

## 10 AIR BASE WING



### MISSION

The 10 Air Base Wing is the host wing for the Air Force Academy and provides quality support to enhance the education and development of more than 4,000 future Air Force leaders. The 10 ABW is also responsible for medical, engineering, logistics, communications, personnel, services, security and other key support for more than 25,000 military and civilian personnel. The wing preserves and improves a \$3.5-billion base infrastructure and operates a regional medical infrastructure serving four U.S. Air Force installations.

The 10 Air Base Wing comprises two groups and seven staff agencies. The 10 Medical Group and the 10 Mission Support Group are each comprised of eleven squadrons. The 10 Medical Group squadrons are the 10 Medical Operations Squadron, 10 Medical Support Squadron, 10 Aerospace Medicine Squadron, and 10 Dental Squadron. The 10 Support Group squadrons are the 10 Communications Squadron, 10 Mission Support Squadron, 10 Services Division, 10 Security Forces Squadron, 10 Civil Engineering Squadron, 10 Contracting Division (LGC), and the 10 Logistics Readiness Division. The staff agencies include the Chaplain, USAFA Command Center, Financial Management, Exercise and Evaluations, Military Equal Opportunity, Civilian Equal Employment Opportunity, and the Career Assistance Advisor.

### LINEAGE

10 Reconnaissance Wing, established, 14 Nov 1947

Organized, 3 Dec 1947

Redesignated 10 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, 25 Aug 1948

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1949

Activated, 10 Jul 1952

Redesignated 10 Tactical Fighter Wing, 20 Aug 1987

Redesignated 10 Air Base Wing, 31 Mar 1993  
Inactivated, 1 Nov 1994  
Activated, 1 Nov 1994

### **STATIONS**

Pope Field (later, AFB), NC, 3 Dec 1947–1 Apr 1949  
Toul-Rosieres AB, France, 10 Jul 1952  
Spangdahlem AB, Germany, 9 May 1953  
RAF Alconbury, England, 25 Aug 1959–1 Nov 1994  
USAF Academy, CO, 1 Nov 1994

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Ninth Air Force, 3 Dec 1947  
Fourteenth Air Force, 1 Feb–1 Apr 1949  
Twelfth Air Force, 10 Jul 1952  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 1 Jan 1958  
Third Air Force, 25 Aug 1959  
Seventeenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1961  
Third Air Force, 1 Sep 1963–1 Nov 1994  
United States Air Force Academy, 1 Nov 1994

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P (later, F)–51/F–6, 1947–1948  
RF–51, 1947–1949  
RF–80, 1952–1956  
RB–26, 1952–1957  
RB–57, 1954–1957  
RF–84, 1955–1958  
T/WT–33, 1955–1957  
RB–66, 1956–1965  
WB–66, 1957–1960  
B–66, 1960–1965  
RF–4, 1965–1987  
F–5, 1976–1988  
A–10, 1988–1992

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Louis M. Merrick, 3 Dec 1947–1 Apr 1949  
Col Dixon M. Allison, 10 Jul 1952  
Col Brian O'Neill, 1 Oct 1952  
Col Franklin S. Allen, Jr., 30 Jun 1955  
Col Kenneth R. Powell, 22 Jul 1955  
Col James D. Kemp, 3 Jul 1959  
Col Victor N. Cabas, 21 Jun 1962

Col Arthur Small, 8 Jul 1963  
Col DeWitt S. Spain, 25 Mar 1964  
Col James A. Shannon, 22 Jun 1966  
Col Theodore S. Coberly, 15 May 1967  
Brig Gen Winston P. Anderson, 17 Jul 1968  
Col Ralph F. Findlay, 29 Jun 1970  
Col Lovic P. Hodnette, Jr., 9 Jul 1971  
Col Daniel J. Nelson, 5 Jun 1972  
Col LaVerne H. Griffin, 6 Mar 1973  
Col Paul H. Hodges, 22 Feb 1974  
Col Buford D. Lary, 17 Mar 1977  
Col Ellis C. Vander Pyl, Jr., 26 Mar 1979  
Col Jerome E. Hughes, 27 Jul 1981  
Col James M. Rhodes, Jr., 11 Jun 1982  
Col Lawrence W. Foley, 9 Jan 1984  
Col William A. Studer, 24 May 1985  
Col Otto K. Hadebank, 24 Mar 1986  
Brig Gen Michael D. McGinty, 4 Mar 1988  
Col James C. Evans, 19 Apr 1990  
Col Peter W. Tkacs, 15 May 1992  
Col William J. Corbett III, 27 Jun-1 Nov 1994  
Col David P. Csintyan, 1 Nov 1994  
Col Richard H. Downing, 13 Nov 1996  
Col John H. Bonapart Jr., 9 Apr 1999  
Col Bradford E. Ward, 11 May 2001  
Col John G. Miller, 24 Oct 2002  
Col Susanne Leclere, 15 Jan 2004  
Col James McMillian 17 May 2006  
Col Thomas L. Gibson, Jun 2011

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

31 Dec 1959–1 Jan 1962

15 Jul 1968– 15 Jul 1969

1 Jun 1972–1 Jun 1973  
15 Nov 1977–14 Nov 1979  
1 Jun 1989–31 May 1991  
1 Jun 1992–31 May 1994  
1 Nov 1994–31 Oct 1995  
1 Nov 1995–31 Oct 1996  
1 Nov 1996–31 Oct 1998  
1 Nov 1998–31 Oct 2000

### **Bestowed Honor**

Authorized to display honors earned by the 10 Tactical Reconnaissance Group prior to 3 Dec 1947

### **Service Streamers**

WWII American Theater

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Air Offensive, Europe  
Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland  
Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation  
France, 6–20 May 1944

### **EMBLEM**



## 10 Tactical Reconnaissance Wing emblem



## 10 Tactical Fighter Wing emblem



10 Air Base Wing emblem: Azure, in sinister base, a globe axis bendwise Argent gridlined of the field, in dexter a compass rose of the second garnished Or all below a chief a demifigure of the mythical Greek god Argus face to base dexter arm extended of the last; all within a diminished bordure of the like. (Approved, 1995; replaced emblem approved, 23 Jul 1954)

### **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

Performed tactical reconnaissance, 1947–1949.

Replaced 117th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing at Toul-Rosieres AB, France, in Jul 1952. Provided weather reconnaissance, 1952–1960, and tactical reconnaissance (day and night, multi-sensor), 1952–1988.

On July 10, 1952, the 10 TRW was activated in Germany, with many of its assigned units in France. The wing moved to Toul-Rosieres Air Base, France, in November, but construction delays forced the wing's headquarters to return to Spangdahlem AB, Germany, in May 1953.

Replaced 7560th Air Base Group at RAF Alconbury, England, in Aug 1959, and became responsible for operation and maintenance of that installation.

Operated from RAF Wethersfield, England, 3 Jul–31 Oct 1972.

Took part in frequent tactical exercises of USAFE and NATO. Dropped two of three reconnaissance squadrons in 1976 and gained the 527th Tactical Fighter Training Aggressor Squadron. This unit, equipped with F-5Es in May 1976, provided dissimilar air combat training for USAFE fighter and reconnaissance wings, 1976–1988.

Wing assumed a fighter mission, conducting fighter operations training in support of US and NATO war plans, 1988–1992.

Deployed the 511th TFS and other wing personnel to Saudi Arabia in late 1990 in support of operations in Southwest Asia and subsequent humanitarian relief extended to Kurdish settlements in Iraq through May 1991.

In 1992, mission changed to support of USAFE special operations units.

The Air Base Wing was formed in 1994, to align the USAF Academy with the Objective Wing structure.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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#### 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.