Mccausland, 25 Mar 1974  
Lt Col Ovidio Pugnale, 1 Sep 1974  
Col William D. Staton, 30 Sep 1975-30 Sep 1976  
Lt Col Edward A. Rice, 29 Jun 1992  
Lt Col Don M. Novak, 15 Jun 1993  
Lt Col Timothy B. Hopper, 31 Mar 1994  
Lt Col James E. Rowland, 14 Jun 1996  
Lt Col Thomas E. Ritchie, 22 Jun 1998  
Lt Col Thomas Arko, 24 Mar 2000  
Lt Col John C. Valle, 19 Feb 2002  
Lt Col Richard M. Clark, May 2002  
Lt Col Thomas F. Curran, 7 May 2004  
Lt Col James A. Pryor, 16 May 2006  
Lt Col Kevin B. Kennedy, 4 Apr 2008  
Lt Col Steven M. Beasley, Aug 2009  
Lt Col John D. Martin, 7 Apr 2011  
Lt Col Seth W. Graham, 7 Dec 2012  
Lt Col Joseph K. Kramer, 25 Nov 2014  
Lt Col Seth W. Spanier, 10 Jun 2016

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

World War I Theater of Operations

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater  
Tunisia  
Sicily  
Naples-Foggia  
Anzio  
Rome-Arno  
Southern France  
North Apennines  
Rhineland  
Central Europe  
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Korea  
Korea Summer-Fall, 1952  
Third Korean Winter  
Korea, Summer 1953

Global War on Terrorism  
GWOT-E

Iraq  
Liberation  
Transition

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Italy, 13 Jan 1944  
Schweinfurt, Germany, 10 Apr 1945  
Korea, 1 Dec 1952–30 Apr 1953

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat “V” Device  
20 Sep-27 Dec 2001  
1 Jun 2001-31 May 2003

Meritorious Unit Awards  
1 Jun 2009-31 May 2011  
1 Jun 2011-31 May 2013  
1 Jun 2013-31 May 2015

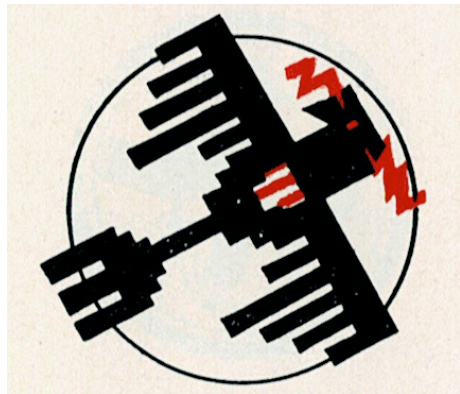
Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
1 Jul 1963–31 Mar 1964

1 Jul 1971–30 Jun 1973  
1 Jan–31 Dec 1975  
29 Jun 1992–28 Feb 1994  
1 Jun 1996–31 May 1998  
1 Jun 1999–31 May 2001  
1 Jun 2003–31 May 2005  
1 Jun 2007–31 May 2009

French Croix de Guerre with Palm  
Apr, May, and Jun 1944

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation  
24 May 1952–31 Mar 1953

#### EMBLEM



34 Bombardment Squadron



34 Bombardment Squadron, Light, Night Intruder





34 Bomb Squadron emblem: On a White disc bordered Black a Native American Thunderbird bendwise sinister, Black eyed White with Red pupil emitting Red lightning flashes bendwise from the eye, bearing on its breast with a White inverted step pyramid charged with three red pallets. (Approved, 18 Jun 1932)

## MOTTO

## OPERATIONS

This squadron obtained 50 men each from the 30<sup>th</sup>, 31, 32, 33, 35 36 and 37 Aero Squadrons before those units moved on to France. The augmented squadron was used for construction purposes at the above locations for unknown periods of time. The Squadron was assembled at Mom Hill Camp on December 13 and then shipped to France.

Demobilized on 10 June 1919 at Mitchel Field, NY, as the 34 Aero Squadron. Reconstituted in the Regular Army on 24 March 1923 as the 34 Pursuit Squadron, assigned to the 8th Pursuit Group and allotted to the Sixth Corps Area. Designated Active Associate was the 27th Pursuit Squadron 1923-27. Withdrawn from the Sixth Corps Area on 28 February 1927 and allotted to the Ninth Corps Area. Withdrawn from the Ninth Corps Area on 1 September 1928 and allotted to the Eighth Corps Area. Concurrently relieved from assignment to the 8th Pursuit Group and assigned

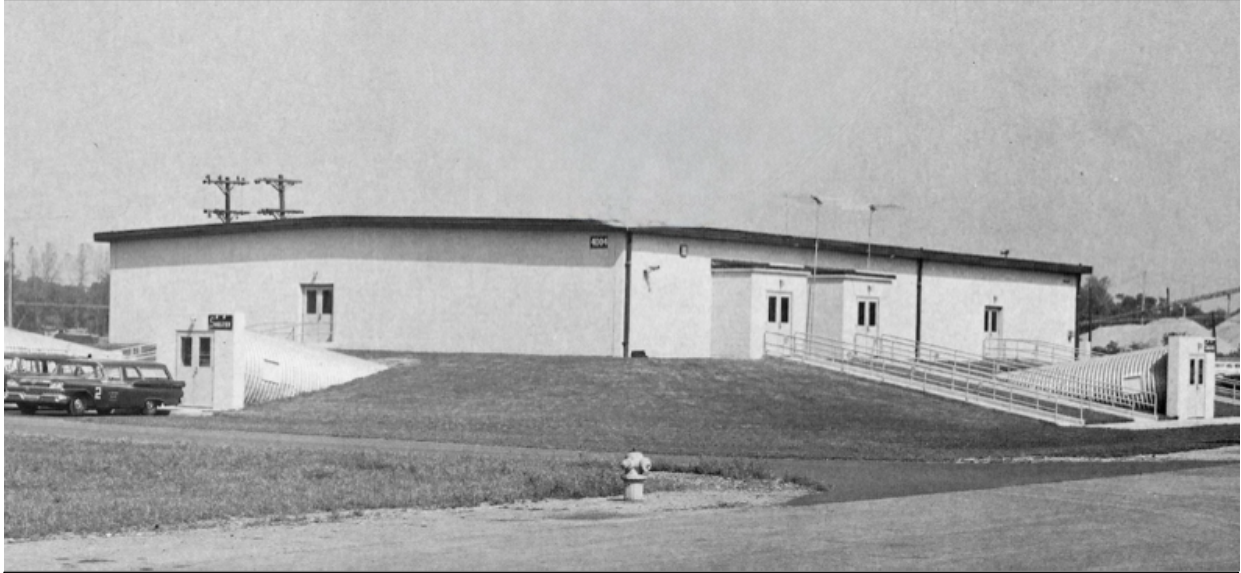
to the 17th Pursuit. Organized by June 1929 with Organized Reserve personnel as a RAI unit with headquarters at Kelly Field, TX. Organized Reserve officers assigned to the unit participated in summer training at Kelly Field 1929-31. Activated on 15 July 1931, less Reserve personnel, at March Field, CA. Reorganized and redesignated as the 34 Attack Squadron on 1 March 1935 and assigned to the 17th Attack Group. Reorganized and redesignated as the 34 Bombardment Squadron on 17 October 1939 and assigned to the 17th Bombardment Group. Transferred on 24 June 1940 to McChord Field, WA. Transferred on 29 June 1941 to Pendleton, OR.

Antisubmarine patrols, 22 Dec 1941–Mar 1942. Contributed aircrews for the Doolittle raid on Tokyo, Japan, of 6 Apr 1942. Combat in MTO and ETO, 30 Dec 1942–1 May 1945. German disarmament, Jun–Sep 1945.



34 Bombardment Squadron B-52s, Wright Patterson AFB, OH





Alert facility, Wright Patterson AFB, OH

In March 1994 Ellsworth welcomed the 34 Bomb Squadron, a geographically separated unit awaiting airfield upgrades before it could return to its parent organization, the 366 Wg, at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. The 34's B-1Bs are part one of the Air Force's composite wings, which also includes F-15, F-16, and KC-135s.

A B-1B from 34 Bomb Squadron Participated In Global Power Mission To Jordan. 1995/1996

34 Bomb Squadron Attended Red Flag Training Exercise. Amalgam Warrior. Cobra Gold Bombing Exercise In Korea. 1995/1996

On 1 April 97, the squadron again activated at Ellsworth as the geographically separated 34 Bomb Squadron completed its transfer to its home at the 366th Wing, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho. By June 1998, the 77th will have six of its B-1Bs out of the reconstitution reserve. This number balances those lost by the 34 BS.

On 19 September 2001 the 34 Bomb squadron joined the Ellsworth team and arrived from Mountain Home AFB, ID. Due to a drawdown in the number of B-1 aircraft in the Air Force inventory, the 77th BS at Ellsworth was inactivated and the "Thunderbirds" of the 34 BS were moved to Ellsworth to take their place.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. *17 Bombardment Wing, The Black Knights, Hurlburt Field, FL, 1956*. Army and Navy Publishing Co. Baton Rouge, LA. 1956.

Unit yearbook. *17<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing (H), The Golden Griffins. 1964*.