

155th AIRLIFT SQUADRON



LINEAGE

Constituted and activated as 359th Fighter Squadron, 8 Dec 1942

Inactivated, 10 Nov 1945

Reconstituted and redesignated 155th Fighter Squadron (SE) and allotted to TN NG, 24 May 1946

155th Fighter Squadron (SE) extended federal recognition, 23 Dec 1946

Redesignated 155th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 1 Apr 1951

Redesignated 155th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron (Night Photographic), 1 Jan 1953

Redesignated 155th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 1 Apr 1956

Redesignated 155th Air Transport Squadron (Heavy), 1 Apr 1961

Redesignated 155th Military Airlift Squadron, 1 Jan 1966

Redesignated 155th Tactical Airlift Squadron, 10 Dec 1974

Redesignated 155th Airlift Squadron, 15 Mar 1992

STATIONS

Westover Field, MA, 12 Dec 1942

Groton AAFld, CT, 11 Mar 1943

Mitchel Field, NY, 30 May 1943

Grenier Field, NH, 4 Jul-19 Aug 1943

Goxhill, England, 26 Aug 1943

Martlesham, England, 12 Oct 1943-4 Nov 1945

Camp Kilmer, NJ, 9-10 Nov 1945

Westover Field, MA

Camp Kilmer, NJ

Memphis, TN

ASSIGNMENTS

356th Fighter Group, 12 Dec 1942-10 Nov 1945

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Mission Aircraft

P-47D
P-51D
F-51D
RF-51D
RB-26C
RF-84F, 1956
C-97A, 1961
C-124C, 1967
C-130A, 1974
C-141B, 1991
C-5

Support Aircraft

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

P-47D

42-22488	42-26851	42-75389	42-8407	42-8599
42-22517	42-26851	42-76112	42-8417	42-8601
42-22517	42-28585	42-76146	42-8467	42-8617
42-22524	42-28675	42-76168	42-8471	42-8639
42-22528	42-28808	42-76201	42-8471	42-8645
42-22544	42-28819	42-76206	42-8478	42-8654
42-25508	42-28845	42-76208	42-8478	42-8694
42-25508	42-74658	42-76208	42-8491	43-25530
42-25508	42-74671	42-76211	42-8492	43-25530
42-25711	42-74673	42-76220	42-8512	43-25557
42-26129	42-74673	42-76372	42-8546	44-19802
42-26141	42-74673	42-76405	42-8549	44-19873
42-26141	42-74684	42-76405	42-8559	44-19939
42-26253	42-74689	42-76405	42-8564	42-8491
42-26283	42-74699	42-76405	42-8567	42-8617
42-26309	42-74711	42-76416	42-8568	42-28845
42-26331	42-74745	42-76491	42-8568	44-19870
42-26532	42-75159	42-76583	42-8574	42-8646
42-26557	42-75171	42-8002	42-8588	42-8646
42-26576	42-75228	42-8002	42-8588	
42-26576	42-75288	42-8401	42-8598	

P-51B

43-12173
43-12198

P-51D

44-72288	44-15028	44-15219	44-15308	44-72284
44-14864	44-15029	44-15223	44-15330	44-72288
44-11637	44-15138	44-15223	44-15331	44-72432
44-11212	44-15177	44-15230	44-15403	44-72542
44-11326	44-15181	44-15231	44-15528	44-73432
44-11332	44-15183	44-15258	44-15602	44-15181
44-11332	44-15185	44-15268	44-15609	44-15195
44-11351	44-15193	44-15271	44-15658	44-72341
44-14003	44-15195	44-15274	44-15677	44-14993
44-14185	44-15199	44-15274	44-63250	44-15177
44-14836	44-15201	44-15280	44-63268	
44-14864	44-15203	44-15280	44-72078	
44-14993	44-15208	44-15288	44-72078	
44-14998	44-15209	44-15308	44-72148	

P-51K

44-11366	44-11564	44-11637
44-11382	44-11564	44-12155

F-51H

44-64492

C-124C

52-0997

52-1022

T-33

535970

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

COMMANDERS

Colonel Mark J. Devine Jul 2006-May 2008

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Offensive, Europe

Air Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe, Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

Holland, 17, 18 and 23 Sep 1944

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

CALL SIGN

Beachhouse

to 22 April '44 then:

Farmhorse (A Group)

Bucket (B Group)

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 15 Oct 1943-25 Apr 1945

1 Apr 1951: Called to active duty as part of Korean War call-up but remained at Memphis MAP to be reorganized as the 155th TRS and converted from F-51Ds to RF-51Ds.

1 Jan 1953: Returned to state control to be reorganized as the 155th TRS (Night Photographic) and converted from RF-51D to Douglas RB-26C.

19 July 1979. A C-130 and aircrew from the Tennessee Air Guard's 164th Tactical Airlift Group, deployed to Panama for Operation Volant Oak, rescued Lawrence A. Pezzullo, U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua, and his party of 34 from Managua's airport just hours before the country fell to the Marxist Sandinistarebels. It was the last plane to depart before the airport was closed.

Aug 1990: Volunteers began flying Desert Shield support missions.

US Air Force signed a land-exchange agreement with the Memphis-Shelby County Airport Authority in September allowing the 164th Airlift Wing of the Air National Guard more space to convert from C-141B to C-5. The agreement calls for the airport authority to provide the Tennessee ANG unit with 118 acres to build three new hangars with associated support facilities. In exchange, the airport authority will allow Federal Express to lease the existing 103 acres of the 164th AW site. New hangars, support facilities, refueling systems, an aircraft apron, and a taxiway are to be completed by December 2008 for the eight C-5As to be stationed there. 2004

On 21 December 2001, at 2030 CST, a C-141C, S/N 61-002778, experienced a left wing fuel tank overpressurization. The C-141C, assigned to the 155 Airlift Squadron, 164th Airlift Wing,

Memphis LAD (ANG), Tennessee, was preparing to depart for Germany in support of a European Strategic Inter-theater Deployment. While being refueled in preparation for departure, the left inboard main, auxiliary, and extended range tanks ruptured and released pressure explosively. The mishap aircraft's left wing collapsed, fell to the ramp, and was destroyed; and two engines were severely damaged. Three personnel sustained minor injuries. Originally, the mishap aircraft was scheduled to depart Memphis IAD (ANG), Tennessee on 20 December 2001. During preflight inspection a fuel leak was discovered behind engine number two. Maintenance personnel evaluated the fuel leak and determined that repairs would be required prior to the mishap aircraft's departure. The mishap aircraft was defueled and towed to the fuel cell hangar for repairs. Maintenance personnel entered the fuel tank during the early morning hours of 21 December but were unable to locate or repair the fuel leak. Later that morning, maintenance personnel inserted fuel tank vent plugs and pressurized the fuel tank to locate the leak. Insertion of fuel vent plugs requires a mandatory entry in AFTO Form 781A IAW T.O. 1-1-3. This was not accomplished. Once the leak was located, the fuel tank was depressurized and maintenance personnel entered the fuel tank to repair the leak. Once the repair was completed, the fuel systems technician exited the fuel tank but failed to document or request an in-progress inspection (LPI) be accomplished in accordance with Air Force Technical Manual (TO 1C-141B-2-28JG-00-1). An IPI is required to ensure all tools and materials are removed from the fuel tank; and fuel tank plugs (if used) are extracted from the fuel tank vents. The fuel systems technician who completed the original repairs cannot accomplish an IPI. Due to failure by the technician, to inventory tools and equipment prior to or after maintenance actions and failure to document the requirement for an IPI, a fuel vent plug was not removed. Wing panels were closed, with a lone fuel vent plug installed, and the mishap aircraft towed to spot number 4 for refueling. As the mishap aircraft was being refueled, upon reaching approximately 120,000 pounds of jet fuel, the interior left wing fuel tank pressure exceeded wing structural tolerances, as pressure was unable to vent due to the forgotten fuel vent plug. Over-pressurization resulted in catastrophic failure of the left wing structure at the wing root. The ALB President found by clear and convincing evidence that the primary cause of the mishap was over-pressurization of the left wing fuel tanks. The over-pressurization was the direct result of the fuel systems technician's failure to remove a fuel tank vent plug. The forgotten fuel tank vent plug, in turn, caused the fuel tank overpressurization leading to its rupture.

431129	P-47	42-8601	Beach
431129	P-47	42-8598	Hull
440107	P-47	42-8639	Brown
440114	P-47	42-8694	Conroy
440308	P-47	42-8467	Henry Jr
440608	P-47	42-76168	Smith
440608	P-47	42-26253	Coughenour Jr
440427	P-47	42-76220	Krowiak
440427	P-47	43-25557	Holtz
440814	P-47	42-8491	Alphonse
440901	P-47	42-26141	Forsyth
440917	P-47	42-74658	Broxton
440918	P-47	43-25530	Perry
441108	P-47	42-76208	McKelvy Jr
441108	P-47	42-28845	Hoffert
441205	P-51	44-15219	Tarbutton
441205	P-51	44-11326	Scharnberg

441224	P-51	44-15193	Wong Jr	
441226	P-51	44-15609	Hackney Jr	
441226	P-51	44-15029	Cooley	
450118	P-51	44-63268	Lawrence	
450220	P-51	44-63250	Traupe	
450225	P-51	44-14998	Brown	
450225	P-51	44-15271	Rann	
450225	P-51	44-15280	Scott	
450315	P-51	44-15274	Batie	
430321	P-47C	41-6169LAC	Cotter, William W	Trumbull Field, CT
430322	P-47C	41-6170LAC	Hull, John D	Trumbull Field, CT
430326	P-47C	41-6144LAC	Brown, Charles H	Trumbull Field, CT
430504	P-47C	41-6154KCR	Brown, Charles H	Ledyard, CT
430603	P-47C	41-6288BOEF	Brown, John R Jr	2 Mi S Manhasset, NY
430604	P-47C	41-6169LAC	Brown, John R Jr	Mitchel Field, NY
430614	P-47D	42-8222KCRU	Rainey, Thomas J	Into Atlantic Ocean, 5 Mi SW Bay Shore, NY
430614	P-47D	42-8242BOEF	Ogden, Harold A	Into Atlantic Ocean, 1 Mi S Rockaway Beach, NY
430621	P-47C	41-6173TOAEF	Henry, Justus D	Mitchel Field, NY
430626	P-47C	41-6278TOAEF	Erschen, Harold E	Mitchel Field, NY
430626	P-47D	42-8264LAC	Collins, Robert J	Mitchel Field, NY
430706	P-47D	42-22271	LAC Pascal, Irwin M	Grenier Field, NH
431025	P-47D	42-8599LAC	Cotter, William W	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440104	P-47D	42-22544	KCR Fortner, Ray C	Witnesham/ 1/3mi E
440129	P-47D	42-74684	CBLoG Bradshaw, Robert D	Langham
440206	P-47D	42-8407TAC	Collins, Robert J	RAF Manston #9
440211	P-47D	42-22528	TAC [ground crew]	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440212	Oxford II	AB752	CBL Thorne, James H	RAF Hunsdon
440220	P-47D	42-22524	GAC	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440220	P-47D	42-8559FLEF	Weber, Herbert (NMI)	RAF Ipswich/S edge
440226	P-47D	42-76211	KCRL Cotter, William W	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440315	Oxford II	AB752	CBL Smith, James B	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440412	P-47D	43-25530	LAC Holtz, Raymond K	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440419	P-47D	43-25530	TAC Earnhart, Charles B	Wymeswold
440426	P-47D	42-75159	KMAC Warren, Richard B	Brownswell GC, Wdbrdg
440426	P-47D	42-75389	MAC Rann, Richard A	Brownswell GC, Wdbrdg
440505	P-47D	43-25530	LAC Brearley, William C	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440524	P-47D	42-76583	FLEF Baccus, Donald A	Way Farm, Minister
440528	P-47D	42-8568TOA	Craig, William G	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440619	P-47D	42-8617FLEF	Peet, George B	Sutton Head A/D, Woodbr
440620	P-47D	42-22488	LAC Broxton, Howell L	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440728	P-47D	42-74671	TOA Perry, James H	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440811	P-47D	42-75170	TAC Allison, Ralph T	Raydon/Sta157
440815	P-47D	42-75171	FLSF Shelton, Toney (NMI)	RAF Woodbridge #10
440831	P-47D	42-8478TAC	Mellinger, Paul R	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440831	P-47D	42-8549TAC	Cooley, Warren C	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440901	P-47D	42-8564LAC	Pietruszka, John F	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
440918	P-47D	44-19873	TAC Bruner, Frederick W	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
441006	P-47D	44-19802	MF Hoffert, William L	Hamburg/nr
441112	P-47D	42-26309	LAC Harney, Vance C	Stansted/Sta 169
441115	P-51D15	44-15288	CBLEF Bennett, Luther E	Woodbridge ELS
441125	P-51D15	44-15280	LAC Brearley, William C	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
441126	P-51D15	44-15029	MAC Traupe, William F	Dummer Lake/ 30mi SE
441126	P-51D15	44-15308	MAC Robertson, Louis L	Dummer Lake/ 30mi SE
441127	P-51D15	44-15208	TOAEF Odenwald, Ralph E	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
441212	P-51D15	44-15230	BOEF O'Quinn, Percy C	Manston/ 20mi E
441215	P-51D15	44-15181	TOA Cooley, Warren C	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369

441215	P-51K- 5-NT	44-11564	GAC	Easley, Preston W	Martlesham Heath (Sta 369)
441215	P-51D-15NA	44-15268	TAC	Oliver, Leon (NMI)	Martlesham Heath (Sta 369)
450116	P-51D10	44-14836	KCR	Harney, Vance E	Eagles Fm, Bedfordshire
450117	P-51D15	44-15528	KCRL	Carr, Robert E	Maisoncelle St Pierre
450201	P-51D15	44-15403	MACCBL	Bruner, Frederick W	Sutton Heath/ NE
450201	P-51D15	44-11332	MAC	Brown, Jack F	Sutton Heath/ NE
450205	P-51B1 43-12173W	CRTEF	Edinborough, Warren T	Martlesham Heath/1/2mi S	
450206	P-51D15	44-15602	LAC	Stone, Richard J	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
450301	P-51D15	44-15185	BOEF	Sonnier, Lucien O	Monewden
450302	P-51D15	44-15231	LAC	Sargent, Lawton G Jr	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
450311	P-51D15	44-15138	GL	Walters, Clarence L	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
450318	P-51D20	44-72078	GL	Meade, John W	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
450408	P-51D15	44-15201	LACGL	McCloskey, Bruce O	Martlesham Heath/Sta 369
450601	P-51D5 44-11351	LAC	Troge, Eldon F	Martlesham Heath/sta 369	
450720	P-51D15	44-15181	KCR	Stone, Richard J	Blackstock Crossing
450910	P-51B1 43-12198W	CBLoG	Rhynard, Wayne E	Nordlingen/ nr	
501203	F-51D 44-72337	MACB	Haverty, James C.	10 Mi E Memphis	
500516	F-51D 44-72971	BOF	Solari, Alvin F J. Jr	5 Mi NE Forrest City	
500903	F-51D 45-11436	CRGC	McDowell, William W.	Sewanee	



Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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

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

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.