



Lineage and Honors History

Of the

485 Air Expeditionary Wing (ACC)

Lineage. Established as 485 Bombardment Group (Heavy) on 14 Sep 1943. Activated on 20 Sep 1943. Redesignated: 485 Bombardment Group, Heavy on 25 Jan 1944; 485 Bombardment Group, Very Heavy on 5 Aug 1945. Inactivated on 4 Aug 1946. Consolidated (19 Dec 1983) with 585 Tactical Missile Group, which was established on 3 Aug 1956. Activated on 15 Sep 1956. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 25 Sep 1962. Consolidated establishment redesignated 485 Tactical Missile Wing on 19 Dec 1983. Activated on 1 Aug 1984. Inactivated on 30 Apr 1989. Redesignated 485 Air Expeditionary Wing, and converted to provisional status, on 30 Jan 2003.

Assignments. Second Air Force, 20 Sep 1943; 55 Bombardment Wing, 14 Mar 1944-15 May 1945; Army Service Forces, 16-c. 29 May 1945; Second Air Force, c. 30 May 1945; Fifteenth Air Force, 31 Mar- 4 Aug 1946. 701 Tactical Missile Wing, 15 Sep 1956; 38 Tactical Missile Wing, 18 Jun 1958-25 Sep 1962. Seventeenth Air Force, 1 Aug 1984-30 Apr 1989. Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 30 Jan 2003.

Components.

Squadrons: 1: 15 Sep 1956-18 Jun 1958. 71: 18 Jun 1958-25 Sep 1962; 1 Aug 1984-30 Apr 1989. 506: 7 Mar-4 Aug 1946. 828: 20 Sep 1943-4 Aug 1946. 829: 20 Sep 1943-4 Aug 1946. 830: 20 Sep 1943-6 May 1946. 831: 1 Oct 1943-20 Aug 1945.

Stations. Fairmont AAFld, NE, 20 Sep 1943-11 Mar 1944 (operated from Gowen Field, ID, 27 Sep-15 Nov 1943); Venosa, Italy, 18 Apr 1944-15 May 1945; Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 30 May 1945; Sioux City AAB, IA, 24 Jul 1945; Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 8 Sep 1945-4 Aug 1946. Bitburg AB, Germany, 15 Sep 1956-25 Sep 1962. Florennes Aprt (later, Florennes AB), Belgium, 1 Aug 1984-30 Apr 1989.

Commanders. None (not manned), 20-26 Sep 1943; Col Walter E. Arnold Jr., 27 Sep 1943; Col John P. Tomhave, 28 Aug 1944; Col John B. Cornett, 17 Feb 1945; Lt Col Douglas M. Cairns, 23 Mar-c. May 1945; unkn, c. May-26 Jul 1945; Maj (unkn) Payne, 27 Jul 1945; none (not manned), 9-14 Sep 1945; Col John W. White, 15 Sep 1945; Col Walter S. Lee, by Apr-4 Aug 1946. Lt Col Louis A. Wright, 15 Sep 1956; Col Fred W. Vetter Jr., 30 Jun 1958; Lt Col Oliver M. Legg, 1 Jul 1962; Col Ernest B. Shepard, 6 Aug-25 Sep 1962. Brig Gen David C. Reed, 1 Aug 1984; Col Calvin L. Chasteen, 5 Mar 1986-30 Apr 1989.

Aircraft and Missiles. B-24, 1943-1945; B-29, 1945-1946. TM-61, Matador 1956- 1962. BGM-109, Ground Launched Cruise Missile, 1985-1988.

Operations. Trained in the US with B-24s, Sep 1943-Mar 1944. Moved to Italy, Mar- Apr 1944 and entered combat on 10 May 1944. Engaged primarily in long-range missions against targets in Italy, France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Rumania, and Yugoslavia. Performed support and interdiction operations in Aug 1944, bombing bridges, harbors, and troop concentrations to aid the invasion of southern France. Hit communications lines and other targets in the Mar-Apr 1945 advance of the British Eighth Army in northern Italy. Flew its last combat mission on 27 Apr 1945. Returned to US in May 1945, equipped with B-29s, and trained in very heavy bombardment until 4 Aug 1946. Became part of first tactical missile wing of the US Air Force in Sep 1956, operated TM-61 Matador missiles in Germany until Sep 1962. Established base at Florennes, Belgium in 1984, trained and operated BGM-109, Ground Launched Cruise Missiles 1985-1988, and closed base in 1989.

Service Streamers. World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers. World War II: Air Offensive, Europe; Rome-Arno; Normandy; Northern France; Southern France; North Apennines; Rhineland; Central Europe; Po Valley; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations. Distinguished Unit Citation: Vienna, Austria, 26 Jun 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 15 Sep 1956-30 Apr 1958; 1 Apr 1959-30 Jan 1961; 30 Jun 1986-30 Jun 1988.

Lineage, Assignments, Components, Stations, and Honors through 3 Mar 2003 Commanders, Aircraft, Missiles and Operations through 30 Apr 1989

Supersedes statement prepared on 3 Aug 1984

Emblem. Approved on 8 Aug 1984

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