

50 AIR DIVISION



MISSION

LINEAGE

50 Transport Wing established, 8 Jan 1941

Activated, 14 Jan 1941

Redesignated 50 Troop Carrier Wing, 4 Jul 1942

Inactivated, 31 Jul 1946

Redesignated 50 Air Division, 1 Sep 1959

STATIONS

Wright Field, OH, 14 Jan 1941

Camp Williams, WI, 25 May 1942

Sedalia AAFld, MO, 9 Sep 1942

Camp Mackall, NC, 27 Apr 1943

Pope Field, NC, 28 Jul 1943-29 Sep 1943

Cottesmore, England, 17 Oct 1943

Bottesford, England, 18 Nov 1943

Exeter, England, 26 Apr 1944

LeMans, France, 1 Oct 1944

Chartres, France, 3 Nov 1944

Pope Field, NC, 29 Sep 1945-31 Jul 1946

ASSIGNMENTS

Office, Chief of the Air Corps, 14 Jan 1941

Air Corps Maintenance Command (later, Air Service Command), 15 Mar 1941

Air Transport Command (later, I Troop Carrier Command), 30 Apr 1942

Army Service Forces, 9 15 Oct 1943
Ninth Air Force, 15 Oct 1943
IX Troop Carrier Command, 16 Oct 1943
I Troop Carrier Command, 29 Sep 1945
Tactical Air Command, 21 Mar 1946
Third Air Force, 28 Mar 31 Jul 1946

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Fred S. Borum, 14 Jan 1941
Lt Col P. R. Love, 8 Dec 1941
Col Harold L. Clark, 29 May 1942
Lt Col Julian M. Chappell, 2 Nov 1942
Col P. R. Love, 20 Nov 1942
Brig Gen Julian M. Chappell, 4 Apr 1943
Col Stanley C. Hoyt, 23 Jun 1945
Brig Gen Julian M. Chappell, 18 Jul 1945-31 Jul 1946

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II European African Middle Eastern Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a blue diamond edged in gold, a transport aircraft with stylized wing surmounting a pile voided of the second, issuing from sinister and extending to dexter base. (Approved, 22 Sep 1942)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Established and activated as the 50th Transport Wing on 14 Jan 1941, it trained subordinate units in the U.S. In Oct 1943, the wing moved to England, was assigned to IX Troop Carrier Command, and began training for the invasion of continental Europe. This training involved airdropping paratroops and towing gliders. In Jun 1944, subordinate units dropped paratroops of the 101st Airborne Division in Normandy, subsequently flying numerous missions to bring in reinforcements and needed supplies. During the airborne attack on The Netherlands (Operation Market Garden, Sep 1944), the 50th dropped paratroops, towed gliders, and flew resupply missions. Several of its subordinate units also participated in the invasion of southern France in Aug 1944. The 50th supported the 101st Airborne Division in the Battle of the Bulge by towing gliders full of supplies

near Bastogne on 27 Dec 1944. In addition, its units participated in the air assault across the Rhine River in early 1945 and later flew numerous freight missions to carry gasoline, food, medicine, and other supplies to allied ground forces pushing across Germany. On 1 Sep 1959, the USAF redesignated the wing as the 50th Air Division and was not activated.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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