

349th AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

349th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942
Activated, 1 Jun 1942
Redesignated 349th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 20 Aug 1943
Inactivated, 1 Dec 1945
Redesignated 349th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 13 May 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 29 May 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 349th Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 1 Aug 1955
Activated, 1 Jan 1956
Redesignated 349th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, 25 Jun 1966
Redesignated 349th Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 30 Sep 1976
Redesignated 349th Air Refueling Squadron, 1 Sep 1991
Inactivated, 1 Jun 1992
Activated, 1 Jan 1994

STATIONS

Orlando AB, FL, 1 Jun 1942
Barksdale Field, LA, 18 Jun 1942
Pendleton Field, OR, 26 Jun 1942
Gowen Field, ID, 28 Aug 1942
Walla Walla, WA, 31 Oct 1942
Wendover Field, UT, 30 Nov 1942
Sioux City AAB, IA, 6 Jan 1943
Kearney AAFld, NE, 4 Feb–1 May 1943

Thorpe Abbots, England, 14 Jun 1943–23 Nov 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 29 Nov–1 Dec 1945
Miami AAFld, FL, 29 May 1947–27 Jun 1949
Portsmouth (later, Pease) AFB, NH, 1 Jan 1956
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 25 Jun 1966
Beale AFB, CA, 30 Sep 1976–1 Jun 1992
McConnell AFB, KS, 1 Jan 1994

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Brize Norton RAF Station, England, 4 Jan–1 Apr 1958

ASSIGNMENTS

100th Bombardment Group, 1 Jun 1942–1 Dec 1945
100th Bombardment Group, 29 May 1947–27 Jun 1949
100th Bombardment (later, 100th Strategic Reconnaissance; 100th Air Refueling) Wing, 1 Jan 1956
9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 15 Mar 1983
9th Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991–1 Jun 1992
22nd Operations Group, 1 Jan 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1942–1945
B-17F
B-17G
AT-6
AT-7
AT-11, 1947–1949
B-47, 1956–1966
U/WU-2, 1966–1976
U-2C
KC-135R, 1976
KC-135Q

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 1 Jun–Oct 1942
LTC William W. Veal, 28 Oct 1942
Maj John M. Bennett Jr., Nov 1943
Cpt Samuel L. Barr, Mar 1944
Maj Sumner H. Reeder, Apr 1944
LTC Samuel L. Barr, Jul 1944–unkn
Maj John S. Robinson, by 1945
Cpt Denzil Naar, Sep 1945–unkn
Unkn, 29 May 1947–27 Jun 1949
Maj Clifford E. Cobb, 1 Jan 1956

Cpt Charles Bohon, 12 Jan 1956
LTC Edward A. Steedman, Feb 1956
LTC Thomas P. Coleman, 8 Apr 1957
LTC Francis P. Tunstall, 24 Feb 1958
Maj Harold G. Goodlad, 21 Aug 1958
Maj Ray C. Stubblefield, 5 Jan 1959
LTC Richard E. Otier, 10 Apr 1961
Col Leonard D. Edington, 1 Jan 1963
LTC Rollin D. Childress, 13 May 1963
Maj Meno J. Stallone Jr., 24 Jan 1966
Maj John T. Cornelius, 1 Mar 1966-unkn
Col Harold A. Swanson, 25 Jun 1966
Unkn, c. 24 Sep 1967-Jun 1968
Col Dale L. Kellam, 12 Apr 1968
Col David L. Patton, 1 Jul 1971
Col Arnold L. Strasheim, 14 Jul 1972
LTC John A. Dale, 8 Jun 1973
LTC Jerry L. Chipman, 8 Aug 1974
LTC Robert C. Birkette, 1 Feb 1975
LTC George V. Freese, 22 Mar-10 Aug 1976
None (not manned), 11 Aug-30 Sep 1976
LTC Dale W. Bollert, 1 Oct 1976
LTC Thomas Domingues Jr., 20 Sep 1977
LTC Dennis E. Crouch, 10 Aug 1979
LTC John J. Haluska Jr., 13 Mar 1981
LTC Walter N. Schrecker, 21 Jun 1982
LTC Edward Gaven, 12 Dec 1983
LTC Warren I. Weaver, 13 Dec 1985
LTC Robert Bell, 19 Jan 1987
LTC Edward L. Graham, 11 Jul 1988-1 Jun 1992
LTC Richard E. E. Antaya, 31 Jan 1994
LTC Howard T. Jackson, 22 May 1995
LTC Edward E. Breen, 6 Sep 1996
LTC Raymond J. Rottman, 8 Jun 1998
LTC Alvin M. Lowry, 9 Jul 1999
LTC Dean Wolford, 15 Jun 2001

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Germany, 17 Aug 1943
Berlin, Germany, 4, 6, 8 Mar 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device
1 Jul 1972–30 Jun 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1968–30 Jun 1970
1 Jul 1983–30 Jun 1984
1 Jul 1985–30 Jun 1986
1 Jul 1989–30 Jun 1990
1 Sep 1991–30 Jun 1993
1 Jun 1994–31 May 1996
1 Aug 1999–31 Jul 2000
1 Aug 2000–31 Jul 2001
1 Aug 2002–31 Jul 2004
1 Aug 2004–31 Jul 2005
1 Aug 2005–31 Jul 2006
1 Aug 2011–31 Jul 2012

French Croix de Guerre with Palm
25 Jun–31 Dec 1944

EMBLEM



On a Blue globe gridlined Gray enveloped by a Red band all within a narrow Black border, two aerodynamic symbols in horizontal flight, engaged in air refueling, the topmost symbol and connector Gray, the lower symbol Black all between a Yellow sunburst in the top of the disc to dexter, and a Yellow lightning bolt issuing from base in sinister. (Approved, 11 Jan 1977, modified in 1994; replaced emblem approved, 24 May 1957)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

BLUE KNIGHTS

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 25 Jun 1943–20 Apr 1945. Bombardment training, 1956–1966.

Worldwide strategic reconnaissance, 1966–1976. Created by a renumbering of the 4028th SRS

in June 1966, the 349th SRS conducted training in the U-2C, U-2F and (from September 1968) U-2R models. It also flew domestic reconnaissance missions in support of various US government agencies. From 1972, it was allocated responsibility for the operational trials of the Advanced Location and Strike Systems (ALSS), and deployed five U-2C to the UK for this purpose in 1975. When U-2 operations were moved to Beale AFB in July 1976, the 349th squadron number transferred with the 100th wing designation to the KC-135Q operation already there.

Air refueling in support of SR-71, 1976–1990.

8 October 1965 Lockheed U-2C, 56-6690, of the 349th Strategic Reconnaissance Squadron, 100th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, develops technical problems while on high-altitude reconnaissance flight over North Vietnam, attempts to recover to base but crashes near Bien Hoa, South Vietnam. Pilot Maj. Leo J. Stewart ejects and survives. This is the only U.S. Air Force U-2 loss in theatre during the War in Southeast Asia.

Provided cargo and air refueling support to combat units in Southwest Asia, Aug 1990–Mar 1991.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 28 Aug 2010

Updated: 21 Dec 2012

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.