

502nd AIR DEFENSE GROUP

MISSION

502nd Air Service Group constituted, 16 Dec 1944
Activated, 1 Jun 1945
Inactivated, 9 Nov 1945
Disbanded, 8 Oct 1948
Reconstituted, 21 Jan 1953 and redesignated 502nd Air Defense Group
Activated, 16 Feb 1953
Inactivated, 18 Aug 1955
Disbanded, 27 Sep 1984

STATIONS

AAF Station Fritzlar, Germany, 1 Jun 1945
Flak Kaserne, Stuttgart, Germany, July 1945- 20 Sep 1945
Unknown, Oct 1945-9 Nov 1945
Youngstown Municipal Airport, Ohio, 16 Feb 1953-18 Aug 1955

ASSIGNMENTS

IX Air Force Service Command
Third Air Force
4708th Defense Wing (later 4708th Air Defense Wing), 16 Feb 1953-18 Aug 1955

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-84C, 1953
F-86D, 1953-1955

COMMANDERS

LTC Benjamin P. Rambo, 1 Jun 1945-1945
Unknown, 1945-9 Nov 1945
Unknown, 16 Feb 1953-18 Aug 1945

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

502nd Air Service Group supported 404th Fighter Group in Germany in 1945 until returning to US for inactivation. Its 920th Air Engineering Squadron provided maintenance that was beyond the capability of the combat group, its 744th Air Materiel Squadron handled all supply matters, and its Headquarters & Base Services Squadron provided other support.

Redesignated as an air defense group, reconstituted and activated at Youngstown Municipal Airport in 1953 to provide air defense of Pittsburgh, Western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio area. Replaced 88th Air Base Squadron as USAF host unit at Youngstown. Assigned three squadrons to perform its support responsibilities. Inactivated and replaced by 79th Fighter Group (Air Defense) in 1955 as part of Air Defense Command's Project Arrow.