

# 1<sup>st</sup> ANTISUBMARINE SQUADRON



## LINEAGE

361<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942  
Activated, 15 Jul 1942  
Redesignated 1<sup>st</sup> Antisubmarine Squadron (Heavy), 23 Nov 1942  
Disbanded, 29 Jan 1944

## STATIONS

Salt Lake City AAB, UT, 15 Jul 1942  
Geiger Field, WA, 15 Sep 1942  
Ephrata, WA, 10 Oct 1942  
Langley Field, VA, 29 Oct-26 Dec 1942 (operated from St Eval, England, beginning 10 Nov 1942)  
St Eval, England, 13 Jan 1943  
Port Lyautey, French Morocco, 9 Mar-27 Nov 1943 (operated from Agadir, French Morocco, Jul 1943, and from Protville, Tunisia, 2-18 Sep 1943)  
Clovis AAFld, NM, 4-29 Jan 1944

## ASSIGNMENTS

304<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, 15 Jul 1942 (air echelon attached to VIII Bomber Command, 10 Nov 1942-15 Jan 1943)  
25<sup>th</sup> Antisubmarine Wing, 30 Dec 1942  
480<sup>th</sup> Antisubmarine Group, 21 Jun 1943-29 Jan 1944

## ATTACHMENTS

1<sup>st</sup> Antisubmarine Group [Provisional], 15 Jan-1 Mar 1943  
2037<sup>th</sup> Antisubmarine Wing [Provisional], 1 Mar-21 Jun 1943

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-17, 1942

B-24D, 1942-1944

## **ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS**

B-24D

41-11650

## **ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES**

## **UNIT COLORS**

## **COMMANDERS**

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Europe

Antisubmarine, EAME Theater

Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation

European and North African Theaters of Operations, 10 Nov 1942-28 Oct 1943

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The squadron deployed to Port Lyautey in French Morocco in March 1943 to shore up scanty Allied antisubmarine defenses in the Atlantic approaches to the Straits of Gibraltar. It was part of the 2037th Antisubmarine Wing (Provisional) under the operational control of the United States Navy Fleet Air Wing 15.

The squadron flew antisubmarine hunter killer missions from Morocco, deploying to stations in Tunisia in September 1943. It operated 24 hours a day until the landing of the United States Fifth Army at Salerno in Italy. It extended antisubmarine patrols until 9 September to cover the sea west of Sardinia and Corsica. One B-24 destroyed three German flying boats northwest of Sardinia. In addition to the antisubmarine patrols, the 1st Squadron flew escort for several Allied

convoys and covered the escape of Italian naval vessels from Genoa and Spezia to Malta following Italy's surrender. Both the 1st and 2nd Antisubmarine Squadrons made-up the 480th Antisubmarine Group under the command of Colonel Jack Roberts. In June 1943, the group was assigned to the Northwest African Coastal Air Force under the command of Air Vice-Marshal Hugh Lloyd, RAF, but the group operated under the control of the USN FAW-15 at Port Lyautey, French Morocco.

The squadron returned to Morocco on 18 September and operated in the Moroccan Sea Frontier until it returned to the United States in November 1943, it was inactivated in January 1944.

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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources

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