

# 127<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER-BOMBER GROUP



## LINEAGE

361<sup>st</sup> Fighter Group constituted, 28 Jan 1943

Activated, 10 Feb 1943

Inactivated, 10 Nov 1945

Redesignated 127<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group and allotted to ANG (Mich), 24 May 1946

Extended federal recognition, 29 Sep 1946

Redesignated 127<sup>th</sup> Pilot Training Group, Mar 1951

Redesignated 127<sup>th</sup> Fighter Bomber Group

## STATIONS

Richmond AAB, VA, 10 Feb 1943

Langley Field, VA, 26 May 1943

Millville AAFld, NJ, 20 Jul 1943

Camp Springs AAFld, MD, 28 Aug 1943

Richmond AAB, VA, 20 Sep-11 Nov 1943

Bottisham, England, 30 Nov 1943

Little Walden, England, 26 Sep 1944

Chievres, Belgium, 1 Feb-Apr 1945

Little Walden, England, 9 Apr-3 Nov 1945

Camp Kilmer, NJ, 9-10 Nov 1945

Detroit-Wayne Aprt, MI, 1 Feb 1951

Luke AFB, AZ, 23 Feb 1951-1 Nov 1952

## ASSIGNMENTS

Eighth AF

Air Training Command

## WEAPON SYSTEMS

### Mission Aircraft

P-47D

P-51B

P-51D

P-51K

F-51

F-80

F-84

## **Support Aircraft**

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Thomas J. J. Christian, Jr., 10 Feb 1943

Col Ronald F Fallows, 14 Aug 1944

LTC Roy B Caviness, 31 Aug 1944

LTC Joseph J Kruzel, 20 Sep 1944

LTC Roy B Caviness, 3 Nov 1944

Col Junius W Dennison, Jr., 2 Dec 1944

LTC Roy B Caviness, 15 Apr 1945

Col John D Landers, 29 Jun 1945-unkn

Col David T McKnight, 1951

Col Maurice L Martin, 6 Aug 1951-unkn

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

None

### **EMBLEM**

Gules (scarlet) a bend-let divided per bend into five equal parts, the center azure, and the outer two or, and of the first (dark red), between in chief three fleur-de-lis in pale, of the third, and in base a giant (Saguaro) cactus footed to the sinister by an apple blossom stemmed both proper. (Approved, 30 Jul 1954)

### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

#### **MOTTO**

PARATI STA-MUS—We Stand Ready

#### **NICKNAME**

The Yellow Jackets

### **OPERATIONS**

Operated from England during 1944 but sent a detachment to France for operations in the Battle of the Bulge (Dec 1944-Jan 1945), moved to Belgium in Feb 1945, and returned to England in Apr 1945. Served primarily as an escort organization, covering the penetration, attack, and withdrawal of bomber formations that the AAF sent against targets on the Continent. Also engaged in counter-air patrols, fighter sweeps, and strafing and dive-bombing missions. Attacked such targets as airdromes, marshalling yards, missile sites, industrial areas, ordnance depots, oil refineries, trains, and highways. During its operations, participated in the assault against the German Air Force and aircraft industry during Big Week, 20-25 Feb 1944; the Normandy invasion, Jun 1944; the St Lo breakthrough, Jul 1944; the airborne attack on Holland, Sep 1944; and the airborne assault across the Rhine, Mar 1945. Flew last combat mission on 20 Apr 1945.

First Mission: 21 Jan. 44. Last Mission: 20 Apr 45 Total Missions: 441  
A/c MIA: 81. E/a Claims: 226 air; 105 ground.

361st FG P-47D. olive and grey factory finish. Metal finish from P-47D-21. Squadron codes: 374FS—B7; 375FS---E2; 376FS—E9. Group markings: 24 inch yellow cowl band from late March 1944. P-51B, olive and grey factory finish (few). P-51B, C, D & K, metal finish with some field application of dark green camouflage. On a few P-51s camouflaged in June 1944, insignia blue patches applied. Squadron codes as P-47, Group markings: yellow spinner and 1 2 inch nose band In July/August 1 944 yellow on cowling extended back to windscreen. Squadron rudder colours November 1944: 374FS—red, 375FS medium blue; 376FS—yellow. Prior to this flight colours on trim tabs of some a/c.

Ordered into active service on 1 Feb 1951.

Relieved from active duty and returned to ANG (Mich), 1 Nov 1952.

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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources