

Chapter 1 : Thurleigh | American Air Museum in Britain

It was Monday, under the sign of Sagittarius (see planets position on November 23,). The US president was Franklin D. Roosevelt (Democratic). Famous people born on this day include Sergio Ottolina and Susan Anspach.

Pilot Dual 7 hrs 5 min. Beech built a total of 4, of these aircraft for the Army Air Forces between and in four versions, the AT-7 Navigator navigation trainer, the AT Kansan bombing-gunnery trainer, the C Expeditor utility transport and the F-2 for aerial photography and mapping. Thousands of AAF pilot cadets also were given advanced training in twin-engine Beech airplanes. During the early s, Beech completely rebuilt Cs for the Air Force. They received new serial numbers and were designated CGs and CHs, remaining in service until for administrative and light cargo duties. Gene Autry, known as the "Singing Cowboy", was stationed at Romulus in After serving his tour of duty in China, he returned to the U. He joined the Army Air Forces when he was refused enlistment by other branches due to his age. Autry held the rank of Flight Officer and was well-respected by his peers. While in the service, he still did his show on Armed Forces Radio and after returning to the U. Crews picked up new airplanes usually nearest their bases and flew them to modifications centers, ports of embarkation, and combat units. The crews then hitched rides on airplanes SNAFU airlines flying in the direction of the home base or they took the train. Crews had priority on commercial flights as well. Redesignated 3d Ferrying Group, 28 May One of the primary functions of Romulus AAF was the training of new pilots as well as the training of experienced pilots on new aircraft flown out of the base. Men and women trained together to learn the specifics of aircraft that were to be transported across the U. After the war, servicemen and women were discharged from Romulus in Oct. The map room at Romulus, where the ATC kept track of its pilots. Read much more about Romulus AAF and see several photos at Detroit Metro Airport by Daniel Mason, where the above two paragraphs and photos and caption at right are from. The Link Trainer Crude pilot training aids had been designed even before World War I, but none had any significant training value. Link provided a giant step forward when in he received a patent on his "pilot maker" training device. Organ bellows and a motor provided the means for the trainer, mounted on a pedestal, to pitch, roll, dive and climb as the student "flew" it. Ironically, most of his first sales were to amusement parks. In , after a series of tragic accidents while flying the air mail, the Army Air Corps bought six Link trainers to assist in training pilots to fly at night and in bad weather relying only on instruments. Although Army Air Forces aviation cadets flew various trainer aircraft, virtually all took blind-flying instruction in a Link.

Chapter 2 : USAF Serial Number Search Results

Shot down 8 November in BFBO while serving as Pilot. Evaded. He reported to the American Consulate Gibraltar 21 April and returned to England on Apr

This description of Yank Magazine was excerpted from Wikipedia online and gives a good overview of how Yank came about and how it was produced. The collection below belonged to William H. These digital copies below are offered for research purposes by the Feeser family. The links below are for the British Edition, one of 21 different editions printed around the world. Links printed in black below are missing from the collection. If you have any of those issues, please send them to the webmaster for scanning and uploading. He proposed the idea to the Army in early , and accepted a commission as Lieutenant Colonel. White was the overall commander, Major Franklin S. Forsberg was the business manager and Major Hartzell Spence was the first editor. White was removed from the Yank staff because of disagreements about articles which had appeared. Soon afterward, Spence was also assigned to other duties, and Joe McCarthy became the editor. The first issue was published with the cover date of June 17, The magazine was written by enlisted rank soldiers only and was made available to the soldiers, sailors, and airmen serving overseas. Yank was the most widely read magazine in the history of the U. Each issue was priced from five cents to 10 cents because it was felt that if soldiers paid, they would have a higher regard for the publication. Each issue was edited in New York City and then shipped for printing around the world where staff editors added local stories. The last issue was published in December Scott Corbett later known as a writer of novels for children served as the last editor. Sketch artists such as Robert Greenhalgh and Howard Brodie worked on the magazine, which also featured the "G. Artist and author Jack Coggins spent over two years with Yank, first in New York, then in London, producing illustrations and articles in more than 24 issues. John Bushemi was a photographer, who photographed the Pacific War and provided covers for Yank. One of the most popular "morale boosters" for the men in the armed forces was the inclusion of a pin-up girl in each issue who was usually clad either in a bathing suit or some form of seductive attire. The pin-up girls included stage and screen stars.

Chapter 3 : Get One A/C Group

What happened on November 23, Browse historical events, famous birthdays and notable deaths from Nov 23, or search by date, day or keyword.

BF Data last updated: Tue Mar 15 Pilot and a civilian were killed. Pilot suffered only minor injuries. Condemned due to damage Jul 15, converted to 2-seater for use by th FG. Pilot bailed out before it crashed. Aircraft condemned Oct 31, Pilot bailed out and became POW. Pilot bailed out but was KIA. Crash site found Apr , parts recovered. Stab, pilot baled out injured and plane crashed off Dungeness, UK Jul 14, Pilot survived, aircraft badly damaged, unknown if repaired. Pilot survived and became POW. Pilot bailed out and evaded capture. Pilot MIA and fate unknown. It was said to have been the plane flown by Robert Johnson during his famous dogfight with Egon Mayer after Johnson was depleted of ammo and headed home. Mayer hammered the P to pieces until his ammo was depleted but the P was still flying. Finally Mayer flew up beside Johnson, saluted him, and headed home. Johnson landed successfully, but the plane never flew again. Condemned as MIA Aug 13, This is now said to be false as Egon Mayer was not in that area. Condemned as damaged Aug 14, th Fighter Training Group, st FTS engine failed due to fuel starvation on training flight while mixing it up with a Spitfire and bellied into a field near Atcham Jul 16, Plane condemned Oct 31, Condemned due to damage Oct 5, There is a photo of this plane with Bob Hope sitting in it and singer Frances Langford on the wing. Condemned due to damage Jun 29, Pilot survived, but aircraft was destroyed. Condemned as missing Oct 31, Aircrft badly damaged, unknown if repaired. Pilot killed crashed near Groton, CT Aug 19, Crew picked up after 66 days at sea. In early Nov convertd to armed transport--ball turret removed and bomb bay modified with trays for air drop cargo. Salvaged Tacloban, Letye Apr 31, Salvaged Sep in Australia. Salvaged September 13, Crashlanded at La Senia Aug 19, Aircraft logged 20 missions. Participated in first night bombing mission on Rouen, France. Plane was due to be returned to Boeing but was shot down as a drone before paperwork could be finished. Donat Mar 6, ; sustained major battle damage on raid to Marsala, Sicily Apr 11, Aircraft had logged 27 missions. To Podington Aug 6, , to Tafaraoui Nov 24, Shot down by Bf s over Bizerte Nov 28, and crashed into sea. MACR issued after the war. Returned to USA Apr 26, To Bush Field May 19, Salvaged date not recorded. Aircraft had logged 18 missions. Salvaged November 30, Salvaged Jun 5, Aircraft had logged missions. To 63rd BS, 43rd BG. Reclaimed for scrap Nov 20, Badly damaged on the ground at Biskra during a German ground attack on Jan 10, Salvaged on January 14, Queensland Sep 14, Taxied into tree, but repaired. Transferred to 65th BS. Returned to USA Nov Salvaged at Kingman, AZ Nov Salvaged after landing accident Nov 16, in Australia. Salvaged at Clark AB in Donat Mar 6, ; transferred to Oudna Aug 6, ; sustained a crashlanding at Oudna on Sep 11, and was salvaged. Aircraft logged 17 missions. Photo of returning damaged B taken by escorting P became the subject of one of the most famous photos of WW 2. Plane was repaired and continued to fly missions. Transferred to rd BS, st BG. Salvaged Mar 6, Did a war bond tour. Scrapped Oct 26, at Walnut Ridge, Arkansas. Crashed into North Sea Jul 26, WO October 20, Donat, March 6, ; transferred to Oudna, August 6, ; transferred to Cerignola, December 7, ; transferred to Lucera, February 1, , flew 61 missions. Salvaged, July 1, Donat, March 6, ; crashed on May 28, , flew 42 missions. Ditched at sea returning from Wewak in bad weather Mar 15, Only two crewmen survived. Involved in takeoff accident at Bassingbourn, UK Feb 12, Found unsatisfactory for mapping missions over enemy territory and later used as courier aircraft. Condemned May 1, Shot down by fighters Mar 18, during raid on Villaorba Udine airfield. Crashed mi NE of Trieste and exploded. Crew spent 16 days on lift raft to Buka and rescued 50 more days later. One POW executed later. Bellylandded at Chelveston, UK after collision. Scrapped Mar 19, Nazaire, France Nov 23, The jeep driver was killed. The plane was taken to a repair group, where front half joined BG Was put on display at site in Memphis, TN. Was delivered by truck to USAF Museum in for total overhaul due to extensive damage due to years of exposure to the elements. Given to Williamsport Technical Institute, Williamsport, Pennsylvania after the war for use in an aeronautical program. Nose section was sent to the Mighty Eighth Airforce Museum near Savannah, and is still on display there.. Waist gunner became unconscious due to problems with the oxygen

supply. Pilot dived the plane to 15, feet but pulled out too sharply, control cables snapped, part of one wing broke away and plane caught fire. Both bomb doors broke away, one severing the tail. Tail gunner was able to bail out. One other crew member bailed out but injured, rest of crew died when aircraft crashed. No data on casualties.

Chapter 4 : 14th Air Division - Wikipedia

Thurleigh is about 6 miles (10 km) north of the county town of calendrierdelascience.com well as the village centre, the parish is spread across five "Ends", local parlance for a hamlet - Church End, Cross End, Scald End, Backnoe End and Park End, covering an area of about six square miles.

Wray took command of the group, and the four flying squadrons assigned to the group were activated. On June 26, , the group now consisting of 83 officers and 78 enlisted men was transferred to the Second Air Force and moved to Walla Walla A. Arriving at Greenock , Scotland , on September 11, the ground echelon moved by train to Kimbolton , a war expansion airfield in the English Midlands. Part of the air echelon moved on August 24, , to Gowan A. From there it flew by pairs, making frequent stops, to Dow A. The remainder of the air crews relocated to Dow by train, arriving September 1. The group lost one of its 35 bombers during transit when a st B crashed in fog into a hillside near Cushendall , Northern Ireland , killing 8 of the crew and a flight surgeon. The th Bomb Squadron flew as a unit from Prestwick to Kimbolton on October 1, followed by the nd on October 2 and the st on October 6. On October 10, the remaining squadron, the rd, flew to Gander from Dow. It did not reach Prestwick until October 14, by which time the 91st had changed bases. The base was of war-time construction and had not yet been reconstructed to Class A airfield specifications. Intended as a light or medium bomber field, its runways were not suitable for the combat weights of Bs fully loaded with bombs and fuel. Three practice missions in as many days indicated to the staff of the 91st that the runway would quickly deteriorate and Colonel Wray immediately consulted Col. Not only was the base more appealing from its closer proximity to London, but it had been constructed in and was considerably more comfortable, with permanent brick buildings, including barracks for enlisted personnel in contrast to the Nissen huts at Kimbolton , landscaped grounds with curbed roadways Kimbolton, like many war-time fields, was noted for muddy conditions ; and had already been re-constructed to a Class A airfield. Wray contacted his staff and ordered them to prepare for immediate relocation. On October 14, without prior approval, the 91st moved itself and all of its equipment to Bassingbourn in one day and took possession of the station. The first, from November 4, to May 1, , saw the 91st develop operational experience as one of the four "pioneer" B groups, creating doctrine and tactics. The second, from May 1, to January 1, , had the 91st in a leadership role of the Eighth Air Force at a time when the expanding Bomber Command struggled to establish air superiority without adequate fighter support. The final phase, from January 1, to May 27, , was as one part of a massive, systematic campaign supported by a large force of escort fighters that brought to fruition the strategic bombing concept. First phase of operations The 91st Bomb Group began combat operations on November 4, , when it received a field order for a mission to bomb the submarine pens at Brest, France , later changed to an attack on the Luftwaffe airfield at Abbeville. Thirty minutes before takeoff the mission was cancelled "scrubbed" in the parlance of that time because of poor weather. These circumstances were typical of those encountered daily by all the heavy bomber groups in the autumn of as they pioneered the concept of strategic bombing by daylight. On November 4 the Eighth Air Force consisted of just nine groups, two of which had been withdrawn from operations to be transferred to North Africa and another to act as an operational training unit OTU for replacement combat crews. Of the six remaining units only the 93rd Bomb Group a B unit and the th Bomb Group were operational, and the th had flown just two missions. The target was the Kriegsmarine submarine base, and was the first of 28 missions against the U-boat force in the following eight months. In all, eight missions were flown in November , seven of them against the sub pens. The last of these, on November 23, resulted in the disastrous loss of two squadron commanders, the group navigator, the group bombardier, and three of the five airplanes attacking. Its first mission to a target in Germany occurred January 27, and it earned the first of two Distinguished Unit Citations on March 4 when it continued an attack against the marshalling yards at Hamm , Germany, after all the other groups had turned back because of poor weather conditions. On April 17 the group led the Eighth Air Force on its first mission against the German aircraft industry, attacking Bremen. German fighter reaction was intense and sustained, and the Eighth lost twice as many bombers as on any previous mission. The 91st had six Bs shot down, all from the st Bomb Squadron. During this phase the

group received a substantial number of aircraft to replace those lost or written off. However replacements for lost crewmen were few and made by transfer of individuals. The influx of replacement crews from the Combat Crew Replacement Center at Bovingdon did not begin to commence until March. As the 91st developed combat experience, it experienced a decrease in aircraft commanders, apart from missing aircraft and wounds, from moving pilots into command and staff positions. Without an adequate pool of replacements, many co-pilots were upgraded to aircraft commanders. Second phase of operations The second phase of combat operations, coinciding with the implementation of the Pointblank Directive to target German airpower, began in May. The Eighth developed in the next three months into a force of sixteen B groups and began attacking industrial targets deep inside Germany beginning at the end of July. Wray left the 91st on May 22 to become commander of a new wing, the 1st Provisional Combat Bomb Wing. He was replaced by the group deputy commander, Lt. William Reid, formerly of the 92nd Bomb Group. Baskin Lawrence, who had been the deputy commander of the 91st from its date of activation, had left the group May 1 to command the 92nd. On June 25, , a wholesale shifting of command officers between the two groups occurred. Lawrence departed the 92nd to become commander of a new "Pathfinder" group drawn from a squadron of the 92nd, and was replaced by Col. Reid, who left the 91st to command his old group. The 91st received its third commander, Lt. During this transition period the 91st also had its first crews finish their required combat tours and return to the United States, including the crew of the Memphis Belle. At the end of June it also acquired its most recognizable symbol, the "Triangle A" group tail marking often used in films about B's. On August 17, , the 91st Bomb Group led a mission to bomb the ball-bearing factories at Schweinfurt , Germany, losing 10 aircraft. This was the first of several missions between then and October 14, , in which the Eighth Air Force, flying beyond the range of its fighter escorts, suffered severe losses of aircraft and crews. The 91st had 28 aircraft shot down during this period, the most of any group in the Eighth. The remainder of the second phase of operations saw a suspension of deep penetration missions until long-range escort fighters became available. Until September 22, , the 91st BG had been equipped entirely with B-17 aircraft that had not been modified for longer-range Tokyo tanks. On that date it received its first B-24 , which would become the standard bomber of the Eighth Air Force in Europe. Wurzbach completed his tour of duty on December 12, , and was replaced by Col. Putnam, a former commander of the 1st Bomb Squadron, who returned to his old group from duty as the commander of the 1st Bomb Group, where he had been pilot of the lead aircraft on the first mission to Germany nearly a year before. Wurzbach had commanded the group for 44 missions; Putnam would command it for 10. This attack marked the renewal of the heavy bomber offensive against targets in all areas of the German Reich. Although losses were heavy 34 from the Oschersleben task force and 60 overall , three targets were struck by over bombers and a group of P Mustangs was part of the escort force. From February 20 to February 25, , known as " Big Week ", the United States Strategic Air Forces conducted Operation Argument, a campaign against the German aircraft industry with the goal of achieving air superiority over Europe by drawing the German fighter force into combat. The 91st flew all five days, losing ten aircraft, and on February 24 attacked Schweinfurt for the third time. The first attack by the 91st on Berlin came on March 6, when it led the entire Eighth Air Force at a loss of 69 bombers 6 of them from the 91st , followed by half a dozen more to the German capital in the next two months. On May 12 the Eighth Air Force began a costly campaign against oil and synthetic oil production facilities that continued to the end of the war. On May 17, Col. Putnam completed his tour as commanding officer of the 91st Bomb Group and Col. Terry took command, which he would retain for missions to the end of hostilities in Europe. Aided by the use of radar-equipped Pathfinder force bombers, the 91st BG averaged a mission every other day for the remainder of the war. The 1st Combat Bomb Wing, of which the 91st was a part, adopted the use of a red empennage and wingtips in June to more easily identify its groups during assembly for missions. The 91st retained its "Triangle A" tail marking as well. Radar-directed flak became very proficient in defending critical targets and the fighter force hoarded its pilots and fuel for occasional mass interceptions of the bombers. The 91st BG experienced its worst loss of the war during this period on November 2, , when it attacked the I. Suffering several losses to intense flak , for which this target was notorious, the 91st found itself isolated from the bomber stream at the division rally point, where it was attacked by large numbers of Fw A-8 fighters of IV. In all, thirteen B's of the 91st were shot down out

of 37 dispatched and half of the remainder suffered major battle damage. The 91st had been alerted for combat missions, of which were scrubbed or recalled and completed.

Chapter 5 : 91st Bombardment Group : Wikis (The Full Wiki)

wednesday, 25 november (ETO, Eighth Air Force): The th Observation Squadron, 67th Observation Group, moves from Membury to Aldermaston, England with As, L-4s and Spitfires (first mission is 20 Dec 43).

Personnel moved to Wendover Army Air Field , Utah on 6 April and began flying training, where it trained for bombardment operations using 40 BE aircraft. Group left Wendover 1 August to begin movement to the United Kingdom. Between October and April , the Group bombed a variety of enemy targets in Europe, including railroad facilities and submarine pens in France and ball-bearing works, oil plants, marshaling yards, chemical plants, aircraft factories, and foundries in Germany. Took part in the first penetration into Germany by heavy bombers of the Eighth Air Force on 27 January by attacking the U-boat yards at Wilhelmshaven. When the aircraft on which he was a gunner was hit by the enemy and set on fire, the sergeant threw explosive ammunition overboard, manned a gun until the German fighters were driven off, administered first aid to the wounded tail gunner, and extinguished the fire. The th was the center of media attention on 6 July , when Thurleigh was visited by the British Royal Family. The new replacement aircraft had been named Rose Of York in honor of the year-old Princess, who ceremonially christened the bomber. The group participated in the Big Week intensive campaign against the German aircraft industry, 20â€”25 February The group earned another DUC for effectively bombing an aircraft assembly plant at Bernberg, Gommersbach , Germany on 22 February, even though escort fighters had abandoned the mission because of weather. Often supported ground forces and attacked interdiction targets in addition to its strategic operations. Hit airfields and marshaling yards in France, Belgium , and Germany in preparation for Normandy. On D-Day , 6 June , the unit raided railroad bridges and coastal guns in support of the assault. During the Battle of the Bulge , December â€” January , the th attacked airfields and marshaling yards to help stop the German advance. Bombed enemy positions in support of the airborne assault across the Rhine River in March , the Operation Varsity portion of the Western Allied invasion of Germany. Selected for duty with occupational air forces in Germany. The unit engaged in "Casey Jones" mapping photography project. Group then moved to Giebelstadt, Germany on 1 December , and on 28 February to Istres, France, where it absorbed the remnants of the 92nd and th Bomb Groups. In August the unit re-established in Germany at Furstenfeldbruck and in September located at Lechfeld. The unit inactivated on 25 December , although the group had virtually ceased to exist as flying unit in the late summer of that year. Cold War[edit] The group was reactivated as a Strategic Air Command SAC Boeing B Superfortress very heavy bombardment group but was redesignated in as a medium bombardment group when the B was reclassified as a medium bomber. The group trained in the United States for strategic bombardment operations. In the group added the air refueling mission when the th Air Refueling Squadron was activated and assigned to the group. IFS is performed under a civilian contract program at Pueblo Memorial Airport , Colorado and the FTG provides a contingent of Air Force personnel to oversee the students and provide military training, supervision, and rigor to the course.

Chapter 6 : Hosted By Bedford Borough Council: Thurleigh in World War Two

The 13th Flying Training Group (FTG) is a unit of the United States Air Force, assigned to Air Education and Training Command (AETC). The group is stationed at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) near Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Image stamped on reverse: Well protected from the English winter, John is seen here checking a pressure gauge. His mother Mrs Margaret Kalb, also of Montrose Ave, and his old school friends from Lake View High School will be pleased to hear that though he enjoys his job, he is "just waiting to get home". Show caption About this image of Personnel of the 13th Bomb Group burn missions into the ceiling of a hut. One of the pilots taking part in the raid is hoisted on the shoulders of two senior officers and with a lighted candle records the raid and date. The ceiling is now a mass of candle smoke as this group has been here since The Colonel and Major of the Squadron hoist the Lieutenant on their shoulders whilst he marks this raid with a lighted candle. Buckey and right Maj. Walck, and on their shoulders is 1st Lt. John Stolz, and the recording is Berlin. The Americans are continuing this marking of the ceiling which was started by the RAF immediately after the first bomber raid on Germany and they are keeping up the good work first introduced by a Polish Squadron of the RAF. The ceiling is rapidly becoming full. Image via Mike Bowyer A veteran has written on the reverse: A B serial number nicknamed "Holy Hellcat" is visible in the background. His fellow airmen sit atop ammunition for B Flying Fortresses. The extremely heavy defense of the Flying Fortresses has enabled them to fight their way through to targets like Huls and Kiel in the face of the most intensive fighter opposition aerial warfare has ever seen. The result of these and other encounters has been the destruction of more than enemy aircraft. A crew of a Flying Fortress outside the 46, rounds of ammunition, enough to service a flight of Fortresses and a bomb load for one machine. The Sperry computing sight. This instrument gets a bulls eye every time. Flying Fortresses attacked shipping and ship-buildings yards in Rotterdam on Wednesday. These pictures show some of the crews on their return after the raid. A Flying Fortress crew by their plane on their return.

They were based at Chelveston approximately 15 miles (23 kilometers) from Thurleigh. Near SSgt Houlihan was the Thurleigh base photographer TSgt Francis L. Waugh who was standing on the running board of an ambulance with his camera pointed up at the Bs.

The Battle of Midway: The Japanese naval advance in the Pacific is halted. June 7 – WWII: Japanese forces invade the Aleutian Islands the first invasion of American soil in years. June 8 – WWII: Attack on Sydney Harbour: The Australian cities of Sydney and Newcastle are shelled by Japanese submarines. The eastern suburbs of both cities are damaged and the east coast is blacked out. June 9 – WWII: Nazis burn the Czech village of Lidice in reprisal for the killing of Reinhard Heydrich. June 10 – WWII: The Gestapo massacres male residents of Lidice , Czechoslovakia in retaliation for the killing of Reinhard Heydrich. June 13 – WWII: June 18 – WWII: June 23 – The experimental early type of a nuclear reactor L-IV led to an accident , becoming the first nuclear accident in history and consisting of steam explosion and reactor fire in Leipzig. June 28 – WWII: July [edit] July – The Holocaust: Inmates of Westerbork transit camp in the occupied Netherlands begin to be shipped to Nazi extermination camps. From now until around ,, mostly Jewish, from here will be killed. The First Battle of El Alamein: British forces prevent a second advance by Axis forces into Egypt. July 3 – WWII: Guadalcanal , occupied only by aborigines, falls to the Japanese Naval construction force deployed to construct an air field on the island. Three of six aircraft return; [10] For this mission, Captain Charles C. Kegelman is the first member of the Force to be awarded the U. July 8 – Turkish prime minister Refik Saydam dies while working in office.

Chapter 8 : Accident Douglas DB-7 Havoc Mk I BJ, 28 Nov

During combat, Oct Apr , operated primarily against strategic targets, striking locomotive works at Lille, railroad yards at Rouen, submarine pens at Bordeaux, shipbuilding yards at Vegesack, ball-bearing works at Schweinfurt, oil plants at Merseburg, marshalling yards at Stuttgart, a foundry at Hannover, a chemical plant at.

Activated on 15 Apr Moved to China early in , with the air echelon flying its planes by way of Africa, and the ground echelon traveling by ship across the Pacific. Assigned to Fourteenth AF. Made many trips over the Hump to India to obtain gasoline, oil, bombs, spare parts, and other items the group needed to prepare for and then to sustain its combat operations. The th Group supported Chinese ground forces; attacked airfields, coalyards, docks, oil refineries, and fuel dumps in French Indochina; mined rivers and ports; bombed shops and docks at Rangoon; attacked Japanese shipping in the East China Sea, Formosa Strait, South China Sea, and Gulf of Tonkin. Received a DUC for an unescorted bombing attack, conducted through anti-aircraft fire and fighter defenses, against docks and warehouses at Hankow on 21 Aug Received second DUC for interdiction of Japanese shipping during Maj Horace S Carswell Jr was awarded the Medal of Honor for action on 26 Oct when, in spite of intense anti-aircraft fire, he attacked a Japanese convoy in the South China Sea; his plane was so badly damaged that when he reached land he ordered the crew to bail out; Carswell, however, remained with the plane to try to save one man who could not jump because his parachute had been ripped by flak; before Carswell could attempt a crash landing, the plane struck a mountainside and burned. The group moved to India in Jun Ferried gasoline and supplies over the Hump. Sailed for the US in Dec Inactivated on 6 Jan Redesignated th Reconnaissance Group Weather. Activated on 17 Oct Inactivated on 5 Jan Redesignated th Bombardment Group Medium. Activated on 10 Oct Assigned to Strategic Air Command and equipped with B aircraft. Inactivated on 16 Jun Azure, between a pale argent thereon three pallets gules, on the dexter a star of twelve points white, charged with an annulet azure; on the sinister a thundercloud proper with three lightning flashes or; in chief per chevron, inverted and enhanced sable, three bombs points downward or, between a semee of fifteen stars argent. Approved 29 Aug Activated on 15 Mar Assigned to Third AF. Trained medium bombardment groups and later trained replacement crews, using B aircraft in both the operational and the replacement training programs. Disbanded on 1 May Reconstituted, redesignated th Troop Carrier Group Medium , and allotted to the reserve, on 16 May Activated on 26 Jun Inactivated on 20 Feb Activated on 8 Jul Assigned to Tactical Air Command. Using C and C aircraft, the group trained to airlift troops, equipment, and supplies for assault landings. Col William C Bentley, 8 Jul Engaged primarily in support and interdiction operations in Tunisia, Sicily, Italy, Corsica, Sardinia, and southern France; also flew some missions to Austria and Yugoslavia. Bombed airdromes, landing grounds, and gun emplacements on Pantelleria, Lampedusa, and Sicily, May-Jul Supported the Allied landing at Salerno, Sep Assisted the drive toward Rome, Jan-Jun Supported the invasion of Southern France, Aug Struck German communications - bridges, rail lines, marshalling yards, viaducts, tunnels, and road junctions - in Italy, Aug Apr Also dropped propaganda leaflets behind enemy lines. Received a DUC for a mission to Italy on 27 Aug when, in spite of persistent attacks by enemy interceptors and anti-aircraft artillery, the group effectively bombed marshalling yards at Benevento and also destroyed a number of enemy planes. Received second DUC for another mission in Italy on 10 Mar when the group, maintaining a compact formation in the face of severe anti-aircraft fire, bombed the railroad bridge at Ora, a vital link in the German supply line. Inactivated in Italy on 12 Sep Redesignated th Bombardment Group Light. Allotted to the reserve. Activated in the US on 27 Dec Inactivated on 27 Jun Italy, 27 Aug ; Ora, Italy, 10 Mar On a blue shield between two yellow degree triangles with the long sides facing each other and placed diagonally from upper right to lower left, three white stars; in the upper triangle a white mailed right hand grasping a red lightning flash and in the lower triangle a white dove in flight to base carrying a green and black olive branch in its beak, hand and dove outlined in black; in a row across the bottom of shield ten small white stars; the shield and triangles bordered with black, edged with white against the blue. Approved 7 Jan Activated on 2 Mar Trained with V aircraft. Moved to India, via Australia, Jul-Sep Assigned to Tenth AF. Returned to the US in Dec Redesignated st Fighter Group.

Extended federal recognition on 4 Apr Ordered to active service on 1 Feb Assigned to Air Defense Command. Redesignated 1st Fighter-Interceptor Group in Feb Inactivated on 6 Feb Extended federal recognition on 1 Jun Col George Labreche, Or a tornado issuant from base throughout azure, a demi-Indian issuant from chief proper, with war bonnet of the like and shooting from a bow sable a drop bomb gules. Fulminat - It He Strikes as Lightning. Approved 13 Nov Redesignated 7th Bombardment Group Dive in Jul Trained with A, A, A, and P aircraft. Redesignated 7th Bombardment Group Light in Dec Until Nov , attacked airfields, troop concentrations, gun positions, bridges, and Warehouses on the northern and western coasts of New Guinea, and also supported amphibious operations on that island and in Palau. After moving to the Philippines in Nov , provided support for ground troops and struck airfields and transportation facilities. Redesignated 7th Bombardment Group Heavy in Jul Redesignated 7th Bombardment Group Very Heavy. Activated on 30 Jul Redesignated 7th Fighter-Bomber Group. Activated on 1 Oct Ellington Field, Tex, 30 Jul Jun Formosa, 25 Mar-4 Apr Philippine Presidential Unit Citation. Azure an eagle volant or, carrying with his talons a futuramic bomb argent, fire exhaust proper, and a branch of olive vert. Approved 30 Nov Redesignated 7th Troop Carrier Group in Jul Trained for the invasion of Sicily and entered combat on the night of 9 Jul by dropping paratroops near Gela. Although attacked by ground and naval forces while carrying reinforcements to Sicily on the night of 11 Jul, the group completed the mission and received a DUC for the performance. Transported supplies and evacuated wounded in the Mediterranean area until late in Aug when the group moved to Sicily for the invasion of Italy. Dropped paratroops of 82d Airborne Division south of Salerno on the night of 13 Sep and flew a reinforcement mission the following night. Prepared for the invasion of France and on D-Day , released paratroops near Picauville; dropped reinforcements over the same area on 7 Jun, being awarded second DUC for its part in the invasion. Dropped paratroops near Arnheim and Nijmegen on 17 Sep during the airborne attack on Holland and released gliders carrying reinforcements to that area on 18 and 23 Sep. When not engaged in airborne operations the group evacuated wounded personnel and ex-prisoners of war, and also transported cargo such as ammunition, gasoline, medical supplies, and food until after V-E Day. Returned to the US, Aug-Sep Inactivated on 15 Nov Activated in Austria on 30 Sep Transported cargo such as coal, food, and medicine into West Berlin from Nov to Sep Inactivated in Germany on 18 Sep Redesignated 7th Troop Carrier Group Medium. Activated in the US on 1 Feb Inactivated on 8 Jun Sicily, 11 Jul ; France, [] Jun Per bend azure and gules, the silhouette of a stylized winged aircraft or, charged with a mullet of the first between six mullets, three and three of the third. Approved 3 Feb

Chapter 9 : 7th Bomb Group Association, East Anglia Air War Project

A bomber crew of the 7th Bomb Group wave to Picture Post Girls in front of a B Flying Fortress (serial number) nicknamed "Four of a Kind" at Thurleigh in December