

405 AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

405 Fighter-Bomber Wing established, 15 Oct 1952

Activated, 1 Dec 1952

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1958

Redesignated 405 Fighter Wing, 11 Mar 1959

Activated, 9 Apr 1959

Inactivated, 16 Sep 1974

Redesignated 405 Tactical Training Wing, 20 Aug 1979

Activated, 29 Aug 1979

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1991

Redesignated 405 Air Expeditionary Wing and converted to provisional status, 4 Dec 2001

STATIONS

Godman AFB, KY, 1 Dec 1952

Langley AFB, VA, 16 Apr 1953-1 Jul 1958

Clark AB, Philippines, 9 Apr 1959-16 Sep 1974

Luke AFB, AZ, 29 Aug 1979-1 Oct 1991

ASSIGNMENTS

Ninth Air Force, 1 Dec 1952

Tactical Air Command, 16 Apr 1953

Ninth Air Force, 1 Jul 1956

836 Air Division, 8 Oct 1957-1 Jul 1958

Thirteenth Air Force, 9 Apr 1959

6 Air Division, 1 Aug 1968

Thirteenth Air Force, 15 Dec 1969-16 Sep 1974

Tactical Training, Luke, 29 Aug 1979

832 Air Division, 1 Dec 1980-1 Oct 1991

Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 4 Dec 2001

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-47, 1952

F-84, 1953-1956

B-45, 1953

B-26, 1953-1956

B/RB-57, 1954-1957

RB-29, 1954

KB-29, 1954-1956

F-100, 1956-1958

KB-50, 1956-1958

H-19, 1953-1956

L-20, 1953-1956

C-45, 1954-1956

C/VC-47, 1954-1956

C-119, 1954-1956

VC-54, 1955

VC-131, 1955

F-86, 1959-1960

F-100, 1959-1964, 1964-1967

F-102, 1960-1970

F-4, 1965, 1967-1974

B-57, 1964-1968

C-130, 1972

C-118, 1972

C-9, 1972-1974

UH-1, 1979-1987

F-5, 1979-1989

F-15, 1979-1991

COMMANDERS

Col Robert L. Delashaw, 1 Dec 1952

BG Charles D. Jones, 18 Apr 1953

Col Donald A. Baccus, 17 Jun 1953

Col Burton K. Sams, 6 Jul 1953

BG Charles D. Jones, 13 Jul 1953

Col Donald A. Baccus, 30 Sep 1953

BG Charles D. Jones, 26 Oct 1953

BG Edwin S. Chickering, 23 Aug 1954

Col William I. Williams, 8 Oct 1957-1 Jul 1958

Col James K. Dowling, 9 Apr 1959
Col Edward W. Szaniawski, 6 Jul 1959
Col Roscoe C. Crawford, Jr., 23 Jun 1962
Col George Laven, Jr., 10 Aug 1963
Col James E. Hill, 30 Sep 1964
Col Vermont Garrison, 5 Jan 1966
Col Charles E. Yeager, 4 Aug 1966
Col Duncan C. Myers, 4 Jan 1968
Col Edward P. McNeff, 5 Feb 1968
Col Walter I Brown, 10 Jan 1970
Col James E. Tilton, 1 Jun 1971
Col John R. Geyer, 1 Jan 1972
Col Henry C. Gordon, 6 Jun 1972
Col Lacy W. Breckenridge, 8 Jun 1974
Col George L. Schulstad, 15 Jun-16 Sep 1974
Col Charles A. Horner, 29 Aug 1979
Col Robert W. Ruark, 21 May 1980
Col Peter D. Hayes, 9 Mar 1981
Col Philip W. Handley, 23 Apr 1982
Col Daniel J. Sherlock, 15 Apr 1983
Col Thomas C. Skanchy, 24 Jun 1985
Col Robin C. Tornow, 30 Dec 1986
Col George T. Lewis Jr., 15 Jun 1988
Col John D. Lauher, 1 Jun 1990
Col William T. Hobbins, 2 Aug-1 Oct 1991

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Nov 1960-30 Jun 1961

5 Aug 1964-31 Mar 1965

29 Aug-31 Dec 1979

1 Aug 1982-31 May 1984

1 Oct 1989-30 Sep 1991

Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation

21 Jul-15 Aug 1972

Bestowed Honors

Authorized to display honors earned by the 405 Expeditionary Operations Group prior to 1 Dec 1952.

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Air Combat EAME Theater

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

France, 24 Sep 1944

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army
6 Jun-30 Sep 1944.

EMBLEM



On a shield azure, a sphere argent, land marking and grid lines sable, surmounted by a bend gules, charged with a lightning flash or, between a fleur-de-lis of the last and two olive branches in saltire, proper, all within a diminutive bordure of the second. (Approved, 10 Nov 1955)

MOTTO

MOVERE ET AGGREDI—Deploy and attack

OPERATIONS

Replaced 108th Fighter-Bomber Wing in Dec 1952. Operated Godman AFB, Ky, Dec 1952-Apr 1953, and Langley AFB, VA, May 1953-Oct 1957. At the latter base, replaced 4430th Air Base Wing and operationally controlled numerous tactical and support components until Oct 1957.

Operations included gunnery and bombardment training, firepower demonstrations, weapons delivery training, and numerous tactical exercises, 1952-1958, plus air refueling, 1954-1958.

Replaced 6200th Air Base Wing at Clark AB, Philippines, in Apr 1959. Provided air defense and offensive fighter operations in the Philippines, Taiwan, and other Far Eastern points, Apr 1959-Jun 1962. Operated Clark AB and its satellite facilities, Apr 1959-Mar 1965 and Dec 1971-Sep 1974.

Provided air defense training for Royal Thai Air Force personnel, from a base in Thailand, Nov 1961-Feb 1966. From mid-1962 until the end of the conflict in Southeast Asia, frequently deployed assigned and attached components to bases in Southeast Asia for air defense and combat operations under operational control of other organizations. When not so involved, components trained in air defense and other tactical exercises in Taiwan and the Philippines.

During Jul-Aug 1972, provided extensive flood relief to Philippine areas inundated by monsoon rains.

During Feb-Mar 1973, provided medical, logistical, and administrative support for former prisoners of war, on their way to the United States from North Vietnam. Replaced by 3d Tactical Fighter Wing in Sep 1974.

From Aug 1979 to Oct 1991, provided combat crew training for aircrew personnel of U.S. military forces and for aircrews from selected allied foreign military services, including Japan and Saudi Arabia. Participated in realistic combat training exercises at other bases, including Red Flag and Green Flag at Nellis AFB, NV.

Trained the first aircrews in the E-model of the F-15. Wing was the first to deploy the LANTIRN (low altitude navigation and targeting infrared night) system which allowed F-15 aircraft to attack ground targets more accurately at night.

Deployment of many wing personnel and aircraft to southwest Asia between Aug 1990 and Feb 1991 reduced training flights at the home base.

The 405 Air Expeditionary Wing has always been involved in either real-world fighter operations or Tactical Fighter Training. The wing was formed in 1952 and performed training on the US east coast before moving to Clark AB, Philippines in 1959. General "Chuck" Yeager was a famous commander of the 405 while it was at Clark in 1966.

The 405 alternated between real world missions over Vietnam and training the Thai, Taiwanese and Philippine Air Forces. The 405 provided extensive aid to disaster victims in 1972, and in 1973 provided extensive support to our released POW's on their way home.

For more than 10 years – from 1979 to 1991, the 405 provided the worlds most advanced tactical fighter training at Luke AFB, Arizona. Pilots from Japan, Saudi Arabia and other countries all over the world received advanced F-15 training. The 405 was the first wing to employ the LANTIRN combat system. The wing was inactivated in 1991 and most of the personnel were already serving extensively in the gulf region for Operation Desert Storm.

The 405 was activated on 4 Dec 2001 (in a provisional status) to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom and is currently deployed as the 405 Air Expeditionary Wing under Air Combat Command.

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Reactivated for Operation Enduring Freedom 4 Dec 01.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.