

25 OPERATIONAL WEATHER SQUADRON



MISSION

The 25 Operational Weather Squadron is responsible for producing and disseminating mission planning and execution weather analyses, forecasts, and briefings for Air Force, Army, Guard, Reserve, and combatant command forces operating at 82 installations/sites in a 11-state region of the western United States. The 25 OWS also produces 7,000 weather warning/advisories, 20,000 terminal aerodrome forecasts, 86,000 graphical aviation hazard products and 26,000 flight weather briefings per year. In addition to its operational mission, the 25 OWS serves as the training center for 20 percent of all new Air Force enlisted forecasters and weather officers. After completing an 8-month initial skills course, new weather apprentices report to the 25 OWS to complete a 15-month upgrade training process.

LINEAGE

25 Weather Squadron constituted, 28 Oct 1943
Activated, 1 Nov 1943
Disbanded, 7 Sep 1944
Reconstituted, 18 May 1948
Activated, 1 Jun 1948
Inactivated, 30 Jun 1972
Activated, 1 Jan 1975
Inactivated, 30 Sep 1991
Redesignated 25 Operational Weather Squadron, 5 Feb 1999
Activated, 1 Apr 1999

STATIONS

Patterson Field, OH, 1 Nov 1943-4 Nov 1943

Lynbrook, Long Island, NY, 4 Nov 1943-7 Sep 1944
Robins AFB, GA, 1 Jun 1948
Donaldson AFB, SC, 10 Sep 1951
Waco, TX, 18 Sep 1957
Bergstrom AFB, TX, 23 May 1968-30 Jun 1972
Bergstrom AFB, TX, 1 Jan 1975-30 Sep 1991
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 1 Apr 1999

ASSIGNMENTS

Army Air Forces Weather Wing, 1 Nov 1943-7 Sep 1944
104 Weather (later 2104 Air Weather) Group, 1 Jun 1948
2059 Air Weather Wing, 24 Oct 1950
2102 Air Weather Group, 16 Sep 1951
2 Weather Group, 20 Apr 1952
5 Weather Wing, 8 Oct 1965-30 Jun 1972
5 Weather Wing, 1 Jan 1975-30 Sep 1991
612 Air Operations Group, 1 Apr 1999

ATTACHMENTS

Twelfth Air Force, 18 Sep 1957

COMMANDERS

1st Lt Walter R. Mcnaughton, 1 Nov 1943
1st Lt James F. Yoder, 20 Dec 1943
Maj Richard M. Gill, 5 Apr 1944
Capt Robert W. Booth, 12 Apr 1944
Maj Richard M. Gill, 20 May 1944
Capt Robert W. Booth, 28 Jun 1944
Maj Devon F. Maurer, 1 Jun 1948
Capt Jesse L Ledbetter, Apr 1949
Maj John S. Hudson, Jr., Jun 1949
Lt Col Devon F. Maurer, 20 Sep 1950
Lt Col William J. Norton, 18 Sep 1951
Lt Col Dealbert S. Hoke, Jr., 16 May 1955
Lt Col Raymond B. Girardo, 1 Jun 1955
Lt Col Charles A. Beckham, 18 Sep 1957
Lt Col Dale R. Chambers, 18 Dec 1957
Lt Col Raymond B. Girardo, 1 Feb 1958
Lt Col Francis H. Smith (Temporary), 8 Jul 1960
Lt Col George A. Williamson, 28 Jul 1960
Lt Col Francis H. Smith (Temporary), 10 Jun 1963
Col Griffin H. Wood, 9 Aug 1963
Col Eugene C. St. Clair, 2 Jan 1968
Col Bernard Pusin, 10 Jan 1970

Lt Col Gerald D. Mccright, 1 Jan 1975
Lt Col George E. Chapman, 16 Jun 1975
Lt Col Donald P. Bjornson, 27 Ju1 1977
Lt Col James O. Ivory, 29 May 1979
Lt Col James K. Lavin, 13 Jun 1980
Lt Col John T. Madura, 12 Jul 1982
Lt Col Earl C, Bogard, Jr., 25 Jun 1985

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1971-30 Jun 1972

1 Apr 1978-31 Mar 1980

1 Jul 1983-30 Jun 1985

1 Jul 1988-30 Jun 1990

1 May 1989-31 Jan 1990

EMBLEM



25 Weather Squadron emblem: the weather warrior symbolizes, simultaneously, the friendly aspect of weather when properly understood and used, as well as its destructive potentialities when it is not understood or heeded. (Approved, 26 Feb 1944)



25 Operational Weather Squadron emblem: on a disc Azure, a mount in base Vert, supporting a bobcat stalking Sable, fimbriated and transfixes by three lightning bolts bendwise in fess Or issuant from a cloud formation in chief Proper, all within a narrow border Black. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "THE HUNTER'S EDGE" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "25 OPERATIONAL WEATHER SQ" in Black letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. Green symbolizes the Earth, the primary theater of Army operations. The thunderstorm cloud represents nature. The bobcat, native to the Squadron's desert southwest home, is transfixes with three lightning bolts which symbolize the unit's strategic, operational and tactical knowledge of war.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The Army Air Forces constituted today's 25 Operational Weather Squadron as the 25 Weather Squadron on October 28, 1943. The squadron activated at Patterson Field, Ohio, and was assigned to the Army Air Forces Weather Wing four days later. The 25 moved to Lynbrook, Long Island, New York, on November 4, 1943, and was disbanded on September 7, 1944.

The U.S. Air Force reconstituted the 25 Weather Squadron on May 18, 1948, and activated it at Robins Air Force Base, Georgia. The squadron was assigned to the 104th Weather, later the 2104th Air Weather Group on June 1, 1948. It was reassigned to the 2059th Air Weather Wing on October 24, 1950.

The 25 moved to Donaldson Air Force Base, South Carolina, on September 10, 1951. The squadron was assigned to the 2102d Air Weather Group on September 16, 1951. The 25 was reassigned to the 2d Weather Group on April 20, 1952.

In 1953 in addition to operating the Troop Carrier Weather Center at Donaldson Air Force Base, the 25 was designated to test and develop doctrine for the provision of weather service for airborne forces and determine the requirements of and procedures for providing their service in cold weather operations. To validate its cold weather concepts the squadron participated in joint training activities such as Exercise SNOW STORM in upstate New York during the winter of 1953.

The 25 moved to Waco, Texas, and began its association with the Twelfth Air Force on September 18, 1957. In addition to providing meteorological services to Twelfth Air Force bases, the 25 supported U.S. Strike Command exercises, contingencies, and special missions. The squadron was assigned to the 5th Weather Wing when the wing was activated on October 8, 1965.

The 25 Weather Squadron moved to Bergstrom Air Force Base, Texas, on May 23, 1968, concurrent with the move of Headquarters, Twelfth Air Force from Waco to Bergstrom Air Force Base.

Air Weather Service inactivated the 25 Weather Squadron on 30 June 1972 as an Air Force budgetary reduction caused Air Weather Service to reduce squadron overhead. A Staff Weather Officer cell was established in its place to support Twelfth Air Force. This was short-lived as Air Weather Service again activated the squadron at Bergstrom Air Force Base and again assigned it to the 5th Weather Wing on January 1, 1975. In June 1975 Lt Col George E. Chapman, who was later promoted to brigadier general and served as commander of Air Weather Service from 1982 to 1988, took command of the 25. In addition to numerous annual exercises, the 25 supported contingencies such as Operation JUST CAUSE in 1989.

The 25 was inactivated on September 30, 1991, as part of the divestiture of Air Weather Service. The squadron was redesignated the 25 Operational Weather Squadron on February 5, 1999, and activated at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona, on April 1, 1999. It was assigned

to the 612th Air Operations Group, renewing its association with Twelfth Air Force, which moved its headquarters to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in 1993.

25 Weather Squadron detachments

Det 10, Bergstrom AFB, TX

Det 11, Cannon AFB, NM

Det 12, George AFB, CA

Det 13, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ

Det 14, Holloman AFB, NM

Det 15, Luke AFB, AZ

Det 16, Nellis AFB, NV

Det 18, Mountain Home AFB, ID

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

Created: 13 Jul 2024

Updated:

Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry, U.S. Army, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Air Force News, Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Lineage And Honors Of The Operational Weather Squadrons. Air Force Weather History Office. Offutt AFB, NE.
Mar 2003.