

867 ATTACK SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

92 Aero Squadron, organized, 21 Aug 1917
Demobilized, 21 Dec 1918

17 Reconnaissance Squadron (Light) constituted, 20 Nov 1940
Activated, 15 Jan 1941
Redesignated 92 Bombardment Squadron (Light), 14 Aug 1941
Redesignated 92 Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium), 30 Dec 1941

92 Aero Squadron reconstituted and consolidated 92 Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium), 1942

Redesignated 433 Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 22 Apr 1942
Redesignated 10 Antisubmarine Squadron (Heavy), 29 Nov 1942
Redesignated 867 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 21 Oct 1943
Inactivated, 4 Jan 1946
Redesignated 867 Reconnaissance Squadron, 9 Aug 2012
Activated, 10 Sep 2012
Redesignated 867 Attack Squadron, 15 May 2016

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX, 21 Aug-Oct 1917
England, 29 Oct 1917-22 Nov 1918
Mitchel Field, NY, 4-21 Dec 1918
Savannah, GA, 15 Jan 1941

Manchester, NH, 20 Jun 1941
Dow Field, ME, 3 Feb 1942
Mitchel Field, NY, 7 Apr 194-2 (detachments operated from Key West and Miami, FL, and from
New Orleans, LA, during period May-Sep 1942)
Miami, FL, 17 Jun 1942
Brookley Field, AL, 25 Jul 1942
Galveston, TX, 10 Sep 1942
Gowen Field, ID, 21 Oct 1943
Wendover Field, UT, 5 Jan 1944
Mountain Home AAFld, ID, 14 Apr-1 Jun 1944
Barking Sands, TH, 15 Jun 1944
Angaur, 30 Sep 1944
Yontan, Okinawa, 24 Jun-8 Dec 1945
Ft Lawton, WA, 2-4 Jan 1946
Creech AFB, NV, 10 Sep 2012

ASSIGNMENTS

Unkn, 21 Aug-Oct 1917
Attached to RAF for training, Oct 1917-Nov 1918
Unkn, Nov-21 Dec 1918
45th Bombardment Group, attached, 15 Jan 1941 and assigned 14 Aug 1941
26th Antisubmarine Wing, 22 Nov 1942
494th Bombardment Group, 1 Dec 1943-4 Jan 1946
732nd Operations Group, 4 June 2012

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Avro, RAF/BE, RAF/FE, and Handley Page (specific models unknown)
Sopwith Pup
Sopwith Camel
DH-6,
B-18, 1941
PT-17, 1941
DB-7, 1941
A-20, 1941
A-29, 1942
RM-37, 1942-1943
B-34, 1943
B-25, 1943
B-24, 1943-1945

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 21 Aug 1917-21 Dec 1918
Capt William G. Hipps, 15 Jan 1941
1st Lt Marsalis, 26 Mar 1941

1st Lt Floyd W. Rogers, 5 May 1941
1st Lt Oakes, 12 May 1941
1st Lt H. V. Leber, 26 Aug 1941
Maj Hobson, 3 Feb 1942
Maj J. C. Bailey, 7 Dec 1942
Capt J. J. Smith Jr., 29 Dec 1942
Maj Charles C. Fuller, 12 May 1943
Maj William Welton, 8 Nov 1943
Maj William W. Perry, 3 Dec 1943
Lt Col James Giannatti, 4 Jan 1945
Maj Sumner P. Lapp, 1 Apr 1945 (temporary)
Lt Col James Giannatti, Jun 1945

HONORS

Service Streamers

Theater of Operations

Campaign Streamers

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Air Offensive, Japan

Eastern Mandates

Western Pacific

Leyte

Luzon

Southern Philippines

Ryukyus

China Offensive

Air Combat, Asiatic- Pacific Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Award

1 Jun 2012-31 May 2013

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

EMBLEM



92 Aero Squadron emblem



867th Bombardment Squadron emblem: On an ultramarine blue disc, border equally divided red and white, a caricatured, light brown aerial bomb, standing on fins on cloud formation in base, and wearing a black top hat, pince nez glasses, white gloves, and formal shirt front and tie, while leaning nonchalantly on brown cane held in right hand, and resting hand with elbow bent on left hip, and smoking a cigarette held in long, black holder, all in front of a large, white cloud formation and a small, black, caricatured "Scotty" dog, winged gold, in flight in dexter chief. (Approved, 17 May 1945)



867 Reconnaissance Squadron emblem

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Trained for observation and bombardment, and later for night bombardment, 1918. Antisubmarine patrols, 28 Feb 1942-30 Sep 1943. Combat in Western and Southwest Pacific, 3 Nov 1944-12 Aug 1945.

When the Marianas campaign had ended, most of the naval units which had been involved there were readied for the next move in the Central Pacific offensive the invasion of the Palau Islands and Ulithi and Yap in the western Carolines. The Palaus were invaded on 15 September 1944 at Peleliu Island, where Marine forces met bitter resistance for two months before the Japanese garrison was finally exterminated. On 17 September, Army troops landed on nearby Angaur Island, and it was secured by the 22nd. Immediately work began to get an airfield ready for offensive operations. It was to Angaur that the 494th Bomb Group moved, and from there it went into action with its B-24s on 2 November. The 865th Bomb Squadron flew the first mission that day, the 867th went operational the next day and the other two squadrons on 22 November. Although the Group was part of the Seventh Air Force, it was under command of the Far East Air Forces and for the next six months took part in the Philippines campaign, becoming for all intents and purposes a part of the Fifth Air Force. For the first two months it even shared Angaur with the 22nd Bomb Group of the Fifth. The 494th's first missions were raids to neutralize other islands in the Palau chain. From 17 November and well into December, the Group struck mainly at airfields on the Bicol Peninsula of southern Luzon and on islands to the south in support of General MacArthur's forces fighting on Leyte, which they had invaded on 20 October 1944. Late in December the 494th began raiding airfields in the Manila area, flying from Angaur, striking its target, then refuelling at Tacloban on Leyte and returning to base. As U.S. forces landed on Luzon on 9 January 1945, it continued these raids and from mid-month supported the drive on Manila.

On Aug. 21, 1917, the U.S. Signals Corps formed the 92 AS on that day at Kelly Field, Texas. Organizers simply funneled the wave of recruits pouring off the train into a single line, counted them off into a group of 150 and designated them as the 92nd. After five weeks of training to drill, dig ditches, raise tents and build roads, delegations from ten of the new aero squadrons, the 88th through the 97th, departed for New York enroute to Europe.

In Oct. 1917, they boarded a ship bound for rural Ford Junction, England. There, at a new aerodrome built for the task, the 92nd attached to the British Royal Air Force to train for a mission new to the Air Service, nighttime bombardment.

The RAF shared their knowledge and experience and provided airfields to train on. However, their own wartime needs had maximized the aircraft production capacity of Great Britain. Stateside production of an American version of the Handley Page bomber was crucial to the U.S.-U.K. World War I partnership to develop and employ aerial nighttime bombardment in the Zone of Advance, an initial military staging area for tactical employment.

While they waited, squadron members trained with the RAF on an array of aircraft with the roles of both observation and night bombardment. A year passed and on Nov. 11, 1918, the Armistice ended the Great War before any American-built Handley Page aircraft arrived at Fort Junction. The 92 AS returned to the East Coast a month later and demobilized.

The 92nd returned to active service during America's pre-war build up in early 1941, with a series of roles ranging from bombardment, reconnaissance and antisubmarine. During the earliest days of the war, the unit patrolled America's shorelines and was redesignated as the 10th Antisubmarine Squadron.

In the fall of 1943, the unit added the B-24 Liberator, B-25 Mitchell and B-34 Ventura bombers to its arsenal and undertook a year of combat training. When it departed home soil in late 1944, for the first time since its days as an aero squadron, it did so as the 867th Bombardment Squadron. Assigned to the 494th Bombardment Group, the 867 BS conducted combat operations in the Western and Southwestern Pacific regions, starting from Barking Sands, Territory of Hawaii, and ending at Yontan, Okinawa. During World War II, the 867 BS participated in nine air campaigns, fighting until Japan surrendered in August 1945.

The 867th returned to the West Coast for inactivation in early 1946. Half a century passed before America called the 867th to serve in a new role.

On Sep. 10, 2012, it stood up as the 867th Attack Squadron under the 732d Operations Group at Creech Air Force Base, Nevada. Flying the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper, embracing the "Spartans" lore, the veteran unit of two World Wars once again delivered dominant persistent attack and reconnaissance for the U.S. and coalition partners.

"The men and women of the 867th, like our predecessors, are engaged in a contest that will likely define a generation and are fully resolved to win," said Lt. Col. Timothy, 867th ATKS, commander.

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.