

## **22<sup>nd</sup> AIR REFUELING WING**



### **LINEAGE**

22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Wing, Medium, established, 28 Jul 1948

Activated, 1 Aug 1948

Redesignated 22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 15 Mar 1963

Redesignated 22<sup>nd</sup> Air Refueling Wing, Heavy, 1 Oct 1982

Redesignated 22<sup>nd</sup> Air Refueling Wing, 1 Sep 1991

### **STATIONS**

Smoky Hill AFB, KS, 1 Aug 1948

March AFB, CA, 10 May 1949

McConnell AFB, KS, 1 Jan 1994

### **DEPLOYED STATIONS**

RAF Station Upper Heyford, England, 7 Dec 1953-5 Mar 1954

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Aug 1948

12<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 10 Feb 1951

47<sup>th</sup> Air (later, 47<sup>th</sup> Strategic Aerospace; 47<sup>th</sup> Air) Division, 1 Jan 1962

14<sup>th</sup> Strategic Aerospace Division, 31 Mar 1970

47<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 30 Jun 1971

12<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile (later, 12<sup>th</sup> Air) Division, 1 Aug 1972

47<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 1 Oct 1985

14<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 23 Jan 1987

Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1988

Eighteenth Air Force, 1 Oct 2003

### **ATTACHMENTS**

301<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Wing, 1 Aug 1948-9 May 1949

1<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing, 10 May-30 Jun 1949

7<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 5 Sep-4 Dec 1951 and 7 Dec 1953-5 Mar 1954

3<sup>rd</sup> Air Division, 1 Apr-5 Jul 1957

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-29, 1949, 1950, 1950-1953  
F-86, 1949-1950  
KC-97, 1952-1962  
B-47, 1953-1963  
B-52B, 1963-1966  
B-52C, 1967-1971  
B-52D, 1966  
B-52E, 1968-1970  
EC-135, 1963-1970  
KC-135, 1963-1967, 1967-1972, 1972-1989  
KC-10, 1982-1994  
C-21, 1992-1993  
C-12, 1993-1995  
KC-135, 1994

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Leslie G. Mulzer, 1 Aug 1948  
Col Joe W. Kelly, 3 Jan 1949  
Col Joseph H. Davidson, 10 May 1949  
Col George McCoy, Jr., 14 Jun 1949  
Col William L. Lee, 19 Aug 1949  
Col Wiley D. Ganey, 4 Jan 1950  
Col Howell M. Estes, Jr., 5 Jul 1950  
Col Wiley D. Ganey, 10 Nov 1950  
Col James V. Edmundsen, 10 Feb 1951  
Col John B. Henry Jr., 14 Mar 1952  
Col Ernest C. Eddy, c. 17 Dec 1952  
Col Selmon W. Wells, 8 Jan 1953  
Col John B. Henry, Jr., 16 Mar 1953  
Col William F. Coleman, 9 Jul 1954  
Col Lloyd H. Dalton, Jr., 20 Oct 1954  
Col Pinkham Smith, 11 Feb 1956  
Col Leon Stann, 20 Aug 1957  
Col Edward W. Scott, Jr., 30 Aug 1957  
Col William F. Savoie, 29 Apr 1960  
Col George Pfeiffer, Jr., Nov 1961  
Col John F. Harvey, 15 Jun 1965  
Col Mitchell A. Cobeaga, 3 Jan 1967  
Col Robert L. Bennett, 10 Mar 1967  
Col Edward G. Butler, May 1967  
Col Mitchell A. Cobeaga, 1 Oct 1967  
Col Lester E. Gunter, 31 Jul 1968  
Col Lawrence W. Steinkraus, 28 Apr 1969  
Col Glenn R. Sullivan, 16 Jan 1970

Col Michael Perrone, 31 May 1972  
LTC Samuel Tyson, 13 Jun 1972  
Col Donald A. Jensen, 3 Jul 1972  
Col Michael Perrone, 16 Dec 1972  
Col Jerome F. O'Malley, 1 Jun 1973  
Col Ernest J. Stirman, 25 Sep 1973  
Col Guy D. Perham, 1 Apr 1974  
Col Harry L. Brown, 28 Feb 1975  
Col Stanford E. Brown, 4 Aug 1975  
Col Lawrence E. Pennington, 12 Jan 1977  
BG Hansford T. Johnson, 26 Apr 1979  
Col Charles C. McDonald, 23 Feb 1981  
Col Donald L. Ashley, 26 Jul 1982  
Col Terry D. Murphy, 22 May 1984  
Col Ronald J. Tribo, 19 Jul 1985  
Col James R. Brown, 30 Jan 1987  
Col James S. Savarda, 27 Aug 1987  
Col Paul F. Gill, 5 Dec 1988  
Col William P. Cobb, 29 Mar 1991  
BG Albert D. Jensen, 30 Mar 1992  
Col Stephen R. Lorenz, 19 Jul 1993  
MG Charles H. Coolidge, Jr., 3 Jan 1994  
Col Lawrence H. Stevenson, 12 Aug 1996  
Col Michael C. Gould, 16 Apr 1998  
Col John F. Gaughan II, 29 Jan 1999  
Col Frederick F. Roggero, 21 Apr 1999  
Col Ronald R. Ladnier, 22 Jun 2001  
Col Michelle D. Johnson, 14 Jun 2002  
Col Cathy C. Clothier, 24 Jun 2004  
Col Donald J. Halpin, 21 Feb 2006

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

None

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

Grenada, 1983

## **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Apr-1 Oct 1967 and 1 Feb-1 Mar 1968

25 Mar-1 May 1968

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970

1 Sep 1970-30 Jun 1972  
1 Jul 1978-30 Jun 1980  
1 Jul 1981-30 Jun 1983  
1 Jul 1987-30 Jun 1989  
1 Jul 1989-30 Jun 1991  
1 Jun 1994-31 May 1996  
1 Aug 1999-31 Jul 2000  
1 Aug 2000-31 Jul 2001  
1 Aug 2002-31 Jul 2004  
1 Aug 2004-31 Jul 2005  
1 Aug 2005-31 Jul 2006  
1 Aug 2011-31 Jul 2012

### **Bestowed Honors**

Authorized to display honors earned by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Operations Group prior to 1 Aug 1948

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Antisubmarine, American Theater  
East Indies  
Papua  
Bismarck Archipelago  
New Guinea  
Leyte  
Luzon  
Southern Philippines  
Western Pacific  
Air Offensive, Japan  
China Defensive  
China Offensive  
Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Papua, 23 Jul 1942-23 Jan 1943  
New Guinea, 5 Nov 1943

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

### **EMBLEM**

Azure, a cougar's left gamb erased pale wise, claws to base. (Approved for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Group, 19 Jun 1941 and the 22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Wing, 28 Jun 1951)

### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

Blue shield with the gold cougar's gamb are in the colors of the Air Force and signifies armed power.

### **MOTTO**

DUCEMUS—We Lead

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

Became operational on 1 Jul 1949. From 14 Nov 1949 to 20 Feb 1950, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Group was detached from the wing, which controlled only the attached fighters of the 1<sup>st</sup> Wing. The bomb group was detached again for combat in Korea, 4 Jul-31 Oct 1950, and during this period the wing controlled no aircraft. When operational, the wing trained for proficiency in global strategic bombardment, adding air refueling to its mission in 1952.

The wing deployed at Mildenhall RAF Station, England, Sep-Dec 1951, and at Upper Heyford RAF Station, England, Dec 1953-Mar 1954. From Apr to Jul 1957, it deployed at Andersen AFB, Guam. The wing was not tactically operational 11 Mar-15 Sep 1963, while converting to B-52s and KC-13.

On October 1, 1957, SAC inaugurated the ground alert concept for a 15-minute nuclear reaction to an aggressor. Originally the plan called for one-third of the strike force to be ready for takeoff, and on July 15, 1961, this was increased to 50 per cent. To provide a centralized operations center for the alert force and immediate access to aircraft and main runway, an alert facility or crew readiness building opened for use on January 9, 1960. This structure was dedicated as the Williams Memorial on April 28, 1961. During 1959, alert parking stubs had also been built to provide access to the taxiway system.

Supported Fifteenth Air Force's post-attack command and control system with EC-135s, Sep 1964-Mar 1970.

The 22d was a "super" wing, 1966-1971, with two bombardment and two tanker squadrons. From 10 Mar to 1 Oct 1967 the wing was reduced to a small "rear-echelon" non-tactical organization with all tactical resources and most support resources loaned to SAC organizations involved in combat operations in Southeast Asia. The wing continued to support SAC operations in the Far East and Southeast Asia through 1975, and from 10 Apr 1972 to 29 Oct 1973 again had all its bomber resources loaned to other organizations for combat and contingency operations.

KC-135 resources were also on loan from 10 Apr to Sep 1972; afterwards a few tankers returned to wing control. The wing maintained a strategic bombardment alert posture, 1973-1982, in 1978 it added conventional warfare missions, including mine-laying and sea reconnaissance/surveillance. From 1982, the wing provided strategic air refueling and airlift in support of worldwide USAF and other DOD operations and training exercises.

In 1983, moved personnel and cargo in support of Chadian resistance to Libyan incursions and

conducted airlift and refueling missions during rescue of US nationals in Grenada. Provided specialized refueling support to SR-71 reconnaissance operations worldwide, 1985-1990. Supported F-117 deployments to Saudi Arabia and contributed aircraft and personnel to logistics efforts in support of the liberation of Kuwait, 1990-1991.

From the end of 1992 to 1994, the wing flew humanitarian airlift missions to Somalia. Provided air refueling in support of deployments to Haiti in 1994.

The wing provided air refueling to fighter planes patrolling American air space during Operation NOBLE EAGLE, and deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM after the September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. With the kickoff of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, the wing deployed forces in support of the regime change in Baghdad. Post 9/11 operations and missions were joint efforts conducted with the 931st Air Refueling Group and the 184th Air Refueling Wing, both stationed at McConnell Air Force Base.





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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources  
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