

## 422 BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON, MEDIUM



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

33 Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942  
Activated, 1 Mar 1942  
Redesignated 422 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 22 Apr 1942  
Inactivated, 25 Dec 1946  
Redesignated 422 Bombardment Squadron, Light, 15 Nov 1952  
Activated, 1 Jan 1953  
Inactivated, 23 Mar 1954  
Redesignated 422 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 6 Oct 1958  
Activated, 1 Jan 1959  
Discontinued and inactivated, 15 Feb 1961

### STATIONS

Salt Lake City, UT, 1 Mar 1942  
Geiger Field, WA, 11 Jun 1942  
Muroc, CA, 4 Jul-23 Aug 1942  
Grafton Underwood, England, 12 Sep 1942  
Chelveston, England, 11 Dec 1942  
St Trond, Belgium, 25 Jul 1945  
Lechfeld, Germany, 19 Dec 1945-25 Dec 1946  
Langley AFB, VA, 1 Jan 1953-23 Mar 1954  
Sculthorpe RAF Sta. England, 20 Dec 1953-23 Mar 1954  
MacDill AFB, FL, 1 Jan 1959

Bunker Hill AFB, IN, 1 Jun 1959  
Carswell AFB, TX, 1 Oct 1959  
Bunker Hill AFB, IN, 15 Mar 1960-15 Feb 1961

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

305 Bombardment Group, 1 Mar 1942-25 Dec 1946  
4430 Air Base Wing, 1 Jan 1953  
Tactical Air Command (attached to 405 Fighter Bomber Wing), 1 May 1953  
Third Air Force (attached to 47 Bombardment Wing), 20 Dec 1953  
47 Bombardment Group, 8 Feb-23 Mar 1954  
305 Bombardment Wing, 1 Jan 1959  
3958 Operational Evaluation and Training Group, 1 Oct 1959  
305 Bombardment Wing, 8 Mar 1960-15 Feb 1961

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-17, 1942-1946  
B-26, 1953  
B-45, 1953-1954  
B-47, 1959

### **COMMANDERS**

#### **HONORS**

##### **Service Streamers**

##### **Campaign Streamers**

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

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

##### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation  
France, 4 Apr 1943

### **EMBLEM**



## 422 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy

422 Bombardment Squadron, Light emblem: On a yellow shield of distinctive design a sword (red hilt and steel blade) point to base emitting four red flashes (two to the right and two to the left) in chief a stylized white oval cloud formation in back of and above the sword hilt and bearing four blue stars in an arc above four blue smaller stars, two on each side of the hilt; all within a narrow red border. (Approved, 22 Oct 1953)

### **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

Combat in ETO, 17 Nov 1942-19 Apr 1945: daylight bombing to 6 Sep 1943; night bombing with RAF, 8 Sep-4 Oct 1943; leaflet missions, mostly at night, 7 Oct 1943-24 Jun 1944; pathfinder for daylight bombing operations, 22 Mar-23 May 1944; daylight bombing after 6 Jul 1944. Photomapping, 17 Jun 1945-Aug. 1946.

Airlift supporting special operations also included activities designed to demoralize the enemy. Psychological operations involved leaflet drops, electronic jamming, and broadcasting. Leaflet drops began in August 1943 over France. Although the Eighth Air Force also used other bomber units, a special leaflet squadron, the 422d Bombardment Squadron, handled most of the drops. By the time of the Normandy invasion, this unit had dispersed 599 million leaflets. When its operations ended on 9 May 1945, the 422d Bombardment Squadron had flown 2,334 sorties and airdropped about 1.76 billion leaflets, losing only 3 aircraft and sustaining 16 fatalities.

Apparently not operationally manned or equipped after Jun 1959.

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### Sources

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