

THE HISTORY, HERITAGE, AND HERALDRY OF THE 48TH FIGHTER WING



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Preface

The 48th Fighter Wing has played an invaluable role in the history of the United States Air Force. When the 48th Bombardment Group (Light) originally activated on 15 January 1941, it provided pilot training as a close air support and air interdiction unit. The group and its flying squadrons participated in every major campaign on the Western Front during World War II. The unit changed names three times before inactivation as the 48th Fighter Group on 7 November 1945.

With the onset of the Cold War, the unit was redesignated the 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing in June 1952 and activated on 10 July 1952 at Chaumont Air Base, France. The 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing stood continuous alert with F-84 *Thunderjet* and F-86 *Sabre* jet aircraft, prepared to respond to Communist threats. For their efforts in and contributions to the local area, the wing received the moniker *Statue de la Liberté* (Statue of Liberty Wing). The 48th Fighter Wing is the only US Air Force unit with both a numerical designation and an official name.

When relations between the United States and France soured in the late 1950s, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, along with its newly gained F-100 *Super Sabres*, moved to RAF Lakenheath, England, where members continued to maintain alert duties. The wing transitioned to the F-4 *Phantom II* in 1972 and the F-111 *Aardvark* in 1977, and participated in countless deployments, inspections, and exercises throughout the 1970s and 1980s. Since 1986, the 48th Fighter Wing has clearly shown the power of the US Air Force during numerous operations with its F-111s, F-15C *Eagles*, F-15E *Strike Eagles*, and HH-60 *PAVE Hawks*:

- Operation ELDORADO CANYON, the strikes on Libya due to terrorist attacks attributed to the Libyan government.
- Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM, the war for the liberation of Kuwait from Iraq.
- Operation PROVIDE COMFOR, Kurdish humanitarian relief efforts and the enforcement of the northern Iraq no-fly zone.
- Operation DENY FLIGHT, the enforcement of the no-fly zone over Bosnia.
- Operation NOBLE ANVIL, the air war over Serbia.
- Operation NORTHERN WATCH, the enforcement of the no-fly zone over northern Iraq.
- Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, the enforcement of the no-fly zone over southern Iraq.
- Operations ENDURING FREEDOM/IRAQI FREEDOM, the current fronts in the ongoing overseas contingency operations.
- Operations ODYSSEY DAWN/UNIFIED PROTECTOR, the operations to enforce a no-fly zone in Libya.

On 25 September 2002, the wing completed a transformation based on the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's Combat Wing Organization. Some of the changes included consolidation of all maintenance functions in the 48th Maintenance Group that were previously part of the 48th Operations Group. The transformation also affected the 48th Support Group, redesignated the 48th Mission Support Group, when the wing's supply, transportation, and plans activities combined to form the 48th Logistics Readiness Squadron. The 48th Contracting Squadron also became a part of the 48th Mission Support Group in 1993.

On 1 October 2004, the wing gained an additional group. The 85th Group remained geographically separated, stationed at Naval Air Station, Keflavik, Iceland, until 28 June 2006 when it inactivated. USAFE reassigned the 56th Rescue Squadron from the 85th Group to the 48th Fighter Wing at that time, and the squadron continues to fly the HH-60G *Pave Hawk* helicopter for its search and rescue mission.

This edition of the 48th Fighter Wing Heritage Pamphlet includes a history of the wing and base as well as the heritage and heraldry of the wing, its groups, and its squadrons. Each organization is divided into the following categories:

Lineage: Chronological record of activations, redesignations, inactivations, etc.

Assignments: List of organizations to which the unit has been assigned.

Assigned Units: List of units that fall or fell under the wing/groups.

Stations: List of stations at which the organization has been located.

Commanders: Chronological list of the commanders.

Honors: List of organizational honors broken down by service streamers, campaign streamers, armed forces expeditionary streamers, decorations (such as Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards), and bestowed honors.

Aircraft: Chronological list of aircraft assigned, if applicable.

The information contained within is as accurate as possible. All official lineage and honors statements and emblems are maintained by the Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. This pamphlet should not be used for official determination of honors, etc. without verification. For more information regarding the 48th Fighter Wing, and its units' heritage and heraldry, please contact the 48th Fighter Wing History Office at RAF Lakenheath.

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The History of the 48th Fighter Wing and the 48th Operations Group

On 15 January 1941, the United States Army Air Corps activated the 48th Bombardment Group (Light) at Hunter Field, Savannah, Georgia. On the same date, the Air Corps assigned the group's operational units: the 55th, 56th, and 57th Bombardment Squadrons (Light) and the 9th Reconnaissance Squadron (Light). These activations resulted from the buildup of military forces known as the "First Aviation Objective," in which the Air Corps activated 54 combat groups to prepare for the looming Second World War.

Initially the 48th and its four flying squadrons served as a training unit, preparing its pilots and maintenance crews for eventual combat. After training, many of the group's members went on to serve in squadrons stationed in Europe and the Pacific, while the 48th remained in the states. Over the next two years the group moved from Hunter Field to Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, back to Savannah, Georgia, then on to Key Field, Mississippi; William Northern Field, Tennessee; and Walterboro Army Air Field, South Carolina. Initially the men of the 48th trained with A-20 and A-18 twin-engine attack, light bombers. After moving to Key Field, the group used A-24, A-31, A-35, and A-36 aircraft for training.

At Key Field, on 15 August 1943, the group received the new designation 48th Fighter-Bomber Group. The flying squadrons were redesignated the 492d, 493d, 494th, and 495th Fighter-Bomber Squadrons.

Five days after these organizational changes, the 48th moved again, this time back to William Northern Field, Tennessee. With this move, the 48th abandoned its training mission and served strictly as an operational unit, flying in maneuvers with its first fighters, the P-39 *Airacobra* and P-40 *Warhawk*.

In early 1944, after years of training and flying across the US, the 48th returned to the East Coast. At first the group conducted coastal patrol missions and training in the single-seat fighter it would use throughout World War II, the P-47 *Thunderbolt*. After three months in South Carolina, the group moved up to Camp Shanks, New York and prepared for its embarkation to Europe.¹

On 21 March 1944, the men of the 48th Fighter-Bomber Group boarded the *Queen Mary*, bound for an unknown and uncertain service in



World War II
Headquarters Sign

¹ The 495th Fighter Squadron disbanded 1 April 1944, and did not make the trip.

World War II. After a week of sea travel, the contingent arrived at Gourrock, Scotland. From there they traveled by train for two days to their first overseas base, RAF Station Ibsley in Southern England.

Almost immediately after their arrival, members of the 48th began a rigorous training program, flying dive-bombing, glide bombing, night flying, low-level navigation, smoke laying, reconnaissance, and patrol convoy sorties. Over the next two months, the number of sorties steadily increased and the group flew its first combat missions on 20 April 1944—an uneventful fighter sweep of the occupied French coast. The group and squadrons underwent another name change on 30 May 1944, dropping the designation “bomber.” The names that would remain with the units until their inactivations were the 48th Fighter Group and the 492d, 493d, and 494th Fighter Squadrons.



Remains of a German locomotive

Unknown at the time to the pilots of the 48th, all of their training was specifically designed for a campaign against the German positions in Normandy. On 6 June 1944, the 48th participated in a massive invasion of France, which included more than 14,000 sorties flown by the allied air forces. The three squadrons assisted the Normandy invasion by dropping bombs on bridges and gun positions, attacking rail lines and trains, and providing visual

reconnaissance reports. Over the course of the Normandy campaign, the 48th flew nearly 2,000 sorties, dropping nearly 500 tons of bombs and fired more than 160,000 rounds of ammunition.

With the pocket in Northern France secured, the group quickly moved into the recently conquered territory. On 18 June, the 48th moved its operations, along with the 492d and 493d Fighter Squadrons to Deux Jumeaux, France. The 494th Fighter Squadron followed on the 4th of July. From Deux Jumeaux, the 48th began a mission it would continue throughout the war: providing support for the First Army.

In late July 1944, attacks from the air helped the First Army break through the German positions at Saint Lo, France. In saturation attacks, the 48th struck tanks, convoys, gun positions, and ammunition dumps as the allied ground forces pushed the German army back. Keeping up with the front lines, the 48th was constantly on the move. It arrived at Villacoublay, France, on 29 August, Cambrai/Niergnies, France, on 15 September, and St Trond, Belgium, on 30 September. On 17 September Operation MARKET GARDEN, the Allied airborne offensive into occupied Holland, began and the 48th supported the drops over Nijmegen and Arnhem.

One of the 48th’s most memorable attacks took place on 6 December 1944. Despite difficult weather and heavy enemy fire, the 48th’s pilots struck German

buildings and troop concentrations in Julich, Germany, allowing ground forces to advance into the sector and earning the 48th a Distinguished Unit Citation.

Two weeks later, the group was called on to hold back a massive German assault in the “Battle of the Bulge.” The 48th flew under heavy weather with its allies as the German military committed its forces in an all-out assault. Often flying as low as 20 feet off the ground, the men of the 48th strafed ground positions, holding back the Nazi armies in their last major offensive.

The Germans repeatedly frustrated Allied efforts to cross the Rhine, but on 1 March 1945 Operation LUMBERJACK was initiated with a goal of capturing the west bank of the Rhine and key German cities. Retreating German forces destroyed bridges across the Rhine, but on 7 March elements of the 9th Armored Division—a unit whose advance the 48th supported—found the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen still intact. U.S. troops captured the bridge and formed a defensive perimeter on the east side. Weather kept the 48th grounded until 9 March when the group’s P-47s flew armed reconnaissance and hit specific targets as German forces desperately tried to destroy the bridge.

By 1945 the allies had gained nearly complete air superiority, allowing the 48th to conduct its missions at will. As the front line moved eastward, so did the 48th Fighter Group: moving into Kelz, Germany, on 26 March; Kassel, Germany, on 17 April; and Illesheim, Germany, on 29 April. Within a week of the group arriving at Illesheim, the allied nations celebrated Victory in Europe Day. Finally, on 8 May 1945, the 48th flew its final mission from Illesheim. Captain Troy Smith observed the ground situation: “They were in retreat by the tens of thousands. They were walking on one side of the road, guns slung over their shoulders, and our guys were on the other side of the road in convoys going the other way. At that point, I knew it was really over.”

A month after the war ended, the 48th retraced its steps as it headed toward home. On 5 July 1945, the group arrived in Laon, France. After a few weeks back in France the group received orders to return to the US. With many of the group’s members separating at port, those remaining set up the group headquarters at Seymour-Johnson Field, North Carolina. Two months later on 7 November 1945, the 48th Fighter Group and its flying squadrons inactivated as part of the massive postwar draw down.

Soon after World War II ended, Europe found itself facing the threat of war. Continental Europe, which had recently been divided by World War II, was now being divided between the communist controlled Eastern Block and the free countries occupied by the allies in the west. American participation in the Korean War raised fears that the Soviet Union would take advantage of this force commitment in Asia to launch its own strike into Europe.

The US increased its combat wings in the early 1950s. Under this program, the US Air Force established the 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing on 25 June 1952 and activated the wing on 10 July 1952 at Chaumont Air Base, France. The 48th Fighter-Bomber Group, which served in World War II, activated under the wing with the 492d, 493d, and 494th flying squadrons.



Chaumont Air Base Post Exchange Building, 1955

The new 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing inherited a base that was little more than acres of mud where wheat fields used to be. The only hardened facilities were a concrete runway and a handful of tarpaper shacks. Within two years, the wing headed up an engineering project that resulted in the construction of permanent barracks, a wing headquarters, flightline shops, and warehouses.

While trying to raise a functional base out of the mud, the 48th also served as an operational wing, flying the F-84 *Thunderjet*. With the F-84, the wing supported the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), and participated in exercises with the US Seventh Army. In addition, the wing conducted operational readiness exercises and tactical evaluations. The 48th frequently deployed to Wheelus Field, Libya, for training in bombing and gunnery skills.

Within a year of activation at Chaumont, the wing had become so proficient with the F-84 that it formed an aerial demonstration team known as “The Skyblazers.” In 1953 the wing transitioned to the F-86F *Sabre*, as did the aerial demonstration team. The F-86 team became USAFE’s official aerial demonstration team in May 1954.

One of the first shows where the Skyblazers displayed their talent was on 4 July 1954. The 48th received the moniker of “Statue of Liberty Wing” in a ceremony presided over by the USAFE Commander, Lt Gen William H. Tunner, the Mayor of Chaumont, and the Undersecretary of State in the French cabinet, Jean Mason. This resulted in the wing becoming the only Air Force unit with both a numeric and descriptive designation. Soon after, the wing received the basic emblem design it would use for the next fifty years.

Not long after the wing proudly took on the title of The Statue of Liberty Wing, the wing’s comptroller discovered the factory that had produced the actual Statue of Liberty was only 25 miles from Chaumont. In fact, one of the actual molds still existed. The factory agreed to cast a three-meter replica of the statue for \$1,700. The wing raised the funds by raffling off a 1956 French Ford Versailles sedan. The statue still stands in



**Statue dedication ceremony,
Chaumont Air Base,
4 July 1956**

Chaumont as a memorial to the service of the 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing in France, with a replica located at RAF Lakenheath.

In late 1956, the Liberty Wing became USAFE's first unit to convert to the F-100 *Super Sabre*. However, at this time the Chaumont runway was closed for repair, which resulted in the wing deploying to Bulo, Morocco (near Casablanca), to train with its new aircraft.

On 8 December 1957, the 48th Fighter-Bomber Group inactivated and its operational units assigned directly to the wing. The wing underwent another major organizational change on 8 July 1958 when in conjunction with an Air



The new Traffic Management Office, ca. 1960

Force wide reorganization it became the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing (48TFW)

. Its subordinate flying squadrons also added "Tactical" to their designations and the 48th Field Maintenance Squadron, today's 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, activated.

Despite the close relationship between the wing and the people of Chaumont, international relationships between France and the US deteriorated in the late 1950s, resulting in French President Charles de Gaulle demanding the removal of NATO forces from the country. Under a project known as "Red Richard," USAFE relocated its units from France to other locations around Europe. For the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, this meant a move to an empty heavy bomber base, RAF Lakenheath.

On 15 January 1960, jet fighters of the 48TFW landed at RAF Lakenheath for the first time. The Royal Air Force used the base during World War II and Strategic Air Command during the Korean War, both flying bomber aircraft. The wing and its fighters brought a new mission and the first permanent American presence, to RAF Lakenheath. The base required a myriad of construction projects to support the mission. Maintenance and flying operations areas required conversions to support fighter operations, and the base needed the creation of a support structure for a permanent host unit.

Throughout the 1960s the wing's members trained to react to possible aggression from the Soviet Union. They underwent a series of NATO tactical evaluations, for which they earned the wing their first Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, for the period from 1 July 1961 to 29 February 1964. The wing conducted several deployments to Turkey, Italy, Spain, and across the United Kingdom.

On 1 October 1971, the 492d Tactical Fighter Squadron stood down from its NATO commitments, followed by the 493d on 1 December and the 494th on 1 February 1972. This allowed the wing to convert from the F-100 to the F-4

Phantom II. The first F-4 arrived on 7 January 1972 and the wing completed the conversion on 15 April. The incoming F-4s came from units that completed their service in the Vietnam War, and transitioned through Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico. However, the slow turnover resulted in only 17 F-4s being on hand at the time of the transition, and only 26 aircraft available by June 1972. During this time, the 492d and 493d split the available aircraft while the 494th took on a non-operational status. Aircrew struggled to maintain proficiency, averaging less than 10 flying hours per month.

The wing coped with this aircraft shortage for two years, not reaching its full allotment of 73 airframes until July 1974. The 492d became fully operational on 10 December 1974, and the 493d on 13 January 1975, followed by the 494th on 25 March. Overall, the wing assumed its initial operational capability on 1 July 1975, resuming its full NATO and USAFE commitments after a three-year transition.

From 1975 to 1977 the 48th underwent a hectic series of operational readiness inspections and tactical evaluations, while standing on alert and participating in a number of weapons training deployments. However, the F-4 service would be short, as the wing prepared for another aircraft transition.

As early as the summer of 1975, the 48th Fighter Wing began its preparations to receive the F-111 *Aardvark*. The first public, official announcement took place in October 1976. In a three-way move, the 48th received F-111s from the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho; the 366th received F-111s from Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada; and Nellis received Lakenheath's F-4s.



Exercise participants aid an injured airman after an attack, 1970s

On 1 March 1977 the first maintenance trainer F-111 arrived at Lakenheath with the last F-4 departing on 22 April. With the assignment of 91 F-111s, USAFE once again activated the 495th Fighter Squadron, which had served under the 48th Fighter Group during World War II.

Unlike the previous F-4 transition, the F-111 change took place quickly and without any significant problems. In fact, the wing received its third Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for such a smooth transition. Almost immediately after changing aircraft, the wing began a series of monthly exercises and deployments that took the Liberty Wing to Italy, Iran, Greece, and Pakistan.

In the early 1980s the wing struggled with aircraft shortages. Primarily, this resulted from the upgrade to the Pave Tack, a laser guided weapons delivery system. Each aircraft had to process through the upgrade facility at the Air Logistics Center in California. At the same time, the wing had to deal with supply shortages resulting from years of reduced military budgets in the late 1970s.

By the mid 1980s the “Red Scare” was not the only American fear for national security; terrorists struck targets from Beirut to Berlin, from Rome to Rotterdam. Some of these attacks were attributed to the Libyan government headed by Colonel Muammar Qadhafi. In retaliation, US President Ronald Reagan ordered a strike against targets in Tripoli, which were carried out by the US Navy’s Sixth Fleet and F-111s of the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing.

At approximately 1900 local time, on the evening of 14 April 1986, 24 F-111Fs launched from Lakenheath, including six airborne spares. In flights of four, aircrews flew south through the Straits of Gibraltar and began their orchestrated attack shortly after midnight on 15 April. Simultaneously, Navy and Air Force support aircraft began engaging Libyan defenses around Tripoli.

The grueling 14-hour flight took its toll. “Those guys were so fatigued, the crew chiefs literally had to pull some of the crews out of the cockpits,” recalled CMSgt Richard O’Shaughnessy, then a Master Sergeant and weapons flight supervisor. “Most of them actually lost several pounds from sweating so much. When the guys pulled their helmets off, sweat literally poured down their foreheads and necks.”

Colonel Sam W. Westbrook, 48th Tactical Fighter Wing Commander, summed up the base’s feelings during the 14-hour ordeal: “We held our breath during that fourteen-hour period. People didn’t really smile a whole lot and conversation remained somewhat subdued. But when our people saw the first F-111s on approach, the whole flightline workforce let out a sigh of relief and seemed to breathe once again.”

However, despite the mission’s success, the reality of the danger experienced by the wing’s pilots hit home. As the strike force recovered at Lakenheath, both air and ground crews were given the somber news that “Karma-52”, aircraft 70-0389, and its crew Major Fernando L. Ribas and Captain Paul Lorence of the 495th Fighter Squadron², were missing.

On 8 September 1986, U.S. Navy Secretary John Lehman presented a US Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation to the Liberty Wing for its participation in the operation. Today, the Liberty Wing remains the only Air Force unit to have received this prestigious award. Likewise, General Charles Donnelly, Commander-in-Chief, USAFE, visited RAF Lakenheath on 17 February 1987 and presented decorations to those who participated in the operation. The ceremony ended with a presentation to Captain Lorence’s widow Diane, followed by a missing man flyover.

Marking the end of the Cold War, a piece of the Berlin Wall was dedicated on base in July 1990 to remember the “slain peacekeepers of the world.” With this drastic change in global politics, rumors began to spread about the future of Lakenheath and other European bases. Politicians debated over what to do with the newly-found “peace dividend.”

² While Captain Lorence (weapon systems operator) was assigned to the 495th, Major Ribas (pilot) was attached to the squadron but worked in the operations plans office.

However, the entire pace of the Air changed in the summer of 1990. On 2 August 1990, Iraq President Saddam Hussein directed his forces to invade Kuwait and thereby threatened an invasion into Saudi Arabia. Within days of the invasion, US President George Bush directed the deployment of US Armed Forces to Saudi Arabia in what became known as Operation DESERT SHIELD. In an address to the Pentagon on 15 August, President Bush referred to DESERT SHIELD as "...one of the most important deployments of allied military power since the second World War."

Also in the first week of August, Col Thomas J. Lennon, 48th Tactical Fighter Wing Commander, received a call from Headquarters, US States Air Force, asking if the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing was ready to deploy. Colonel Lennon built a team of 13 members from wing leadership, known as the "Lucky 13," and preparations began for the eventual movement of personnel and F-111s to Saudi Arabia.

On 25 August 1990, 18 F-111s took off from Lakenheath as the first USAF unit to deploy. In this first group, nearly 500 men and women of the Liberty Wing departed with the assuredness of years of training behind them and a clearly defined mission before them.

In a 31 August editorial of the base's newspaper, the *Jet48*, Col Barry Ream, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing's Vice Commander, spoke to the families of the deployed: "I wish I could give you lots of details about what your spouses are doing during the deployment, but I can't. I can say, however, that they all arrived safely, morale is sky high, and the job will get done in typical Liberty Wing style."



Greetings from the 48 TFW

Colonel Ream's words proved prophetic. By January 1991, the 48th had deployed 66 of its 70 F-111s to Taif, Saudi Arabia, along with more than 1,400 Team Lakenheath members. During Operation DESERT STORM, the war for the liberation of Kuwait, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing (Provisional) flew 2,500 combat sorties. Dropping 7.3 million pounds of precision guided munitions, the wing's F-111 fleet destroyed 920 tanks and armored personnel carriers, 245 hardened aircraft shelters, 160 bridges, and 113 bunkers. In one of the last missions of the war, on 27 February 1991, the 48th recorded the first combat use of a GBU-28 (Guided Bomb Unit), successfully destroying an Iraqi command and control center. All of this the wing accomplished without one combat loss of a pilot or aircraft.

Incorporating the lessons learned during the desert operations, the Air Force directed changes that led to the Objective Wing Organization. Beginning in mid-1991, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing began restructuring under this program, realigning its maintenance-fighter squadron work force and establishing several

command positions to include the 48th Logistics Group, 48th Medical Group, 48th Support Group, and 48th Operations Group (originally designated the 48th Fighter Group). The program also redesignated many of the Air Force's units by dropping the "Tactical" from their names. Thus on 1 October 1991, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing was redesignated the 48th Fighter Wing, and the 492d, 493d, and 494th became simply Fighter Squadrons.

In the midst of the organizational changes, the wing switched aircraft again, exchanging the F-111s for the F-15E *Strike Eagle*. On 15 February 1992, the first F-15E landed at Lakenheath, with the last F-111 departing for units within the US on 16 December 1992. The final F-15E arrived in June 1993, and the wing achieved initial operational capability on 1 October 1993.

With this mission change, the 493d Fighter Squadron inactivated on 1 January 1993, only to activate again on 1 January 1994.



F-15E at Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait.

The squadron received its first maintenance trainer F-15C *Eagle* on 10 January 1994, then its full complement of aircraft by 22 July 1994. This marked the first time that the 48th had flown a specifically air-to-air weapon system, after flying for more than 50 years with an air-to-ground mission.

With its new weapon systems, the wing began a hectic pace of deployments that would keep at least one squadron constantly deployed for nearly six years. On 5 August 1993, the 492d Fighter Squadron conducted the wing's first F-15E deployment when it went to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, under Operation PROVIDE COMFORT (succeeded by NORTHERN WATCH). Thirteen days after the 492d's arrival in Turkey, Iraq violated the exclusion zone by placing surface-to-air missiles outside of the city of Mosul. In spite of repeated warnings to remove the missiles, Iraqi forces failed to comply. On the afternoon of 18 August, Liberty Wing F-15Es struck the site, eliminating the missile threat.

For the remainder of the decade, the 492d and 494th continually rotated to Turkey and to Aviano Air Base, Italy, for participation in Operation DENY FLIGHT, supporting operations in the Balkans. Providing combat air patrol with

F-15Cs, the 493d also rotated planes to Turkey and Italy. This series of deployments continued into the spring of 1999.

In February 1999, while the wing served another rotation in Turkey, acts of aggression by Serbia—the core of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia—against its Albanian population in the province of Kosovo resulted in NATO intervention, culminating in Operation ALLIED FORCE.³ Strikes against Serbian targets began on 24 March 1999. Within 72 hours, the 493d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, stationed at Cervia Air Base, Italy, recorded four aerial victories against the enemy. At the same time, the 494th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, operating from Aviano Air Base, employed its precision guided munitions—including the first combat use of a GBU-28 *Bunker Buster* by an Air Force F-15E. Starting in May, the 492d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron launched combat operations directly from RAF Lakenheath, the first sustained combat operations flown from England since World War II.

During the air war over Serbia, the wing deployed 1,011 personnel to 18 different locations. The wing's pilots and aircraft flew combat missions from three locations, using 69 aircraft. Those remaining at RAF Lakenheath not only made up for the work of those deployed, but also launched combat missions. Furthermore, they served as a supply point for their deployed counterparts, sending 3,871 tons of equipment to various locations. In all, the pilots of the 48th serving under expeditionary squadrons flew 2,562 sorties for more than 11,000 combat hours in less than three months, dropping approximately 3 million pounds of munitions and scoring four out of five confirmed Air Force aerial victories.



Remains of a MiG-29, courtesy of the 493d FS

After ALLIED FORCE, the 48th Fighter Wing was given a chance to reconstitute its forces for the first time in six years. During this period, the wing upgraded its F-15E fleet with new Block E-210 models.

At the same time, the wing participated in training with its NATO allies through a series of deployments across continental Europe while receiving USAF and NATO strike evaluations, tactical evaluations, and surety

³ The overall NATO operation was designated ALLIED FORCE, while the US-specific part was called Operation NOBLE ANVIL.

inspections. Yet the wing continued to prepare for future taskings, such as its Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) commitments.

For the first time since the Gulf War, in December 2000, the wing's flying squadrons began deploying to the desert of Southwest Asia. As part of AEFs 2 and 4 respectively, the 494th and 492d Fighter Squadrons served as Operation SOUTHERN WATCH's precision guided munitions squadrons based at Ahmed Al Jabar Air Base, Kuwait. The units employed several munitions against Iraqi targets, racking up 690 sorties for 1,229 hours for the 494th in AEF 2 and 730 sorties for 1,173.9 hours for the 492d in AEF 4.

The 48th Fighter Wing served as the lead wing force provider for the 363d Air Expeditionary Wing at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, during AEF 4. The 493d also deployed to Prince Sultan and served as SOUTHERN WATCH's air superiority squadron, flying 893 sorties for 2,201.9 hours.

After the AEF 4 redeployment in June 2001, the wing moved into its 10-month training period consisting of exercises and inspections, both at home and at events such as Weapons Training Deployments. However, this period was severely interrupted by 11 September 2001.

In response, President George W. Bush initiated Operation ENDURING FREEDOM—air and ground strikes against terrorist organizations and training camps in Afghanistan. “Great harm has been done to us. We have suffered great loss. And in our grief and anger we have found our mission and our moment. Freedom and fear are at war,” stated President Bush.

As part of this operation, the 492d and 493d Fighter Squadrons deployed to support the humanitarian airlift operations from Ramstein Air Base, Germany. The F-15C and F-15E squadrons ensured air superiority and supremacy for C-17 aircraft delivering humanitarian daily rations to Afghan refugees in Afghanistan.

On 21 March 2003, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM began with airstrikes and ground attacks against the Iraqi military. Nearly 500 people from the Liberty Wing served in various roles and locations. Since that time, the 48 FW has continued to deploy to support Air Expeditionary Force commitments in Southwest Asia and Afghanistan, as well as Air Policing missions in Iceland and the Baltics.

Mission changes since the mid-2000s also dictated organizational changes. In 2006, the 56th Rescue Squadron was assigned to the 48 FW after the closure of the NATO base at Keflavik, Iceland. The rescue mission evolved during this time as well as combat rescue officers, pararescuemen and survival, evasion, resistance, and escape specialists were formed into their own Guardian Angel squadrons, separate from the flying squadrons. In February 2015, this was realized at Lakenheath with the activation of the 57th Rescue Squadron. In January 2015, the DoD also announced that two squadrons of the new F-35A *Lightning II* would be assigned to the 48 FW beginning in 2020.



HH-60 water rescue

No matter the challenge—whether conducting strike operations in Iraq or standing guard at RAF Lakenheath’s main gate—the people assigned to the 48th Fighter Wing perform their duties with integrity, selflessness, and excellence, as they will continue to do as the next challenges arise.

History of Royal Air Force Lakenheath



From 1940 until 1945, the Royal Air Force (RAF) constructed more than 500 airfields across the United Kingdom at a cost of more than £1 billion. As part of this incredible civil engineering project, construction on RAF Lakenheath began in late 1940, after the British Government purchased over 1,800 acres of land reserved for the base. However, RAF Lakenheath's military affiliation predated its World War II operational use.

During World War I, the Royal Flying Corps (RFC) established several training areas around Lakenheath Warren, one of which was located across the A1065 roadway from the current perimeter of RAF Lakenheath. A number of RFC units were stationed within several miles of the area with at least two American units attached to the RFC for training. England's first tank trials were conducted near the current location of the Lakenheath Country Club and Clay Target Centre (formerly the Rod and Gun Club) with the First Lord of the Admiralty Winston Churchill in attendance.

As England felt the threat of war from the air in 1940, the Eriswell Low Warren was established as a decoy aerodrome in 1940 for RAF Mildenhall. Featuring fake buildings, a fake runway, and wooden airplanes, the site was initially designated a "K" site as a daytime decoy, but later took on the label of a "K/Q" site for 24-hour operations.

By November 1941, completed construction on RAF Lakenheath included three concrete runways, hangars, and Quonset-style huts. In November, RAF Lakenheath opened as a satellite of RAF Mildenhall, with the first Wellington twin-engined bombers arriving on 24 November 1941.

In January 1942, the RAF's 149 Squadron began to move from the grass runways of RAF Mildenhall to RAF Lakenheath, with its four-engined Stirling bombers. The squadron completed its move on 6 April 1942 and participated in the first "Thousand Bomber Raid" against Cologne, Germany on 30 May 1942.



Sergeant Middleton

During the 149 Squadron's two years of combat operations from RAF Lakenheath, its most highly decorated pilot was an Australian enlisted man, Flight Sergeant Rawdon Hume Middleton. Sergeant Middleton participated in a bombing raid on Fiat factories at Turin, Italy, on 29 November 1942. During the raid, a shell burst near the cockpit hitting Middleton in the face, destroying his jaw and right eye. Nonetheless, Middleton and the co-pilot, who was also injured, limped the broken plane back toward England, until it took another hit near the French

coast. Middleton kept the plane in the air long enough for five of the eight crewmembers to safely bail out. Posthumously, Middleton received the Victoria Cross, the British and Commonwealth equivalent to the US Congressional Medal of Honor. His remains are interred in St. John's Churchyard in Beck Row near RAF Mildenhall.

The 199 Squadron joined 149 at Lakenheath in July 1943 flying Wellingtons and later Stirlings. Both squadrons attacked the German V-weapon development center at Peenemunde, Germany on 17 August 1943. Meanwhile, the 149 and 199 gradually took on a larger role in the mine laying mission, designed to tie up enemy shipping and resources in extensive mine sweeping operations. By the end of 1943, this had become both squadrons' primary mission.

On 1 May 1944, 199 Squadron departed RAF Lakenheath, and by 15 May 149 Squadron also completed its operations. Lakenheath closed for an upgrade to a "Very Heavy Bomber" base, which was not completed until 15 April 1947. During this time, contractors repaired, resurfaced, and extended the runways. The station reopened under the RAF's Bomber Command on 15 April 1947.

In 1948 the first US Air Force personnel and aircraft arrived at RAF Lakenheath, as the US sought to secure its allies in Western Europe during the Cold War. Instead, a war in Asia would move RAF Lakenheath from a site for transitory aircraft on temporary duty (TDY) to a permanent station.

In 1949, the only active unit on the base was the 7504th Base Complement Squadron, analogous to a much smaller version of today's mission support group. The only aircraft on the base belonged to rotational TDY units. A fence had not yet been built to protect RAF Lakenheath's assets, and the Air Force did not formally take control of the base until 1 June 1950.

Within a month of the onset of the Korean War, RAF Lakenheath was brought to full strength and security increased. By August 1950, the base had 29 permanently assigned B-29s and 24 additional B-29s deployed to RAF Lakenheath. These aircraft, along with B-50s



and B-36s, stood watch over Europe for the next three years, in case the Soviet Union decided to take advantage of the force commitment in Korea and launch its own offensive into Europe.

From 25 June 1950 until the cease-fire on 27 July 1953, 18 flying units including the 301st Bomb Wing and 97th Bomb Wing filled the skies with their B-29s and B-50s. Twenty two new support squadrons activated, ranging from the 7504th Food Services Squadron to the 97th Maintenance Squadron. Strategic Air Command took control of the base on 1 May 1951, and RAF Lakenheath was fenced for security in 1952.

From 1953 until 1956, permanently assigned B-47s served at RAF Lakenheath. Temporary duty aircraft included KC-97s and U-2 surveillance aircraft, the latter serving under the 1st Weather Reconnaissance Squadron, supplementing the bombers. Jet fighter aircraft landed at RAF Lakenheath on 15 January 1960, as the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, under the command of Third Air Force and USAFE, arrived.

Since the base was not designed for a large, self-sufficient wing, the 48th's arrival required several major construction projects. Base operations, flying, and maintenance facilities expanded to suit the new mission. By 1958, the first 82 family housing units were completed. Within a year of the wing's arrival, the base theater, junior high school, and high school opened. Over the remainder of the decade "Phase III" housing, the dining hall, hospital, elementary school, bowling alley, and a number of other morale, welfare, and recreation facilities opened.

Construction in the early 1970s brought three-story brick dormitories, a youth center, and an enclosed swimming pool to the base. However, the arrival of F-111 *Aardvarks* in 1977 brought the most meaningful construction since the 48th Fighter Wing's arrival. Most significantly, the aircraft transition required the construction of 60 hardened aircraft shelters, an avionics facility, a command post, and an air alert facility.

With four squadrons of aircraft, the increased base population necessitated an increase in support facilities. In the 1980s, shopping areas were expanded, a new commissary built, and the child development center opened.

Throughout the 1990s, the 48th Fighter Wing worked to replace its deteriorating World War II facilities and upgrade the flying and maintenance areas for the F-15E *Strike Eagles* it received in 1992 and the F-15C/D *Eagles* in 1994. Another major goal was to improve "Quality of Life" facilities, with new "one-plus-one" single-bedroom dormitories, renovated housing units, and improved recreational facilities.



A one-plus-one dormitory under construction in the 1990s

In 2001, RAF Lakenheath still had a number of small, one-story, functionally obsolete structures that occupied a disproportionate land area of the base. In fact, civil engineers classified 21 percent of the buildings on base as substandard, with 62 percent of them unable to be suitably restored. These included 39 Quonset Huts built during World War II as “temporary” facilities designed to last the RAF through the war, yet remained in use sixty years later.

Lakenheath continues to serve as the home of USAFE’s largest fighter wing and home to more than 6,000 active duty Air Force personnel, civilian employees, and their families.



Heritage of Royal Air Force Lakenheath

Lineage of RAF Lakenheath

Initial construction began in June 1941.

Established "Lakenheath RAF Station" on 24 November 1941.

Closed for rebuilding to Very Heavy Bomber station in May 1944.

USAF construction began on 1 July 1948.

USAF occupancy on 27 November 1948.

Formal ownership transferred to USAF on 1 June 1950.

Renamed RAF Lakenheath on 1 June 1950.

RAF Lakenheath Headquarters Units

Royal Air Force

1941-1942: 20th Operational Training Unit

1942-1944: 149 Squadron

1943-1944: 199 Squadron

1944-1948: Inactive

United States Air Force

1948-1949: 7460th Base Complement Squadron

1949-1950: 7504th Base Complement Sq (later, 7504th Air Base Group)

1950-1953: 7504th Air Support Wing

1953-1954: 3913d Air Base Squadron

1954-1955: 321st Bomb Wing

1955: 40th Bomb Wing

1955-1959: 3910th Air Base Group

1960 – present: 48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48th Fighter) Wing

Aircraft

1941-1942: (RAF) Wellington I

1942-1944: (RAF) Stirling I, III

1943-1944: (RAF) Wellington III, X; Stirling III

1948-1950: Boeing B-29 *Superfortress*

1949-1953: Boeing B-50 *Superfortress*

1951-1953: Convair B-36 *Peacemaker*

1953-1955: Boeing KC-97 *Stratofreighter*

1953-1956: Boeing B-47 *Stratojet*

1960-1972: North American F-100 *Super Sabre*

1972-1977: McDonnell Douglas F-4 *Phantom II*

1977-1992: General Dynamics F-111 *Aardvark*

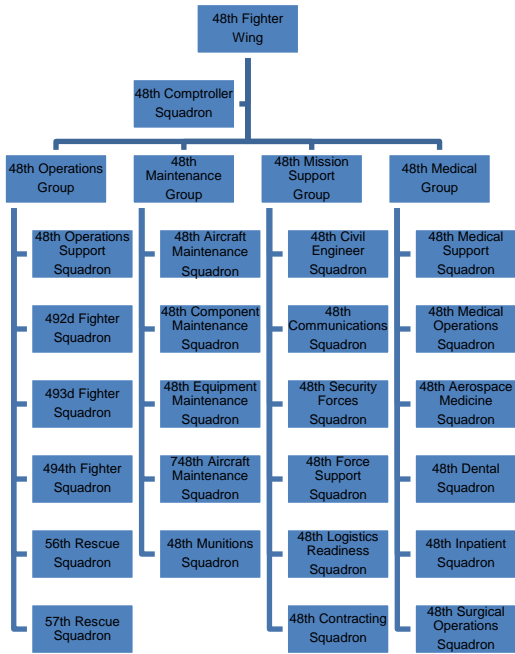
1992 – present: McDonnell Douglas F-15E *Strike Eagle*

1994 – present: McDonnell Douglas F-15C/D *Eagle*

2004 – present: Sikorski HH-60G *Pave Hawk*

48th Fighter Wing Organizational Charts

As of 1 October 2015



The Heritage and Heraldry of the 48th Fighter Wing, Groups, and Squadrons



48th Fighter Wing

Lineage

Established as 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Tactical Fighter Wing on 8 July 1958.

Redesignated 48th Fighter Wing on 1 October 1991.

Assignments

Twelfth Air Force, 10 July 1952; United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), 1 January 1958; Third Air Force, 1 October 1959; United States Air Forces in Europe, 12 October 1959; Seventeenth Air Force, 15 November 1959; Third Air Force, 15 January 1960; Seventeenth Air Force, 1 July 1961; Third Air Force, 1 September 1963; USAFE, 1 November 2005; Air Command Europe, 18 November 2005; Third Air Force, 1 December 2006 – present.

Assigned Components

Groups

48th Air Base (later, 48th Combat Support, 48th Support, 48th Mission Support) Group: 10 July 1952 – present.

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Operations): 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – present.

48th Maintenance and Supply (later, Logistics, Maintenance) Group: 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – present.

USAF Hospital, Lakenheath (later, USAF Regional Hospital, Lakenheath; 48th Tactical Fighter Wing Hospital; 48th Medical Group): 1 July 1971 – present.

85th Operations Group 1 Oct 2004 – 28 June 2006.

Squadrons (only those with assigned aircraft)

492d Fighter Squadron: 8 December 1957 – 31 March 1992.

493d Fighter Squadron: 8 December 1957 – 18 December 1992.

494th Fighter Squadron: 8 December 1957 – 31 March 1992.

495th Tactical Fighter Squadron: 1 April 1977 – 13 December 1991.

56th Rescue Squadron: 28 June 2006.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 June 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Aircraft

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1952-1956: | Republic F-84 <i>Thunderjet</i> and North American F-86 <i>Sabre</i> |
| 1956-1972: | North American F-100 <i>Super Sabre</i> |
| 1972-1977: | McDonnell Douglas F-4 <i>Phantom II</i> |
| 1977-1992: | General Dynamics F-111 <i>Aardvark</i> |
| 1992 – present: | McDonnell Douglas F-15E <i>Strike Eagle</i> |
| 1994 – present: | McDonnell Douglas F-15C/D <i>Eagle</i> |
| 2004 – present | Sikorsky HH-60G <i>Pave Hawk</i> |

Commanders

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Col Robert G. Novotny | 21 July 2014 |
| Col Kyle W. Robinson | 5 April 2012 |
| Col John T. Quintas | 14 June 2010 |
| Col Jay B. Silveria | 29 August 2008 |
| Brig Gen John W. Hesterman III | 5 June 2007 |
| Brig Gen Robert P. Steel | 24 June 2005 |
| Brig Gen Mark T. Matthews | 1 August 2003 |
| Brig Gen John T. Brennan | 9 March 2001 |
| Col Irving L. Halter, Jr. | 31 August 1999 |
| Col Carl E. Van Pelt | 5 February 1998 |
| Col Douglas J. Richardson | 3 July 1996 |
| Col David F. MacGhee, Jr. | 20 September 1994 |
| Brig Gen Kurt B. Anderson | 11 September 1992 |
| Col Dean W. Radueg | 27 July 1992 |
| Col William C. Guth | 10 July 1991 |
| Col Jonas L. Blank, Jr. | 12 December 1990 |
| Col Barry L. Ream | 25 August 1990 |
| Col Thomas J. Lennon | 24 April 1989 |
| Col William M. Douglass | 9 July 1987 |
| Col Thomas J. Barber | 16 June 1986 |
| Col Sam W. Westbrook III | 3 April 1984 |
| Brig Gen Edward R. Bracken | 25 November 1981 |
| Col Thomas A. Baker | 18 June 1980 |
| Brig Gen Buford D. Lary | 26 March 1979 |
| Brig Gen Robert E. Messerli | 17 June 1975 |
| Col Richard H. Head | 18 April 1974 |
| Col John R. Paulk | 21 May 1973 |
| Col Don D. Pittman | 29 March 1971 |
| Col William T. Whisner | 1 February 1970 |
| Col Frank L. Gailer, Jr. | 19 September 1969 |
| Col Henry W. Brown | 2 June 1969 |
| Col Cullen A. Brannon, Jr. | 7 June 1967 |
| Col Edward B. Burdett | 14 July 1965 |
| Col Ross L. Blachly | 3 August 1964 |
| Col Allen P. Rankin | 1 June 1964 |
| Col Robert L. Petit | 6 June 1962 |
| Col Emmett S. Davis | 1 May 1961 |
| Col Victor E. Warford | 4 August 1959 |
| Col Edward F. Roddy | 24 June 1959 |
| Col Stanton T. Smith, Jr. | December 1956 |
| Brig Gen Albert P. Clark, Jr. | 1 August 1955 |
| Col William L. Leverette | 1 June 1955 |
| Col Chesley G. Peterson | 27 May 1953 |
| Col Joseph H. Moore | 10 July 1952 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 – 16 January 1991)

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January – 11 April 1991)

Kovoso:

Noble Anvil (24 March – 20 July 1999)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation: Libya, 10-16 April 1986

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

**[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

*20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

25 August 1990 – 31 March 1991

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 January – 31 December 2008

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

* *Honors earned as the 48TFW (Provisional)*

***Honors Conferred from the 48th Air Expeditionary Wing-Noble Anvil.*

Bestowed Honors

The wing is authorized to display the honors earned by the 48th Operations Group prior to 10 July 1952.

Emblem (Approved on 5 July 1962; modified on 15 June 2007; replaced emblem approved on 20 March 1953).

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 all personnel. The emblem is symbolic of the Wing and its history. On 10 July 1954, the 178th anniversary of United States independence, the Wing was designated as “The Statue of Liberty Wing” in recognition of the long-standing friendship between the United States and France. The thirteen stars surrounding the Statue of Liberty represent the original thirteen colonies of the United States of America.

Designation: “STATUE DE LA LIBERTÉ” [The Statue of Liberty Wing]



48th Comptroller Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Comptroller Squadron and activated on 1 July 1985.

Inactivated on 1 July 1994.

Redesignated 48th Comptroller Flight on 16 June 1995.

Activated on 1 July 1995.

Redesignated 48th Comptroller Squadron on 1 May 1997.

Assignments

48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48th Fighter) Wing, 1 July 1985 – 1 July 1994,

1 July 1995 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 July 1985 – 1 July 1994; 1 July 1995 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Maj Jason L. Schenck | 3 July 2014 |
| Maj Robert C. Clay | 28 June 2012 |
| Maj Brant Clark | 1 July 10 |
| Maj Christopher DeJesus | 2 July 2007 |
| Maj Norman Dozier | 20 July 2004 |
| Maj Michael J. Halloran | 10 July 2001 |
| Maj Mary Ensminger | 13 July 1999 |
| Lt Col Paul G. Hough | 22 July 1997 |
| Maj Diane M. McDaniels | 1 July 1995 |
| Maj Mary C. Roock | 3 May 1991 – 1 July 1994 |
| Capt Jeffrey A. Bryan | 8 March 1991 |
| Maj Mark O. Goble | 3 September 1987 |
| Lt Col Sherry D. Sims | 1 July 1985 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

[1 July 1985] – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

24 March – 10 June 1999

1 Oct 2000-24 Sep 2002

1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004

1 Nov 2005-31 Dec 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (Approved 7 December 1998)

Yellow is an Air Force color. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The wings of the eagle are on a blue disc suggesting a globe and reflect the comptroller's support to expeditionary forces and global air power. The dollar signs encircling the disc indicate the unit's around-the-clock fiscal mastery. The torch represents the unit's dedication, diligence, and commitment to the financial aspects of the squadron's parent organization.

Motto: "FISCALIS VICTORIA" [Fiscal Victory]



48th Maintenance Group

Lineage

Established as 48th Maintenance and Supply Group on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Inactivated on 8 December 1957.

Redesignated 48th Logistics Group and activated on 31 March 1992.

Redesignated 48th Maintenance Group on 25 September 2002.

Assignments

48th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957.

48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48th Fighter) Wing, 31 March 1992 – present.

Assigned Units

48th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron: 25 September 2002 – present.

48th Component Repair (later, 48th Component Maintenance) Squadron:
31 March 1992 – present.

48th Contracting Squadron: 1 October 1993 – 25 September 2002.

48th Logistics Support (later, 48th Maintenance Operations) Squadron:
31 March 1992 – present.

48th Maintenance (later, 48th Field Maintenance, 48th Consolidated Aircraft
Maintenance, 48th Equipment Maintenance) Squadron:
10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – present.

48th Motor Vehicle (later, 48th Transportation) Squadron:
10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – 25 September 2002.

48th Munitions Squadron: 24 January 2003 – present.

48th Supply (later, 48th Logistics Readiness) Squadron:
10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – 25 September 2002.

748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron: 9 November 2009 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957.

RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom, 31 March 1992 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
1 January – 31 December 2007
1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Logistics Group-Noble Anvil.*

Commanders

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Col Brian R. Stuart | 30 June 2014 |
| Col Matthew D. Cox | 8 July 2011 |
| Col Dorothy A. Silvanic | 7 July 2009 |
| Col Marcus F. Novak | 30 August 2007 |
| Col Robert A. Dickmeyer | 10 June 2005 |
| Col David G. Lawson | 6 February 2004 |
| Col Stephen E. Newbold | 6 May 2002 |
| Col Robert Garcia | 27 June 2000 |
| Col David T. Nakyama | 4 June 1998 |
| Col Phillip C. Miller, Jr. | 2 April 1996 |
| Col Gregory A. Halverson | 17 June 1993 |
| Col James R. Coates | 31 March 1992 |
| [15 March 1957: The group discontinued operations in preparation for inactivation.] | |
| Lt Col Leon E. Lincoln, Jr. | 5 January – 15 March 1957 |
| Col George T. Buck | 10 August 1955 |
| Maj Robert E. McGriffin | 25 May 1955 |
| Col Leonidas Baker | 6 April 1953 |
| Lt Col Paul A. McVay | 18 March 1953 |
| Lt Col Alton F. Ackerman | ca. 30 September 1952 |
| Lt Col Paul A. McVay | 10 July 1952 |

Emblem

A group assigned to a wing echelon organization is not authorized its own distinct emblem. Instead, it uses the emblem of the parent establishment with the group's own designation in the scroll.

48th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Organizational Maintenance Squadron and activated on 14 May 1964.

Organized on 1 July 1964.

Discontinued and inactivated on 1 January 1966.

Activated on 1 February 1972.

Redesignated 48th Aircraft Generation Squadron on 31 August 1981.

Inactivated on 31 March 1992.

Redesignated 48th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron on 10 July 2002.

Activated on 25 September 2002.

Assignments

United States Air Forces in Europe, 14 May 1964; 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 July 1964 – 1 January 1966; 48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48 Fighter) Wing, 1 February 1972 – 31 March 1992; 48th Maintenance Group, 25 September 2002 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 July 1964 – 1 January 1966; 1 February 1972 – 31 March 1992; 25 September 2002 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Commanders

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Lt Col Joseph D. Deporter | 10 May 2013 |
| Lt Col Todd W. Andre | 1 July 2011 |
| Maj Tony S. Lombardo | 10 November 2009 |
| Maj Darrin B. Dronoff | 30 June 2009 |
| Maj Matthew C. Finnegan | 18 January 2008 |
| Maj Keith Compton | 5 July 2006 |
| Lt Col Matthew Kmon | 1 July 2004 |
| Lt Col Alvin Porter | 13 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Stephen P. Sheehy | 25 September 2002 |
| Maj Robert M. Ferrera | 18 July 1990 – 31 March 1992 |
| Maj Walter W. Saeger, Jr. | 20 March 1989 |
| Lt Col Daniel G. Joyce | 21 September 1987 |
| Maj Frank E. Pruisssmann | 25 May 1986 |
| Maj John G. Griest | 18 March 1985 |
| Lt Col Larry C. Souder | 1 October 1984 |
| Maj John N. Edenfield | 11 June 1983 |
| Lt Col Robert A. Defee III | 18 June 1982 |
| Lt Col Robert C. Carroll | 20 June 1980 |
| Lt Col Albert R. Schmidt | 11 July 1977 |
| Lt Col James C. Forrest | 31 July 1976 |
| Lt Col Robert M. Greene | 22 July 1974 |
| Lt Col Donald M. Kastilahn | 1 September 1972 |
| Maj Norman H. Rushton | 1 February 1972 |
| Capt Gerald R. Larson | 1 July 1964 – 1 January 1966 |

Emblem (Approved on 14 November 1972)

The emblem is symbolic of the unit, the Air Force, and the national colors. The color blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, and yellow to the sun and the excellence of personnel in assigned tasks. The hand is representative of Air Force personnel carrying the torch of freedom. The stars allude to the aerospace medium in which Air Force operations are carried out. The lightning bolt represents the striking power of the United States Air Force.



748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Lineage

Activated on 9 November 2009. Authority: DAF/A1M Memo 144t, 24 September 2009 and HQ USAFE SO GD-42, 25 Sep 2009

Assignments

48th Maintenance Group, 9 November 2009-present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom, 9 November 2009-present.

Honors

None

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Maj Joseph Stangl | 10 July 2015 |
| Maj Jon A. Mancuso | 13 June 2013 |
| Maj Argie S. Moore | 6 July 2011 |
| Maj Darrin B. Dronoff | 10 November 2009 |

Emblem

None

48th Component Maintenance Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron on
1 October 1958.

Activated on 15 November 1958.

Discontinued and inactivated on 15 January 1962.

Activated on 14 May 1964.

Organized on 1 July 1964.

Redesignated 48th Avionics Maintenance Squadron on 1 January 1969.

Redesignated 48th Component Repair Squadron on 31 August 1981.

Redesignated 48th Component Maintenance Squadron on 25 September 2002.

Assignments

48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48th Fighter) Wing, 15 November 1958 –
15 January 1962; 48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48th Fighter) Wing, 1 July 1964;
48th Logistics (later, 48th Maintenance) Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 15 Nov 1958.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 Jan 1960 – 15 Jan 1962; 1 Jul 1964 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – [15 January 1962]

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968;

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Logistics Group-Noble Anvil*

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Maj Jennifer M. Phillips | 24 June 2015 |
| Maj Mark C. Gray | 18 June 2013 |
| Maj Ronald M. Llantada | 30 June 2011 |
| Maj Richard D. Boatman | 10 November 2009 |
| Maj Tony S Lombardo | 18 January 2008 |
| Maj Matthew C. Finnegan | 29 June 2006 |
| Lt Col Stephen D. Petters | 6 July 2005 |
| Lt Col Ray Lindsay | 13 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Alvin L. Porter | 11 June 2002 |
| Lt Col Stephen P. Sheehy | 22 June 2001 |
| Maj Marcus Novak | 21 July 2000 |
| Maj Callis F. McLain | 10 July 1998 |
| Lt Col John P. Pronk | 17 May 1996 |
| Lt Col Jeffrey M. Snyder | 16 June 1995 |
| Lt Col Timothy P. Ryan | 7 July 1993 |
| Maj Deborah C. Gallo | 8 September 1991 |
| Lt Col Richard T. Holden, Jr. | 18 July 1990 |
| Maj Billy G. Meador | 8 March 1989 |
| Maj William C. Clark | 1 July 1988 |
| Maj Patrick C. Quigley | 1 June 1987 |
| Maj George W. Andren | 23 July 1985 |
| Maj Michael A. Luffred | 14 February 1983 |
| Maj James R. Coates | 18 June 1982 |
| Maj Sam D. Nimmo | 31 August 1981 |
| Lt Col Vernon Handel | 3 July 1980 |
| Lt Col Nelson L. Lovegren | 6 May 1977 |
| Lt Col Leon D. Hobbs | 4 August 1976 |
| Maj Ronald G. Kaylor | 2 June 1976 |
| Maj Louis O. Dewhurst | 27 November 1974 |
| Lt Col Norman G. Cox | 14 February 1972 |
| Capt Anthony A. Lill | 23 October 1970 |
| Maj George E. Spires III | 5 July 1969 |
| Lt Col Joseph J. Kiolbassa | 4 August 1966 |
| 1Lt Stanley R. Morgan | 23 June 1966 |
| Lt Col Gerald B. Robertson | 3 June 1964 |
| Maj Charles M. Mooney | 9 May 1960 – 15 January 1962 |
| Maj Jack H. Kennedy, Jr. | 15 November 1958 |

Emblem (Approved 20 April 1976)

The emblem is symbolic of the unit, the Air Force, and the national colors. Ultramarine blue, red, white, and golden yellow are used in the design. The color blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, as well as being one of the national colors, and golden yellow to the sun and the excellence of the personnel in assigned tasks. Red, as part of the background, is the second national color used. A white sword across the red, gold, and blue background completes the national colors, and is indicative of the strength and capabilities of the squadron. The encircling electrons are indicative of the very nature of the 48th Component Maintenance Squadron's mission. The white banner above the emblem, with the words in blue, "STATUE OF LIBERTY WING," symbolizes that the squadron is an integral part of the 48th Fighter Wing.



48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Maintenance Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Field Maintenance Squadron on 15 November 1954.

Redesignated 48th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron:
15 November 1958.

Redesignated 48th Field Maintenance Squadron on 1 July 1964.

Redesignated 48th Equipment Maintenance Squadron on 31 August 1981.

Assignments

48th Maintenance and Supply Group, 10 July 1952; 48th Fighter Wing,
8 December 1957; 48th Logistics (later, 48th Maintenance) Group, 31 March
1992 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 June 1998

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 Oct 1998 – 30 Sep 2000

1 Oct 2000 – 24 Sep 2002

1 Oct 2002 – 30 Sep 2004
1 Oct 2004 – 31 Oct 2005
1 Nov 2005 – 31 Dec 2006
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2007
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Equipment Maintenance Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Maj Ronald L. Thomas | 9 July 2014 |
| Maj James A. Lovell | 3 October 2012 |
| Maj Anthony R. Deguchi | 17 February 2011 |
| Maj Michael A. Wigen | 30 June 2009 |
| Maj Darin B. Dronoff | 12 July 2007 |
| Lt Col Benjamin Davis | 15 July 2005 |
| Lt Col Stephen B. Lawlor | 19 July 2004 |
| Maj Helen L. Brasher | 31 January 2003 |
| Maj Marcus F. Novak | 22 June 2001 |
| Lt Col Terry W. Williamson | 5 May 2000 |
| Lt Col Charles L. Webb, III | ca. May 1999 |
| Maj Dennis S. Perez | 5 December 1997 |
| Lt Col John P. Harris | 27 June 1996 |
| Maj Arthur B. Cameron, III | 8 April 1994 |
| Maj Stephen J. Milone | 3 February 1992 |
| Maj Russell G. Richardson | 6 December 1990 |
| Maj William C. Clark | 13 March 1989 |
| Maj Walter W. Saeger, Jr. | 11 May 1988 |
| Lt Col Andrew M. Crowe | 1 June 1987 |
| Maj Robert E. George | 15 July 1985 |
| Maj Robert H. Steele | 18 July 1984 |
| Lt Col Jerry P. Wax | 30 July 1983 |
| Lt Col Stephen J. Ratcliffe | 15 March 1982 |
| Maj Gary A. Chabot | 31 August 1981 |
| Maj Robert H. Peterson | 10 July 1980 |
| Lt Col Lowell V. Thomas | 24 February 1978 |
| Maj Earl D. Baker | 7 June 1976 |
| Lt Col Travis D. Dabbs | 6 January 1975 |
| Lt Col Troy L. Caldwell | 1 November 1972 |
| Lt Col Nickolaus A. Kueber | 3 January 1972 |
| Maj Stanley Tufo | 15 December 1969 |
| Lt Col John B. Gipson | 20 January 1967 |
| Maj Marcus W. Galyean | 3 October 1966 |
| Maj James G. Van Patten | 7 December 1965 |
| Maj Arnold H. Echola | 1 July 1964 |
| Maj James R. Curran | June 1963 |
| Maj Stanley Wilkinson, Jr. | 24 May 1960 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Maj Lacy W. White, Jr. | 5 November 1959 |
| Maj George W. Maxon, Jr. | 24 July 1959 |
| Maj Woodrow W. Fry | ca. 1 April 1959 |
| Maj William M. Menaker, Jr. | ca. August 1957 |
| Maj Charles F. Earll | 15 June 1956 |
| Maj Leslie W. Tomlin | 13 December 1955 |
| Capt Harrison B. Lethbridge | 6 August 1955 |
| Maj Arthur W. Kownslar | January 1955 |
| Maj Leslie W. Tomlin | 10 July 1952 |

Emblem (Approved 26 May 2006)

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. The silver wrench represents the superior maintenance mission and performance of the unit. The buff hand symbolizes strength and dexterity in performance of mechanical duties. The black background signifies the ability to fulfill the air mission. The three lightning bolts, blue, yellow, and red represent the fighter squadrons the unit supports.

Motto: "SOUTIEN POUR TOUS" [Support For All]



48th Munitions Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Aviation Depot Squadron on 18 August 1959.

Activated on 1 December 1959.

Redesignated 48th Munitions Maintenance Squadron on 1 July 1960.

Discontinued and inactivated on 1 September 1964.

Activated on 8 October 1972.

Inactivated on 31 August 1981.

Redesignated 48th Munitions Squadron on 17 December 2002.

Activated on 24 January 2003.

Assignments

815th Combat Support Group (operational control by 90th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 28 April – 20 June 1960, and 40th Bombardment Wing, 20-30 June 1960), 1 December 1959.

40th Bombardment Wing, Medium (later, 40th Strategic Aerospace Wing), 1 July 1960 – 1 September 1964.

48th Tactical Fighter Wing, 8 October 1972 – 31 August 1981.

48th Maintenance Group, 24 January 2003 – present.

Stations

Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas, 1 December 1959 – 1 September 1964.

RAF Lakenheath, 8 October 1972 – 31 August 1981; 24 January 2003 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Maj Christopher R. Pustka | 14 July 2015 |
| Maj. Donald W. Newton II | 13 June 2013 |
| Maj Shad K. Colgate | 29 June 2011 |
| Maj Suzanne G. McLaughlin | 24 July 2009 |
| Major Brian Tolson | 14 May 2007 |
| Lt Col John C. Mateer IV | 23 June 2005 |
| Lt Col Stephen D. Petters | 31 July 2003 |
| Lt Col Marcus F. Novak | 31 January 2003 |
| Maj Gary A. Chabot | 10 July – 31 August 1981 |
| Capt Francis L. Graham | 15 May 1981 |
| Maj Henry J. Zabinski | 25 June 1979 |
| Maj Neil W. White | 15 January 1977 |
| Maj Robert H. Myers | 31 August 1973 |
| Lt Col Francis R. Perry | 8 October 1972 |
| Lt Col Basil C. Opalenik | ca. November 1963 – 1964 |
| Lt Col Wesley R. Rhodehamel | 3 April 1962 |
| Maj Howard C. Davies | 19 June 1961 |
| Lt Col John A. Schlupp | January 1960 |
| Capt Dorsey C. Loux | December 1959 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

- 14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977
- 1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980
- 1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
- 1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
- 1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
- 1 January – 31 December 2007
- 1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (Approved 15 Aug 2003)

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. The three black stars represent the three Air Force Specialties forming the composition of the squadron. The lightning bolts stand for honor for the dual capabilities that the unit supports. All elements encompass the true spirit of the unit's motto.

Motto: "LET THEM FEAR US"



48th Medical Group

Lineage

Constituted USAF Hospital, Lakenheath on 14 April 1971.

Activated on 1 July 1971.

Redesignated USAF Regional Hospital, Lakenheath on 20 September 1985.

Redesignated 48th Tactical Fighter Wing Hospital on 1 September 1988.

Redesignated 48th Medical Group on 31 March 1992.

Assignments

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Tactical Fighter, 48th Fighter) Wing,

1 July 1971 – present.

Assigned Units

48th Aerospace Medical Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

48th Dental Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

48th Medical Operations Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

48th Medical Support Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 July 1971 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| Col Pamela D. Smith | 30 June 2014 |
| Col Joseph J. Legan | 11 May 2011 |
| Col Kenneth McDonnell | 9 April 2008 |
| Col Kathleen Dobbs | 7 January 2008 |
| Col Robert I. Miller | 21 June 2005 |
| Col Stephen A. McGuire | 19 August 2002 |
| Col Farley J. Howell | 20 November 2000 |
| Col Cynthia A. Terriberry | 14 March 1999 |
| Col Stephen L. Meigs | 14 March 1997 |
| Col Paul B. Christianson | 20 July 1995 |
| Col John A. Watters, Jr. | 17 July 1992 |
| Col Charles W. Brown III | 8 June 1992 |
| Col Fredrick Fishburn | 7 September 1988 |
| Col Jacob T. Moll | 1 July 1986 |
| Col Robert T. Jones | 23 August 1984 |
| Col Marshall S. Cook | 21 August 1980 |
| Col Robert H. Bonner | 5 August 1977 |
| Col William L. Lee, Jr. | 14 August 1974 |
| Col Esteban A. Alcazar | 15 June 1974 |
| Col Howard R. Unger | 29 July 1972 |
| Col Esteban A. Alcazar | 20 June 1972 |
| Col John R. Troxell | 1 July 1971 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

24 March – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem

A group assigned to a wing echelon organization is not authorized its own distinct emblem. Instead, it uses the emblem of the parent establishment with the group's own designation in the scroll.

48th Aerospace Medicine Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Aerospace Medicine Squadron on 1 August 1994.
Activated on 1 September 1994.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Lt Col Ronald S. Day | 28 August 2015 |
| Col Lynda K. Vu | 23 July 2013 |
| Lt Col Erik K. Koda | 27 July 2011 |
| Col Blake D. Lollis | 23 July 2009 |
| Col Federic A. Marks | 3 July 2007 |
| Col Patrick R. Storms | 11 July 2005 |
| Col Joseph B. Anderson | 8 July 2003 |
| Lt Col Kenneth K. Knight | 9 July 2001 |
| Lt Col Matthew R. Chini | 9 July 1999 |
| Lt Col Richard Bachmann, Jr. | 15 July 1997 |
| Lt Col Jim A. Davis | 18 July 1995 |
| Lt Col Daniel L. Van Syoc | 7 September 1994 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

6 September 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 June 1998

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Equipment Maintenance Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Emblem (Approved 19 March 1997)

Blue and 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. The disc as a globe signifies the unit's worldwide focus of medical services. The red cross, a traditional medical symbol, reflects the services offered by the squadron. The flight symbol alludes to the unit's support of both ground and aerospace forces.

Motto: "KEEP THEM FIT AND FLYING"



48th Dental Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Dental Squadron on 1 August 1994.

Activated on 1 September 1994.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Col Victoria K. Farley | 1 August 2014 |
| Col Scott R. Schubkegel | 3 August 2011 |
| Col John C. Kresin | 14 July 2008 |
| Col Douglas C. Wilson | 30 June 2005 |
| Col James E. King | 3 July 2002 |
| Col Elliot R. Shulman | 5 July 2000 |
| Col Benjamin Blackham | 2 July 1997 |
| Col John W. Shaner | 7 September 1994 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

6 September 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 June 1998

24 March – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (Approved 20 June 2001)

Blue and 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. The torch and flame, symbolic of unit's dedication to the 48th Fighter Wing, represents freedom and enlightenment. The ivory tooth-shaped aura represents the Dental Squadron's unwavering commitment to wartime readiness and peacetime oral health.

Motto: "YOU SMILE BECAUSE WE CARE"



48th Inpatient Squadron

Lineage

Designated 48th Inpatient Squadron on 19 July 2007.
Activated on 19 July 2007.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 19 July 2007 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 19 July 2007 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Lt Col Dawn B. Brooks | 13 July 2015 |
| Col Margaret M. Walsh | 1 August 2013 |
| Col Daniel E. Gerke | 16 June 2011 |
| Col Theresa D. Rodriguez | 21 June 2010 |
| Lt Col Annata Rae Sullivan | 11 June 2009 |
| Col Robert G. Hontz | 19 July 2007 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (approved 23 June 2008).

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. The Air Force Memorial spires represent the core values the squadron lives everyday. The red cross and the serpent entwined on one of the spires (alluding to the Staff of Aesculapius) represent the medical care provided by the unit. The motto “OPTIMOS CURAMUS” translates in English to “We Care for the Best.”



48th Medical Operations Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Medical Operations Squadron on 1 August 1994.
Activated on 1 September 1994.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| Col Jay A. Vietas | 3 August 2015 |
| Col Anderson B. Rowan | 1 June 2012 |
| Col Rebecca L. Brown | 21 May 2009 |
| Col Matthew P. Wicklund | 9 Aug 2005 |
| Col James A. King | 30 Sep 2003 |
| Lt Col Joseph D. Dye | 2 July 2001 |
| Lt Col David M. Jenkins | 2 Sep 1999 |
| Col Linda E. Henderson | 11 Jul 1997 |
| Lt Col Paul R. Ziaya | 17 Nov 1995 |
| Lt Col Albert W. Swanegan | 7 Sep 1994 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

24 March – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

Emblem (Approved 19 March 1997)

Blue and 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. The Statue of Liberty “enlightening the world” represents the unit’s patriotic defense of our constitutional liberties. Its torch is entwined with a serpent, reminiscent of the Staff of Aesculapius. The flame is marked with a red cross. Both are symbols of the medical field and symbolic of the squadron’s medical functions. The stars denote the many medical services provided by the unit.

Motto: “LIBERTY MEDICS”



48th Medical Support Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Medical Support Squadron on 1 August 1994.
Activated on 1 September 1994.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Lt Col Cory L. Baker | 30 Oct 2014 |
| Lt Col Tam T. Dinh | 2 July 2014 |
| Lt Col Gigi A. Simko | 13 July 2011 |
| Lt Col Jeffrey J. White | 25 June 2008 |
| Lt Col Rex A. Langston | 20 June 2006 |
| Lt Col Charles E. Potter | 12 June 2003 |
| Col Robert J. Rennie | 26 July 2001 |
| Lt Col Wilfrid J. Hill | 25 July 2000 |
| Col Steven H. Regner | 11 May 1998 |
| Lt Col James R. Brown | 27 February 1997 |
| Lt Col Jeanie M. Kearney | 7 September 1994 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

- 1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998
- 24 March – 10 June 1999
- 1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000
- 1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
- 1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
- 1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
- 1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
- 1 January – 31 December 2007
- 1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (Approved 26 July 1995)

Blue and 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. The red cross represents the unit's medical mission; the torch describes liberty and the quest for freedom; the swirling arrow signifies the various flights that are united in support of the medical facility.

Motto: "CONSUCIATUS SUFFRAGARI" [United Support]



48th Surgical Operations Squadron

Lineage

Designated 48th Inpatient Squadron on 19 July 2007.

Activated on 19 July 2007.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 19 July 2007 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 19 July 2007 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Lt Col Daniel T. Madsen | 14 July 2014 |
| Lt Col Kristen J. Beals | 27 July 2012 |
| Lt Col Michael J. Higgins | 20 July 2009 |
| Lt Col Thomas W. Harrell | 19 July 2007 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

Emblem (approved 11 February 2008)

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. The red cross represents the squadron's core mission and competency as medics across all medical Air Force Specialty Codes. The flames allude to the fire of combat where the squadron is required to bring its skills, the peril which its patients can be in that requires its intervention and the testing of its ability in delivering absolute superior health care. The eagle rising from the flames alludes to the mythological phoenix representing the squadron's support of the 48th Fighter Wing's primary mission and symbolizes the restoration of health and support of the United States Air Force mission. The motto "VITAM DARE SALUTEM RESTITUERE" translates in English to "Delivering Life Restoring Health."



48th Mission Support Group

Lineage

Established as 48th Air Base Group on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Combat Support Group on 15 January 1962.

Redesignated 48th Support Group on 31 March 1992.

Redesignated 48th Mission Support Group on 25 September 2002.

Assignments

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Tactical Fighter, 48th Fighter) Wing,
10 July 1952 – present.

Assigned Units

48th Air Police (later, 48th Security Police, 48th Security Forces) Squadron:
10 July 1952 – 1 August 1985; 31 March 1992 – present.

48th Communications Squadron: 10 July 1952 – 1 October 1959;
31 March 1992 – present.

48th Contracting Squadron: 25 September 2002 – present.

48th Food Service (later, 48th Services; 48th Morale Welfare Recreation, and
Services; 48th Services, 48th Force Support Squadron) Squadron: 10 July
1952 – 15 January 1962; 1 October 1981 – present.

48th Installations (later, 48th Civil Engineering, 48th Civil Engineer) Squadron:
10 July 1952 – present.

48th Personnel (later, 48th Mission Support) Squadron:
14 November 1986 – 29 July 2008.

48th Supply (later, 48th Logistics Readiness) Squadron:
8 December 1957 – 15 January 1962; 25 September 2002 – present.

48th Transportation Squadron: 8 December 1957 – 24 June 1974

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| Col Michael A. Zrostlik | 24 Aug 2015 |
| Col Mark R. Vandever | 26 July 2013 |
| Col Scott I. Benza | 27 May 2011 |
| Col Cassie B. Barlow | 18 June 2009 |
| Col John G. Clarke | 20 June 2007 |
| Col Amanda Gladney | 11 August 2005 |
| Col Neal B. McElhannon | 28 July 2003 |
| Col Donald M. Palandech | 6 July 2001 |
| Col Mark D. Perodeau | 21 July 1999 |
| Col Stuart M. Ehrlich | 15 July 1997 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| Lt Col Donald A. Gemeinhardt | 28 May 1997 |
| Col Rulon L. Brough | 21 July 1995 |
| Col Larry G. Carter | 14 April 1993 |
| Col Walter E. Buchanan III | 14 July 1992 |
| Col Richard Davis | 23 February 1990 |
| Lt Col Robert M. Timmons | 21 June 1989 |
| Col George D. Westover | 1 July 1988 |
| Col William E. Dunnivant | 1 July 1986 |
| Col Dwight M. Kealoha | 1 June 1985 |
| Col Keith N. Lacey III | 27 January 1984 |
| Col Henry R. Becker | 2 August 1982 |
| Col Merle E. Bollenbach | 9 May 1980 |
| Col James E. Kelm | 8 May 1978 |
| Col Robert I. Paltenberg | ca. 1 December 1975 |
| Col Louis A. Babbitt | 1 June 1974 |
| Col Edward R. Johnston | 10 July 1970 |
| Col Stephen A. Farris, Jr. | 14 August 1968 |
| Col Joseph R. Struby | 1 August 1967 |
| Lt Col David T. Mold | 17 June 1967 |
| Col Robert A. O'Donnell | ca. 1965 |
| Col Robert E. Carlson | 22 July 1963 |
| Lt Col Harold D. Collins | 5 July 1963 |
| Col Evans G. Stephens | 11 July 1960 |
| Lt Col Thomas C. McGuire | 15 January 1960 |
| Col Edward F. Roddy | 1 December 1957 |
| Col William C. Plott | 13 July 1956 |
| Col Theodore H. Runyon | by June 1956 |
| Col William L. Leverette | 22 July 1954 |
| Col Lynn R. Moore | by December 1953 |
| Lt Col Ray A. Robinson, Jr. | 24 July 1953 |
| Col Walter L. Wheeler | 10 July 1952 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia 1990 – 1991

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait 1991

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

*20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

**[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors earned as the 48TFW (Provisional)*

***Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Support Group-Noble Anvil.*

Emblem

A group assigned to a wing echelon organization is not authorized its own distinct emblem. Instead, it uses the emblem of the parent establishment with the group's own designation in the scroll.

48th Civil Engineer Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Installations Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Civil Engineering Squadron on 1 July 1960.

Redesignated 48th Civil Engineer Squadron on 1 March 1994.

Assignments

48th Air Base (later, 48th Combat Support, 48th Support, 48th Mission Support) Group, 10 July 1952 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Commanders

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Lt Col Jonathan E. Byrnes | 30 May 2014 |
| Maj Gregory A. Morissette | 2 August 2012 |
| Lt Col Shawn C. Thompson | 8 July 2010 |
| Lt Col John P. Baker | 3 July 2008 |
| Lt Col Brian C. Murphy | 20 July 2006 |
| Lt Col Roy Agustin | 10 June 2005 |
| Lt Col Dimasalang F. Junio | 4 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Thomas D. Quasney | 21 July 2000 |
| Lt Col Andrew R. Scrafford | 23 July 1997 |
| Maj Joe G. Ballard | 1 June 1997 |
| Lt Col Steven W Zander | 30 June 1994 |
| Lt Col Richard W. Dennis | 10 March 1992 |
| Lt Col Michael J. W. Kaminskas | 25 September 1990 |
| Lt Col Patrick A. Burns | 20 July 1988 |
| Lt Col Chris E. Doepke | 9 June 1987 |
| Lt Col Marcos J. Madrid | 16 May 1985 |
| Maj Raymond J. Coughlin | 17 March 1985 |
| Lt Col Gerald L. Plummer | 4 July 1984 |
| Lt Col Frank D. Abbott | 21 May 1984 |
| Lt Col Marshall W. May, Jr. | 14 August 1981 |
| Lt Col Burrell R. Handy III | 3 August 1978 |
| Lt Col Herman H. Husbands | 13 September 1975 |
| Maj Richard H. Wyatt | 12 July 1972 |
| Maj James H. LaFon | 31 January 1970 |
| Capt Forest A. Nichols | by August 1968 |
| Lt Col J. S. Palmer | by August 1967 |
| Maj John R. Osborn | by July 1966 |
| Capt William W. Farnsworth | by July 1965 |
| Lt Col Jerry S. Hall | by January 1963 |
| Capt Stephen J. Ungvary, Jr. | by July 1962 |
| Lt Col Thomas T. Jackson | ca. December 1959 |
| Maj Gerald J. Urpschot | ca. 18 November 1957 |
| Maj William R. Royal | ca. 1 August 1957 |
| Maj Charles A. Ward, Jr. | by December 1956 |
| 1Lt Travis M. Smith | by June 1956 |
| Capt Charles B. Kochenash | 21 August 1953 |
| Maj Ilbert D. Brayshaw | ca. 23 September 1952 |
| unknown | 10 July 1952 |

Emblem (Approved 8 September 1982)

The statue's torch of freedom that lights the way for the poor, beaten, oppressed, and downtrodden is featured in the center of the cross hairs and is ringed by four symbols that best represent the diverse services that the 48th Civil Engineer Squadron provides. The stack of coins represents the large sum of funds that Civil Engineers are responsible for. The compass symbolizes engineering design. The fireman's hat and ax symbolize fire protection. The house symbolizes the unit's significant facility maintenance and repair efforts and the Base Housing Office. Motto: "WE SERVICE LIBERTY"



48th Communications Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Communications Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Inactivated on 1 October 1959.

Activated on 1 May 1991.

Assignments

48th Air Base Group, 10 July 1952 – 1 October 1959.

48th Fighter Wing, 1 May 1991.

48th Support (later, 48th Mission Support) Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952 – 1 October 1959.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 May 1991 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Maj Ciro E. De La Vega III | 10 July 2014 |
| Maj Joshua H. Rockhill | 2 July 2012 |
| Maj Lamont Atkins | 16 August 2010 |
| Maj Sean Murphy | 10 July 2008 |
| Maj Charmaine L. Martin | 12 July 2006 |
| Maj Jonathan A. Sutherland | 20 July 2004 |
| Maj Anthony J. Thomas | 11 July 2002 |
| Maj Thomas J. Weber | 23 June 2000 |
| Maj Tracy A. Amos | 2 July 1998 |
| Maj Albert P. Zelenak, Jr. | 28 June 1996 |
| Maj Martin Ortogero, Jr. | 18 July 1994 |
| Maj Terry L. Stockholm | 19 June 1992 |
| Maj James H. Gibbs | 1 May 1991 |
| Capt Joseph P. Boucher, Jr. | 1 May 1958 – 1 October 1959 |
| Capt Maurice J. Boots | by October 1955 |
| Capt William H. Osbourne | by December 1952 |
| Capt Guy H. Able, Jr. | 10 July 1952 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

[1]-11 May 1991
1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994
1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996
1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998
1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000
*[14 April] – 10 June 1999
1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
1 January – 31 December 2007
1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48 Expeditionary Communications Squadron-
Noble Anvil.*

Emblem (Approved 3 March 2003)

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. The guardant Wolf Spider represents the constant readiness and air superiority waiting for anyone to challenge it. The lightning flashes symbolize speed and multidirectional reach of modern communications. The far-reaching web represents the web of communications that is in existence.

Motto: “INTUS UMBRA NULLUS” (In the Shadow of None)



48th Contracting Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Contracting Squadron on 27 September 1993.
Activated on 1 October 1993.

Assignments

48th Logistics Group, 1 October 1993.
48th Mission Support Group, 25 September 2002 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 October 1993 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Maj Robert J. Yates III | 13 July 2015 |
| Maj Thomas M. Clohessy | 12 July 2012 |
| Lt Col Raymond L. Reyes | 4 August 2009 |
| Lt Col William J. Lorey | 4 August 2006 |
| Capt Alexander D. Basco | 22 July 2006 |
| Lt Col Julie Wittkoff | 08 July 2004 |
| Maj Joel T. Lagasse | 2 August 2002 |
| Maj Jill E. Stiglich | 1 August 2001 |
| Maj Renee M. Richardson | 18 April 2000 |
| Maj James E. Hurley | 13 June 1998 |
| Maj Arthur J. Brown, III | 19 December 1996 |
| Maj Brenda L. Hazelrig | 27 September 1994 |
| Maj James M. Henson | 1 October 1993 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

[1 October 1993] – 30 June 1994
1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996
1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998
*[14 April] – 10 June 1999
1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000
1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
1 January – 31 December 2007
1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Contracting Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Emblem (approved 23 January 2008)

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. The Statue of Liberty is taken from the emblem of the 48th Fighter Wing in recognition of the squadron's support to the wing. The aircraft flying across the globe and the trailing contrails represent the combat capability made possible through the unit's efforts.



48th Force Support Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Food Service Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 15 January 1962.

Redesignated 48th Services Squadron on 21 August 1981.

Activated on 1 October 1981.

Redesignated 48th Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron on
1 September 1992.

Redesignated 48th Services Squadron on 15 January 1994.

Redesignated 48th Force Support Squadron on 29 July 2008 (absorbed 48th
Mission Support Squadron functions as part of USAFE/A1 realignment)

Assignments

48th Air Base Group, 10 July 1952 – 15 January 1962.

48th Combat Support (later, 48th Support, 48th Mission Support) Group,
1 October 1981 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – 15 January 1962;
1 October 1981 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Maj Sean C. Brazel | 10 July 2015 |
| Lt Col Ryan E. Richardson | 15 July 2013 |
| Lt Col Aimee C. Alvstad | 14 July 2011 |
| Maj Kevin D. Heckle | 29 July 2008 |
| Lt Col Derrick A. Aiken | 7 July 2006 |
| Maj Serena Armstrong | 23 May 2005 |
| Lt Col Kerry L. Beagham | 5 June 2003 |
| Maj Stephen M. Dale | 22 February 2001 |
| Lt Col Melissa R. Kallet | 12 January 2001 |
| Lt Col Kimberly A. Toney | 25 March 1999 |
| Lt Col Michelle S. Atchison | 27 May 1997 |
| Lt Col Michael D. Bradley | 6 May 1997 |
| Maj Michael A. O'Dell | 13 January 1994 |
| Lt Col Lewis E. McBride III | 20 August 1992 |
| Maj Leighton D. Costilow | 17 July 1990 |
| Maj Patricia A. Varner | 28 December 1987 |
| Maj R. T. Parker | 1 November 1986 |
| 1Lt Timothy D. Knipe | 27 June 1986 |
| Capt Ronald D. Rasmussen, Jr. | 15 July 1985 |
| Maj William L. Melrose | 19 November 1982 |

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Maj David F. Honeycutt | 1 October 1981 |
| [unknown 1 Jul 1958 – 15 Jan 1962] | |
| 1Lt Fritz C. Friday | 11 January 1958 |
| 1Lt Earl R. Murphy | 28 November 1957 |
| 1Lt Robert L. Borod | 16 September 1956 |
| 1Lt Howard J. Tyson | 13 July 1955 |
| Maj Hoy C. Cole | 7 June 1955 |
| WOJG Harold L. Brock | by June 1953 |
| 1Lt Kenneth G. Conrad | 10 July 1952 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Services Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Emblem (Approved 29 July 2008)

Blue and yellow are the colors used for Air Force and red symbolizes life and action. Stars are emblematic of Military Leadership and interlacing connotes a strong support. The center star represents the unit and the six sided hexagon refers to the basic functional responsibilities. The three stars upon the trefoils, symbols of unity, represent Consumer Affairs and along with the above symbolize the overall mission of the 48th Services Squadron.

Motto: “SERVICE WITHOUT SERVITUDE”



48th Logistics Readiness Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Supply Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Logistics Readiness Squadron on 25 September 2002.

Assignments

48th Maintenance and Supply Group, 10 July 1952.

48th Air Base Group, 8 December 1957.

48th Fighter Wing, 15 January 1962.

48th Logistics Group, 31 March 1992.

48th Mission Support Group, 25 September 2002 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Supply Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Maj Donald S. Burke | 27 Jul 2014 |
| Maj Jarod P. Blecher | 29 June 2012 |
| Lt Col Adrian M. Crowley | 25 June 2010 |
| Lt Col Deborah L. Kent | 2 July 2008 |
| Lt Col Kevin L. Sampels | 27 June 2006 |
| Lt Col John Waggoner | 10 June 2004 |
| Lt Col Richard E. Czyzewski | 27 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Nancy L. Combs | 10 July 2001 |
| Maj Josephine Racicot | 20 October 1999 |
| Maj Bradley D. Silver | 23 July 1998 |
| Maj Phillip R. Frederick | 12 February 1996 |
| Maj Thomas W. Huber | 12 July 1994 |
| Lt Col Gary T. McCoy | 6 September 1991 |
| Lt Col Melissa M. Williams | 15 August 1988 |
| Lt Col Edward H. Ledell | 5 August 1985 |
| Maj Russell L. Weaver, Jr. | 1 June 1983 |
| Lt Col William M. Newsom | 5 August 1982 |
| Maj Edward E. Dudley II | 1 April 1982 |
| Lt Col Peter G. Stauder | 11 December 1980 |
| Lt Col Meredith W. Mullins | 7 December 1978 |
| Lt Col Robert L. Wielatz | 2 June 1977 |
| Lt Col John D. Messersmith | 15 December 1975 |
| Lt Col Thurston A. Thompson | 15 August 1974 |
| Capt John T. Skinta | 15 April 1974 |
| Maj Hoyt W. Huggins | 8 December 1972 |
| Maj Richard T. Schubert | by June 1971 |
| Maj Leroy F. LeBlanc | 17 February 1970 |
| Maj Alfonse R. W. Channing | October 1968 |
| Lt Col Sidney B. Taylor | December 1966 |
| 1Lt Jerome T. Burns | by 13 July 1965 |
| Capt Joseph H. C. Michaud | 23 May 1964 |
| Capt Max Schneider | ca. January 1963 |
| Maj Edwin L. Atkins | August 1960 |
| Maj Peter P. Zwarych | March 1960 |
| Maj Earl H. Ellis, Jr. | July 1959 |
| Maj Richard W. Stevens | 30 March 1959 |
| Maj Walter E. White | 1 January 1959 |
| Lt Col Leon E. Lincoln, Jr. | 1 February 1956 |
| Capt Kenneth G. Conrad | 1 April 1955 |
| Maj Robert W. McGriffin | by March 1954 |
| Maj Alfred A. Hughes | ca. 1 December 1952 |
| Lt Col Paul A. McVay | 10 July 1952 |

Emblem (Approved 30 December 1968)

Ultramarine blue and golden yellow are the Air Force colors—blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, and yellow to the sun and excellence of personnel in assigned duties. The chain symbolizes the unity of command and strength of the entire Squadron as a unit. The lightning bolts denote speed of response and the four areas symbolize the four cardinal points of the compass representing the unlimited range and purpose relating to the mission of the Squadron.



48th Security Forces Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Air Police Squadron on 25 July 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 48th Security Police Squadron on 1 May 1967.

Redesignated 48th Security Forces Squadron on 1 July 1997.

Assignments

48th Air Base Group, 10 July 1952.

7348th Security Police Group, 1 August 1985.

48th Security Police Group, 21 October 1988.

48th Support (later, 48th Mission Support) Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Commanders

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Maj Tara L. Opielowski | 19 June 2015 |
| Lt Col Derrick J. Weyand | 25 July 2013 |
| Lt Col Paul D. Cairney | 15 June 2011 |
| Lt Col Michael D. Ross | 6 August 2009 |
| Lt Col John Northon | 25 July 2007 |
| Lt Col Scott Enold | 21 July 2006 |
| Lt Col Kenneth D. Ribler | 16 July 2004 |
| Lt Col William P. Delaney | 22 May 2002 |
| Maj William Brooks | 11 March 2002 |
| Maj William R. Renfroe | 23 July 1999 |
| Lt Col James Peck | ca. July 1997 |
| Lt Col Kevin C. Andersen | 7 July 1995 |
| Lt Col Robert F. Byrd | 12 June 1993 |
| Lt Col James A. Thomas III | 4 December 1991 |
| Capt Billy R. Gibson | 18 March 1991 |
| Capt Mike S. Mireless | 25 February 1991 |
| Capt Brian E. Fazenbaker | 19 January 1990 |
| Capt Billy R. Gibson | 19 December 1989 |
| Capt Kurt C. Fecht | 5 January 1986 |
| Capt John C. D'Auria | 1 August 1985 |
| Lt Col Frank M. Willingham, Jr. | 10 April 1984 |
| Capt John W. McCoy | 23 November 1983 |
| Maj John C. Walsh | 15 June 1982 |
| Lt Col Joseph P. Brooks, Sr. | 23 May 1980 |
| Lt Col Theodore H. Koch, Jr. | 31 August 1978 |
| Lt Col Paul E. Samulski | 27 June 1977 |
| Maj David J. Smith | 20 August 1975 |
| Capt Gene A. Ansorge | 19 May 1975 |
| Capt Timm G. Engh | 16 January 1974 |
| Maj Robert H. Moon | 1 February 1973 |
| Capt John R. McElhaney | by July 1969 |
| Capt Richard J. Carpenter, Jr. | 1 May 1969 |
| Capt Roland J. Simmons | November 1968 |
| 1Lt William D. Doran | by August 1967 |
| Lt Col Joseph V. Sinnett, Jr. | 5 August 1966 |
| 1Lt William D. Doran | 26 January 1966 |
| CWO W4 Ralph E. McCarthy | 15 December 1965 |
| Maj William G. Petit | 8 June 1965 |
| Maj Karl T. A. Moravek | ca. 15 August 1962 |
| Capt Kenton D. Miller | by July 1960 |
| Capt Richard B. Jenkins | 29 December 1958 |
| 1Lt Peter S. Conover | 17 February 1958 |
| Maj Earl H. Ellis, Jr. | 1 October 1957 |

1Lt Peter S. Conover
Maj Richard H. Collins
1Lt Bernard B. Carroll
Maj Howard W. Densford
Capt Donald E. Collins

24 May 1956
by September 1954
by December 1953
ca. 1 December 1952
10 July 1952

Emblem (Approved 23 April 1964)

The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission. The encircling olive branches depict honor and the red rim valor. The two shades of blue in the background represent 24 hour night and day protection. The armored fist alludes to power and protection, the sword to justice, the lightning bolts as a striking force. The wings depict peace and the 48 stars allude to the number of the unit. The emblem bears our national colors, red, white and blue, to reflect patriotism and the Air Force colors, ultramarine blue and golden yellow, to indicate the unit is an integral part of the United States Air Force.

Motto: "PARATI PRO RE IMPROVISA" [Prepared For The Unexpected]



48th Operations Group

Lineage

Established as 48th Bombardment Group (Light) on 20 November 1940.
Activated on 15 January 1941.
Redesignated 48th Bombardment Group (Dive) on 28 August 1942.
Redesignated 48th Fighter-Bomber Group on 15 August 1943.
Redesignated 48th Fighter Group on 30 May 1944.
Inactivated on 7 November 1945.
Redesignated 48th Fighter-Bomber Group on 25 June 1952.
Activated on 10 July 1952.
Inactivated on 8 December 1957.
Redesignated 48th Tactical Fighter Group on 31 July 1985.
Redesignated 48th Operations Group on 1 March 1992.
Activated 31 March 1992.

Assignments

15th Bombardment Wing, 15 January 1941.
II Air Support (later, II Ground Air Support) Command, 1 September 1941.
XII Bomber Command, 2 May 1942.
III Bomber Command, 8 May 1942.
III Ground Air Support (later, III Air Support) Command, 10 August 1942.
III Fighter Command, 6 August 1943 (attached to I Air Support Command for operation control, 10 Sep 1943 – 14 Jan 1944).
IX Air Support (later, IX Tactical Air) Command, 31 March 1944.
XXIX Tactical Air Command (Provisional), 22 October 1944.
IX Fighter Command, 1 December 1944.
IX Tactical Air Command, 16 January 1945.
XIX Tactical Air Command, 28 April – August 1945.
First Air Force, 9 September – 7 November 1945.
48th Fighter-Bomber Wing, 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957.
48th Fighter Wing, 31 March 1992 – present.

Assigned Units

48th Operations Support Squadron: 31 March 1992 – present.
56th Rescue Squadron: 28 June 2006 – present.
492d Fighter Squadron: 15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945; 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – present.
493d Fighter Squadron: 15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945; 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 1 January 1994 – present.
494th Fighter Squadron: 15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945; 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957; 31 March 1992 – present.
495th Fighter Squadron: (attached 15 January 1941) 15 August 1941 – ca. 31 March 1944.

Stations

Savannah, Georgia, 15 January 1941.
Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, 26 May 1941.
Savannah, Georgia, 7 February 1942.
Key Field, Mississippi, 28 June 1942.
William Northern Army Airfield, Tennessee, 20 August 1943.
Waterboro Army Airfield, South Carolina, 27 January – 13 March 1944.
Ibsley, England, 31 March 1944.
Deux Jumeaux, France, 18 June 1944.
Villacoublay, France, 29 August 1944.
Cambrai/Niergnies, France, 15 September 1944.
St. Trond, Belgium, 30 September 1944.
Kelz, Germany, 26 March 1945.
Kassel, Germany, 17 April 1945.
Illesheim, Germany, 29 April 1945.
Laon, France, 5 July – August 1945.
Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 9 September – 7 November 1945.
Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952 – 8 December 1957.
RAF Lakenheath, England, 31 March 1992 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Col Scottie L. Zamzow | 25 July 2014 |
| Col Mark H. Slocum | 20 July 2012 |
| Lt Col Clinton A. Mixon | 27 June 2012 |
| Col Daniel J. Orcutt | 30 July 2010 |
| Col John T. Quintas | 11 July 2008 |
| Col Garvin A. McGettrick | 29 June 2006 |
| Col Ronald K. Laughbaum | 13 August 2004 |
| Col William J. DelGrego | 19 July 2002 |
| Col Benjamin G. Hensley | 28 November 2000 |
| Col Jack B. Egginton | 3 November 1999 |
| Col Steven D. Eddy | 20 April 1998 |
| Col Norman R. Seip | 22 February 1997 |
| Col Kenneth M. DeCuir | 22 July 1994 |
| Col Steven L. Turner | 4 May 1993 |
| Col Glen W. Moorehead | 4 May 1992 |
| Col Patrick F. Nolte | 31 March 1992 |
| Lt Col Thomas N. Hergert | by June 1956 – 8 Dec 1957 |
| Lt Col John D. McFarlane | by September 1955 |
| Col Arthur D. Thomas | by December 1954 |
| Col Frank A. Hill | ca. October 1953 |
| Lt Col Arthur D. Thomas | ca. 17 May 1953 |
| Col Chesley G. Peterson | 10 July 1952 |
| Lt Col Paul P. Douglas, Jr. | 28 June 1945 – 7 November 1945 |
| Lt Col Harold L. McNeely | 8 June 1945 |
| Col James K. Johnson | November 1944 |

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Col George L. Wertenbaker | 23 April 1944 |
| Col Dixon M. Allison | 8 November 1943 |
| Lt Col Charles C Kegelman | May – October 1943 |
| Lt Col Preston P. Pender | February – April 1943 |
| Col Norman R. Burnett | February 1942 – January 1943 |
| Lt Col Bernard S. Thompson | 15 January 1941 |

Aircraft

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1941: | Douglas A-20 <i>Havoc</i> Curtiss A-18 <i>Shrike</i> |
| 1942-1944: | Douglas A-20 <i>Havoc</i> Douglas A-24 <i>Dauntless</i> Vultee A-31 <i>Vengeance</i> Vultee A-35 <i>Vengeance</i> North American A-36 <i>Apache</i> Bell P-39 <i>Airacobra</i> Curtiss P-40 <i>Warhawk</i> |
| 1944-1945: | Republic P-47 <i>Thunderbolt</i> |
| 1952-1956: | Republic F-84 <i>Thunderjet</i> North American F-86 <i>Sabre</i> |
| 1956-1957: | North American F-100 <i>Super Sabre</i> |
| 1992: | General Dynamics F-111 <i>Aardvark</i> |
| 1992 – present: | McDonnell Douglas F-15E <i>Strike Eagle</i> |
| 1994 – present: | McDonnell Douglas F-15C/D <i>Eagle</i> |
| 2004 - present | Sikorsky HH-60G <i>Pave Hawk</i> |

Honors

Service Streamers. None.

Campaign Streamers.

World War II American Theater:

Antisubmarine 1941 – 1945

World War II European-African-Middle Eastern (EAME) Theater:

Air Offensive, Europe 1942 – 1944

Normandy 1944

Northern France 1944

Rhineland 1944-1945

Ardennes-Alsace 1944 – 1945

Central Europe 1945

Air Combat, EAME

Kosovo

Noble Anvil (24 Mar – 20 Jul 1999)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 6 December 1944

Cited in the Orders of the Day, Belgian Army:

6 June – 30 September 1944

1 October – 17 December 1944

18 December 1944 – 15 January 1945

Belgian Fourragere.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 Apr] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Operations Group-Noble Anvil.*

Emblem

A group assigned to a wing echelon organization is not authorized its own distinct emblem. Instead, it uses the emblem of the parent establishment with the group's own designation in the scroll.

48th Operations Support Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Operations Support Squadron.
Activated on 31 March 1992.

Assignments

48th Operations Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 31 March 1992 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Lt Col Roy P. Recker | 21 May 2015 |
| Lt Col Christopher J. Russell | 11 July 2013 |
| Lt Col Brian P. Afflerbaugh | 7 September 2012 |
| Lt Col Christopher S. Desalle | 2 September 2010 |
| Lt Col Brent R. Vosseller | 25 September 2009 |
| Lt Col Mark Ciero | 29 May 2008 |
| Lt Col Houstoun Waring | 31 May 2007 |
| Lt Col Joe Beissner | 9 June 2006 |
| Lt Col Kevin McElroy | 24 June 2004 |
| Lt Col John P. Powell | 30 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Richard Horan | 21 June 2002 |
| Lt Col David K. Gerber | 8 March 2001 |
| Lt Col Marc Luiken | 21 January 2000 |
| Lt Col Robert H. Lemmon | 13 August 1998 |
| Lt Col Richard L. Martin II | 12 August 1997 |
| Lt Col Gregory E. Lowrimore | 30 July 1996 |
| Lt Col Gregory M. Brown | 20 July 1995 |
| Lt Col Robert C. Grosvenor | 6 May 1994 |
| Lt Col John A. Snider | 31 March 1992 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

[1 October 1993] – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[14 April] – 10 June 1999

1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002

1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron- Noble Anvil. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award:*

Emblem (Approved 5 June 1995)

Blue and 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. The eagle represents the United States Air Forces in Europe and denotes the squadron's direct support to the fighter squadrons of its parent wing. The three stars stand for truth, honor, and knowledge and reflect the dedicated personnel of the 48th Operations Support Squadron.



56th Rescue Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 56th Air Rescue Squadron on 17 Oct 1952.

Activated on 14 Nov 1952.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 18 Mar 1960.

Activated on 8 Jul 1972.

Redesignated 56th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron on 10 Jul 1972.

Inactivated on 15 Oct 1975.

Activated on 1 May 1988.

Redesignated: 56th Air Rescue Squadron on 1 Jun 1989; 56th Rescue Squadron on 1 Feb 1993.

Assignments

7th Air Rescue Group, 14 Nov 1952 (attached for operational control to 5th Air Division, 14 Nov 1952 - 28 Feb 1953).

12th Air Rescue Group, 8 Dec 1956.

Air Rescue Service, 18 Feb 1958-18 Mar 1960 (attached to Detachment 3, 8th Air Rescue Group [European Rescue Operations Center], 18 Feb 1958-18 Mar 1959 and to Detachment 3, Air Rescue Service [European Recovery Operations Center], 18 Mar 1959-18 Mar 1960).

3d Aerospace rescue and Recovery Group, 8 Jul 1972.

41st Aerospace Rescue and Recovery (later, 41st Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance) Wing (attached to 3d Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Group) 20 Aug 1972-15 Oct 1975.

39th Special Operations Wing, 1 May 1988.

41st Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Apr 1989.

Air Rescue Service, 1 Aug 1989.

Air Forces Iceland, 1 Feb 1993.

35th Operations Group, 31 May 1993.

85th Operations Group, 1 Oct 1994.

85th Group, 1 Jul 1995.

48th Operations Group, 28 Jun 2006.

Stations

Sidi Slimane, French Morocco, 14 Nov 1952 – 18 March 1960

Korat RTAFB, Thailand, 8 Jul 1972 – 15 Oct 1975

Keflavik, Iceland, 1 May 1988 – 28 Jun 2006

RAF Lakenheath, 28 June 2006 – present

Commanders

Lt Col Jared D. Herbert 26 Nov 2013

Lt Col Bradley F. Dow 27 May 2011

Lt Col Steven C. Gregg 9 June 2010

Lt Col Neil P. Eisen 4 December 2008

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Lt Col Steven Huss | 6 June 2007 |
| Lt Col Thomas M. Greetan | 7 December 2005 |
| Lt Col Thomas J. Sexton | 25 June 2004 |
| Lt Col David A. Duke | 21 February 2003 |
| Lt Col Keith H. McCready | 8 June 2001 |
| Lt Col Richard W. Leibach | 4 June 1999 |
| Lt Col William F. Dunn, Jr. | 1 July 1997 |
| Lt Col Jerry F. Miller | 3 July 1996 |
| Lt Col Robert P. Donnelly | 28 July 1995 |
| Lt Col Gary L. Copsy | 30 June 1994 |
| Lt Col James A. Sills | 26 February 1993 |
| Lt Col Jerry W. Cruit | 8 June 1992 |
| Lt Col Dale A. Kissinger | 10 October 1990 |
| Lt Col Gary L. Robinson | 20 August 1989 |
| Lt Col Charles W. Griffin | 1 July 1988 |
| Lt Col William L. Schaefer | 1 May 1988 |
| Unmanned | 1 – 15 October 1975 |
| Lt Col Walter L. Lindsey | 20 July 1975 – 30 September 1975 |
| Lt Col Chester G. Oehme | 23 August 1974 |
| Lt Col Robert G. Bullington | 30 September 1973 |
| Lt Col Edgar L. Allison | 26 May 1973 |
| Lt Col Billy R. McGee | 19 March 1973 |
| Lt Col Dale A. McGuire | 31 December 1972 |
| Unknown | 10 July 1972 – 30 December 1972 |
| Lt Col Harry N. Young | 1 July 1959 – 18 March 1960 |
| Lt Col John F. Zinn Jr. | 10 July 1958 |
| Lt Col John T. Burke | 8 March 1956 |
| Lt Col Edward T. Davis | 7 May 1954 |
| Lt Col Edmund D. Berry III | 25 June 1953 |
| Lt Col William P. Armstrong | 14 November 1952 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None.

Campaign Streamers. Vietnam: Vietnam Ceasefire.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None.

Decorations.

Presidential Unit Citation:

Southeast Asia, 8 Jul 1972-27 Jan 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 Aug 1991 – 31 May 1993

1 Jun 1993 – 31 Jul 1994

1 Oct 1994 – 31 May 1996

1 Jun 1996 – 31 May 1997

1 Jun 1997 – 31 May 1998

1 Jun 1998 – 31 May 1999

1 Jun 2000 – 31 May 2001

1 Jun 2001 – 31 May 2002
1 Jun 2002 – 30 Sep 2003
1 Oct 2003 – 30 Sep 2004
1 Oct 2004 – 31 Oct 2005
1 Nov 2005 – 31 Dec 2006
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2007
1 Jan – 31 Dec 2008

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm:

8 Jul 1972-28 Jan 1973.

Aircraft

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 1952-1953 | H-5 <i>Dragonfly</i> |
| 1952-1960 | SA-16 <i>Albatross</i> |
| 1953-1956 | SC-47 <i>Gooney Bird</i> |
| 1953-1960 | SH-19 <i>Chickasaw</i> |
| 1972-1975 | HC-130 <i>King</i> |
| 1972-1975 | HH-43 <i>Huskie</i> |
| 1988-1992 | HH-3 <i>Jolly Green Giant</i> |
| 1992-present: | HH-60 <i>Pave Hawk</i> |

Emblem (Approved 31 March 1989; modified on 30 April 2007).

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. The globe represents day and night rescue capabilities the unit performs for all nations. The sword and wings signify the strength and wisdom needed to fly in the harsh Icelandic environment. The ray of light indicates hope for those in desperate need.



57th Rescue Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 57th Air Rescue Squadron on 17 Oct 1952.

Activated on 14 Nov 1952.

Redesignated 57th Air Recovery Squadron on 1 Jul 1965.

Redesignated 57th Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron on 8 Jan 1966.

Inactivated on 1 Dec 1972.

Activated on 18 Feb 2015.

Redesignated: 57th Rescue Squadron on 18 Feb 2015.

Assignments

7 Air Rescue Group, 14 Nov 1952 (attached to Commander in Chief, USAFE, 14 Nov 1952

Atlantic Division, Military Air Transport Service, 1 Aug 1954-7 Sep 1955)

9 Air Rescue Group, 8 Sep 1955

Air Rescue (later, Aerospace Rescue & Recovery) Service, 24 Jun 1958

Atlantic Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Center, 1 Apr 1967

40 Aerospace Rescue & Recovery Wing, 7 Feb 1969-1 Dec 1972

48th Operations Group, 18Feb 2015.

Stations

Lajes Field, Azores, 14 Nov 1952-1 Dec 1972.

RAF Lakenheath, 18 Feb 2015 – present

Commanders

Lt Col Jose L. Cabrera 18 May 2015

Maj Patrick E. Gruber 18 Feb 2015

Honors

Service Streamers. None.

Campaign Streamers. None.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None.

Decorations.

Navy Meritorious Unit Citation:

1 Jul 1967-26 Jul 1969

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 Jun 1959-31 Dec 1963

1 Jul 1965-30 Jun 1967

8 Feb 1969-30 Apr 1970

1 May 1971-30 Apr 1972

Aircraft

1952-1956 SB-17

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| 1956-1965 | SC-54 |
| 1956-1964 | SH-19 |
| 1965-1972 | SC-130 |

Emblem (Approved 31 July 1969).
 UNDER REVISION AS OF OCTOBER 2015

The divided blue and gold background is indicative of the unit's night and day mission capability. The organization's Air Force Outstanding Unit Award is commemorated by the large white star. The latter also represents Polaris, the mariner's guiding star, to signify the unit's aircraft interception and guidance service. The erne, a sea eagle, noted for its accuracy, speed, and ability to range great distances, depicts the Squadron's seabound location. The silver flight symbol it raises denotes the effective recovery system for retrieval of Air Force equipment and personnel. The nine green islands depict the Azores (the Squadron's location) and land rescue and recovery missions. The blue sea depicts the Squadron's sea rescue and recovery missions. The two constellations, composed of five and seven stars respectively, allude the Squadron's numerical designation. The emblem bears the Air Force colors golden yellow and ultramarine blue.



492d Fighter Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 55th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 20 November 1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 55th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 28 August 1942.

Redesignated 492d Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 10 August 1943.

Redesignated 492d Fighter Squadron, Single Engine, on 30 May 1944.

Inactivated on 7 November 1945.

Redesignated 492d Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 492d Tactical Fighter Squadron on 8 July 1958.

Redesignated 492d Fighter Squadron on 1 October 1991.

Assignments

48th Bombardment (later, 48th Fighter-Bomber; 48th Fighter) Group

15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945.

48th Fighter-Bomber Group, 10 July 1952.

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Tactical Fighter, 48th Fighter) Wing,

8 December 1957 (attached to 48th Fighter Wing [Provisional],

2 September 1990 – 15 March 1991 and 7440th Composite Wing,

September – December 1991);

48th Operations Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

Savannah, Georgia, 15 January 1941.

Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, 23 May 1941.

Savannah, Georgia, 7 February 1942.

Key Field, Mississippi, 28 June 1942.

William Northern Field, Tennessee, 20 August 1943.

Walterboro Army Airfield, South Carolina, 27 January – 13 March 1944.

Ibsley, England, 29 March 1944.

Deux Jumeaux, France, 18 June 1944.

Villacoublay, France, 29 August 1944.

Cambrai/Niergnies, France, 15 September 1944.

St Trond, Belgium, 30 September 1944.

Kelz, Germany, 26 March 1945.

Kassel, Germany, 18 April 1945.

Illesheim, Germany, 25 April 1945.

Laon, France, 5 July – August 1945.

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 9 September – 7 November 1945.

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 11 January 1960 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Lt Col Richard P. Carver | 6 December 2013 |
| Lt Col John T. Orchard, Jr. | 10 February 2012 |
| Lt Col Clinton A. Mixon | 26 February 2010 |
| Lt Col David R. Iverson | 3 November 2008 |
| Lt Col Christopher Short | 21 November 2007 |
| Lt Col Troy Stone | 2 November 2006 |
| Lt Col James McGovern | 30 June 2005 |
| Lt Col Christopher P. Dinenna | 22 January 2004 |
| Lt Col Jay B. Silveria | 17 May 2002 |
| Lt Col Steven L. Kwast | 5 January 2001 |
| Lt Col Robert E. Suminsby | 23 July 1999 |
| Lt Col William G. Polowitzer III | 17 March 1997 |
| Lt Col George T. Doran | 26 June 1995 |
| Lt Col Mark D. Rogers | 24 March 1994 |
| Lt Col James F. Slaton | 15 January 1993 |
| Lt Col William D. Carpenter | 6 May 1992 |
| Lt Col Gale W. Larson | 9 November 1990 |
| Lt Col James E. Brechwald | 26 May 1989 |
| Lt Col Thomas G. Runge | 6 November 1987 |
| Lt Col Donald A. Lamontagne | 31 July 1986 |
| Lt Col Robert P. Andrews | 11 January 1985 |
| Lt Col Vernon Handel | 11 February 1983 |
| Lt Col Donald R. Joyner | 2 July 1981 |
| Lt Col John R. Harris | 25 July 1979 |
| Lt Col Richard R. O'Conner | 21 July 1977 |
| Lt Col Richard A. Bedarf | 20 July 1975 |
| Lt Col Sidney J. Wright | 17 April 1973 |
| Lt Col Charles M. Zeitner | 1 November 1971 |
| Lt Col Edward E. Seaman | 30 March 1971 |
| Lt Col Alan B. Engle | ca. 15 April 1969 |
| Maj Robert H. Savage | ca. 15 January 1969 |
| Lt Col William E. Skinner | March 1968 |
| Lt Col Horace S. Reece | December 1966 |
| Maj Robert Marshall | August 1966 |
| Lt Col Raymond Waski | 24 June 1966 |
| Lt Col Winfield W. Scott, Jr. | Spring 1964 |
| Maj Roy J. Girard | ca. July 1963 |
| Maj John J. Innis | April 1959 |
| Lt Col Albert W. Fell | September 1958 |
| Lt Col Niel J. Graham | By 1 April 1956 |
| Lt Col Thomas M. Hergert | By 1 October 1955 |
| Maj John E. Tuchsén | Prior to 1 July 1955 |
| Maj Donald J. Gravenstine | December 1953 |
| Lt Col William A. Norris | March 1953 |
| Maj Saryl C Austin, Jr. | 10 July 1952 |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Major Norman S. Orwat | 19 February 1945 – ca. November 1945 |
| Capt James M. Updike | 10 November 1944 |
| Major Thomas M. Tierney | 7 November 1944 |
| Capt Jerome C. McCabe | 7 December 1943 |
| Capt Byron H. Fornman | 4 March 1943 |
| Capt Samuel R. Beckley | 1 January 1943 |
| 1Lt Samuel Hanley | 31 July 1942 |
| 1Lt William C. Hunter | 7 April 1942 |
| 1Lt Charles G. Ketelman | 4 February 1942 |
| Maj Clinton V. True | 16 January 1942 |
| Maj Norman R. Burnett | 7 December 1941 |
| 1Lt Robert F. Strickland | 23 May 1941 |
| unknown | 15 January 1941 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

World War II:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Antisubmarine, American Theater | Rhineland |
| Air Offensive, Europe | Ardennes-Alsace |
| Normandy | Central Europe |
| Northern France | Air Combat, EAME Theater |

Kosovo

Noble Anvil (24 Mar – 20 Jul 1999, honors conferred from 492nd

Expeditionary Fighter Squadron)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citations:

European Theater of Operations, 15 October 1944

Germany, 6 December 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 20 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996

1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998

1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000

*[21 April] – 10 June 1999
 1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
 1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
 1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
 1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2007
 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 492d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron-Noble Anvil.
 Cited in the Orders of the Day, Belgian Army:*

6 June – 30 September 1944
 1 October – 17 December 1944
 18 December 1944 – 15 January 1945

Belgian Fourragere

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 – 16 January 1991)
 Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January – 11 April 1991)

Aerial Victory Credits

World War II

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Date of Action</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1Lt Walter B. Forbes | 1.0 | 21 September 1944 |
| 1Lt Luther P. Hoesten | 0.5 | 21 September 1944 |
| 2Lt Phillip J. Beisner | 1.0 | 21 September 1944 |
| 2Lt Vincent A. Bower | 0.5 | 21 September 1944 |

Aircraft

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1941: | Curtiss A-18 <i>Shrike</i> |
| 1941 – 1942: | Douglas A-20 <i>Havoc</i> |
| 1942 – 1943: | Vultee A-35 <i>Vengeance</i> |
| 1943: | Curtiss P-40 <i>Warhawk</i> |
| 1943 – 1944: | Bell P-39 <i>Airacobra</i> |
| 1944 – 1945: | Republic P-47 <i>Thunderbolt</i> |
| 1952 – 1954: | Republic F-84 <i>Thunderjet</i> |
| 1953 – 1956: | North American F-86 <i>Sabre</i> |
| 1956 – 1972: | North American F-100 <i>Super Sabre</i> |
| 1972 – 1979: | McDonnell Douglas F-4 <i>Phantom II</i> |
| 1977 – 1992: | General Dynamics F-111 <i>Aardvark</i> |
| 1992 – present: | McDonnell Douglas F-15E <i>Strike Eagle</i> |

Emblem (Originally approved 25 February 1943. Replaced by another emblem 9 June 1964. modified 11 February 2005)

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. The Kestrel, a type of falcon which, when angered or hungry attacks by diving fiercely on its prey. The bomb and bomb sight are indicative of the squadron's mission. The grim expression of the Kestrel depicts the unit's resolution to destroy its objectives.



493d Fighter Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 56th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 20 November 1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 56th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 28 August 1942.

Redesignated 493d Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 10 August 1943.

Redesignated 493d Fighter Squadron, Single Engine, on 30 May 1944.

Inactivated on 7 November 1945.

Redesignated 493d Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 493d Tactical Fighter Squadron on 8 July 1958.

Redesignated 493d Fighter Squadron on 1 October 1991.

Inactivated on 19 December 1992.

Activated on 1 January 1994.

Assignments

48th Bombardment (later, 48th Fighter-Bomber; 48th Fighter) Group,
15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945.

48th Fighter-Bomber Group, 10 July 1952,

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Tactical Fighter; 48th Fighter) Wing,

8 December 1957 – 18 December 1992 (attached to 48th Fighter Wing
[Provisional], 2 September 1990 – 15 March 1991 and 7440th Composite Wing,
September – December 1991).

48th Operations Group, 1 January 1994 – present.

Stations

Savannah, Georgia, 15 January 1941.

Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, 23 May 1941.

Savannah, Georgia, 7 February 1942.

Key Field, Mississippi, 28 June 1942.

William Northern Field, Tennessee, 20 August 1943.

Walterboro Army Airfield, South Carolina, 27 January – 13 March 1944.

Ibsley, England, 29 March 1944.

Deux Jumeaux, France, 18 June 1944.

Villacoublay, France, 29 August 1944.

Cambrai/Niergnies, France, 16 September 1944.

St Trond, Belgium, ca. 5 October 1944.

Kelz, Germany, 26 March 1945.

Kassel, Germany, 17 April 1945.

Illesheim, Germany, 28 April 1945.

Laon, France, 5 July – August 1945.

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 9 September – 7 November 1945.

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 11 January 1960 – 18 December 1992;

1 January 1994 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Lt Col John C. Stratton | 13 August 2014 |
| Lt Col Lendy G. Renegar | 1 March 2013 |
| Lt Col Michael B. Casey | 8 November 2011 |
| Lt Col Skip C. Pribyl | 6 May 2010 |
| Lt Col Michael J. King | 2 July 2008 |
| Lt Col Craig D. Wills | 18 April 2007 |
| Lt Col Edward B. Denholm | 3 June 2005 |
| Lt Col John K. McMullen | 30 May 2003 |
| Lt Col Martin J. Schans Jr. | 17 December 2001 |
| Lt Col Mark P. Fitzgerald | 23 June 2000 |
| Lt Col William E. MacLure | 2 July 1998 |
| Lt Col Mark A. Barrett | 18 April 1997 |
| Lt Col Norman R. Riegsecker, Jr. | 30 June 1995 |
| Lt Col Irving L. Halter | 7 January 1994 |
| Lt Col David White | 4 October 1991 – 19 December 1992 |
| Lt Col Michael J. Malone | 21 May 1990 |
| Lt Col James M. Carlin | 1 May 1989 |
| Lt Col James E. Roper | 6 November 1987 |
| Lt Col Daniel H. Robinson | 5 September 1986 |
| Lt Col Arnold L. Franklin, Jr. | 7 December 1984 |
| Lt Col Gary B. Thomsen | 20 December 1982 |
| Lt Col Vernon Handel | 15 June 1982 |
| Lt Col William M. LaTulipe | 10 July 1981 |
| Lt Col William E. Collins | 4 April 1980 |
| Lt Col Jacob Gawelko | 1 June 1978 |
| Lt Col Edward R. Bracken | 29 June 1977 |
| Lt Col Wayne R. Lehr | 28 February 1975 |
| Lt Col Willard F. Langford | 1 December 1972 |
| Lt Col Thomas D. Pulham | 1 November 1971 |
| Lt Col Uriel B. Alford | 4 September 1970 |
| Lt Col Roland W. Parks | 2 December 1968 |
| Maj Gerald D. Ray | ca. November 1968 |
| Maj Robert F. Freeman | January 1968 |
| Lt Col Carl L. Brunson | 1 June 1966 |
| Maj William G. Hartling | 20 June 1965 |
| Lt Col Rufus W. Scott | 16 September 1963 |
| Maj David T. Davidson | 16 June 1961 |
| Lt Col Francis E. Binnell | 19 August 1959 |
| Maj Robert L. James | 18 April 1959 |
| Lt Col Earl P. Maxwell | 1 September 1958 |
| Maj Felix Kozaczkn | ca. September 1956 |

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Maj Paul C. Harrold | 10 July 1954 |
| Lt Col Arthur D. Thomas | ca. December 1953 |
| Lt Col Howard W. Jensen | 16 February 1953 |
| Maj David W. Coulson | 10 July 1952 |
| Maj William H. Casterline | July 1945 – 7 November 1945 |
| Lt Col Stanley P. Latiolais | 15 October 1944 |
| Lt Col William C. Bryson | 19 January 1944 |
| Maj Richard T. W. Rivers | 19 September 1943 |
| Maj Williams | ca. August 1943 |
| Capt Pelham | ca. May 1942 |
| Capt Osbourne | ca. February 1942 |
| Capt C. U. True | 30 June 1941 |
| 2Lt S. Harper | 31 May 1941 |
| Lt. L. G. Drafts | 15 January 1941 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

World War II:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Antisubmarine, American Theater | Rhineland |
| Air Offensive, Europe | Ardennes-Alsace |
| Normandy | Central Europe |
| Northern France | Air Combat, EAME Theater |

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 – 16 January 1991)

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January – 11 April 1991)

Kosovo:

Noble Anvil (24 Mar – 20 Jul 1999, conferred from 493d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 6 December 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July – [18 December] 1992 / [1 January] – 30 June 1944

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996
 1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998
 1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000
 *24 March – 10 June 1999
 1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
 1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
 1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
 1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
 1 January – 31 December 2007
 1 January – 31 December 2008
 **Honors Conferred from the 493d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Cited in the Orders of the Day, Belgian Army:

6 June – 30 September 1944
 1 October – 17 December 1944
 18 December 1944 – 15 January 1945

Belgian Fourragere

Aerial Victory Credits

World War II

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Date of Action</u> |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Capt Neil E. Simmerman | 1.0 | 12 June 1944 |
| Capt Denver M. Porter | 0.5 | 12 June 1944 |
| 1Lt Homer L. Young | 0.5 | 12 June 1944 |
| 2Lt Gordon P. Humphries | 1.5 | 12 June 1944 |
| Maj Royal N. Baker | 0.5* | 5 August 1944 |
| 1Lt Lloyd White | 0.5 | 5 August 1944 |
| 1Lt Joseph J. Freeman, Jr. | 1.0 | 17 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Rodney W. Heyl | 0.25 | 17 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Earl E. Jackson, Jr. | 0.25 | 17 December 1944 |
| 2Lt William G. Dille, Jr. | 1.25 | 17 December 1944 |
| 2Lt Howard W. Foulkes, Jr. | 0.25 | 17 December 1944 |
| 1 Lt George L. Pullis | 1.00 | 8 April 1945 |

* Major Baker earned 3.0 additional credits with the 308th Fighter Squadron.

Operation NOBLE ANVIL

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Date of Action</u> |
|------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Lt Col Cesar Rodriguez | 1.0 | 24 March 1999 |
| Capt Michael Shower | 1.0 | 24 March 1999 |
| “Claw” | 2.0 | 26 March 1999 |

Aircraft

1941: Curtiss A-18 *Shrike*
 1941 – 1942: Douglas A-20 *Havoc*
 1942 – 1943: Vultee A-35 *Vengeance*
 1943: Curtiss P-40 *Warhawk*

| | |
|----------------|---|
| 1943 – 1944: | Bell P-39 <i>Airacobra</i> |
| 1944 – 1945: | Republic P-47 <i>Thunderbolt</i> |
| 1952 – 1954: | Republic F-84 <i>Thunderjet</i> |
| 1953 – 1956: | North American F-86 <i>Sabre</i> |
| 1956 – 1972: | North American F-100 <i>Super Sabre</i> |
| 1972 – 1977: | McDonnell Douglas F-4 <i>Phantom II</i> |
| 1977 – 1992: | General Dynamics F-111 <i>Aardvark</i> |
| 1992 – present | McDonnell Douglas F-15C <i>Eagle</i> |

Emblem (Original emblem approved 24 December 1941; modified 20 August 2003)

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. The skull represents the armor of the mind. The crossed lightning bolts represent the swift and powerful exploitation of air and space and the lethality of striking from above. The shield symbolizes defense and protection.

Motto: “MORS INIMICIS” (Death to the Enemy)



494th Fighter Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 57th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 20 November 1940.

Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated 57th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 28 August 1942.

Redesignated 494th Fighter Bomber Squadron on 10 August 1943.

Redesignated 494th Fighter Squadron, Single Engine, on 30 May 1944.

Inactivated 7 November 1945.

Redesignated 494th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 25 June 1952.

Activated on 10 July 1952.

Redesignated 494th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 8 July 1958.

Redesignated 494th Fighter Squadron on 30 November 1991.

Assignments

48th Bombardment (later, 48th Fighter-Bomber; 48th Fighter) Group,
15 January 1941 – 7 November 1945.

48th Fighter-Bomber Group, 10 July 1952.

48th Fighter-Bomber (later, 48th Tactical Fighter; 48th Fighter) Wing,
8 December 1957 (attached to 48th Fighter Wing [Provisional],
2 September 1990 – 15 March 1991; 7440th Composite Wing, September –
December 1991).

48th Operations Group, 31 March 1992 – present.

Stations

Savannah, Georgia, 15 January 1941.

Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, 23 May 1941.

Savannah, Georgia, 7 February 1942.

Key Field, Mississippi, 28 June 1942.

William Northern Field, Tennessee, 15 August 1943.

Walterboro Army Airfield, South Carolina, 27 January – 13 March 1944.

Ibsley, England, 29 March 1944.

Deux Jumeaux, France, 4 July 1944.

Villacoublay, France, 29 August 1944;

Cambrai/Niergnies, France, 15 September 1944.

St Trond, Belgium, 20 September 1944.

Kelz, Germany, 26 March 1945.

Kassel, Germany, ca. 17 April 1945.

Illesheim, Germany, 29 April 1945.

Laon, France, 5 July – August 1945.

Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina, 9 September – 7 November 1945.

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 July 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Commanders

| | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Lt Col Kurt C. Helphinstine | 9 January 2015 |
| Lt Col Philip D. Principi | 6 June 2013 |
| Lt Col Daniel E. Rauch | 16 May 2011 |
| Lt Col Dylan T. Wells | 1 July 2010 |
| Lt Col John G. Bunnell | 7 November 2008 |
| Lt Col Shawn D. Pederson | 1 June 2007 |
| Lt Col William A. Reese | 17 April 2006 |
| Lt Col Daniel DeBree | 21 May 2004 |
| Lt Col William D. Miles | 2 June 2003 |
| Lt Col Ronald K. Laughbaum | 8 February 2002 |
| Lt Col Steve J. Depalmer | 12 May 2000 |
| Lt Col Warren L. Henderson | 21 May 1998 |
| Lt Col John W. Hesterman III | 12 May 1997 |
| Lt Col Joseph R. Wood | 7 August 1995 |
| Lt Col Mark G. Beesley | 5 September 1994 |
| Lt Col Wayne I. Mudge | 14 August 1992 |
| Lt Col Kenneth A. Combs | 14 June 1991 |
| Lt Col James M. Young | 1 December 1990 |
| Lt Col Tommy F. Crawford | 30 June 1989 |
| Lt Col Ronnie A. Stanfill | 10 September 1988 |
| Lt Col Patrick F. Nolte | 17 February 1987 |
| Lt Col Paul F. Fazackerley | 10 May 1985 |
| Lt Col John L. Grozier | 10 June 1983 |
| Lt Col Richard W. Balstad | 17 April 1981 |
| Lt Col Philip E. Davis | 16 March 1979 |
| Lt Col James E. Salminen | 14 October 1977 |
| Lt Col James C. Sharp | 1 June 1977 |
| Lt Col James W. Grassman | 1 July 1975 |
| Lt Col Ronald M. Miller | 18 July 1974 |
| Maj Robert J. Herculson | 10 June 1974 |
| [26 January 1973 – 10 June 1974: The squadron disbanded, but did not inactivate, due to a lack of available aircraft on station during the transition from F-100s to F-4s.] | |
| Lt Col Norman H. Rushton | 1 September 1972 – 26 January 1973 |
| Lt Col Terance E. Cawley | 1 November 1970 |
| Lt Col Gerald D. Ray | 22 September 1969 |
| Lt Col Shelby A. Evans | ca. July 1967 |
| Lt Col William J. Holton | 2 August 1965 |
| Lt Col Warren D. Curton | 15 November 1964 |
| Maj Vance T. Leuthold | 2 August 1964 |
| Maj Norman H. Todd | 28 May 1964 |
| Maj John E. Pitts, Jr. | 10 July 1961 |
| Lt Col Bernie S. Bass | 23 February 1959 |
| Maj William T. Whisner, Jr. | ca. June 1957 |
| Maj Ira A. Swope | 3 February 1957 |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Maj Otto C. Kemp | 7 May 1955 |
| Maj Woodfin M. Sullivan | 3 April 1953 |
| Lt Col Arthur D. Thomas | 10 July 1952 |
| Maj Lloyd V. Bradbury | 12 June 1945 – 7 November 1945 |
| Maj Jerome I. Steeves | 4 April 1945 |
| Maj Victor N. Cabas | 21 November 1944 |
| Capt Norman S. Orwat | 16 October 1944 |
| Maj Charles R. Fischette | 19 July 1944 |
| Maj Richard P. Morrissey | 21 February 1944 |
| Capt H. L. McNeely | 13 February 1944 |
| Capt H. A. Forsythe | ca. 19 January 1944 |
| Maj J. P. Mulloy | 9 January 1944 |
| Capt J. D. Collinsworth | 4 January 1944 |
| Unknown | |
| 1Lt R. D. Callaway | 15 Jan 1941 |

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

World War II:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Antisubmarine, American Theater | Rhineland |
| Air Offensive, Europe | Ardennes-Alsace |
| Normandy | Central Europe |
| Northern France | Air Combat, EAME Theater |

Southwest Asia:

Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 – 16 January 1991)

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January – 11 April 1991)

Kovoso:

Noble Anvil (24 Mar – 20 Jul 1999, honors conferred from the 494th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer: None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 6 December 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 July 1961 – 29 February 1964

1 July 1966 – 30 June 1968

14 October 1976 – 31 December 1977

1 April 1978 – 31 March 1980

1 July 1984 – 30 June 1986

1 July 1986 – 30 June 1988

1 July 1988 – 30 June 1990

20 August 1990 – 11 May 1991

1 July 1992 – 30 June 1994

1 July 1994 – 30 June 1996
 1 August 1996 – 30 September 1998
 1 October 1998 – 30 September 2000
 *[14 April] – 10 June 1999
 1 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
 1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
 1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005
 1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
 1 January – 31 December 2007
 1 January – 31 December 2008

**Honors Conferred from the 494th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron-Noble Anvil.*

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army:

6 June – 30 September 1944
 1 October – 17 December 1944
 18 December 1944 – 15 January 1945

Belgian Fourragere.

Aerial Victory Credits

World War II

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Credits</u> | <u>Date of Action</u> |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 1Lt Bernard L. Kupersmith | 1.0 | 24 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Charles W. Riffle | 0.5 | 24 December 1944 |
| 2Lt Jesse D. Lefforge | 0.5 | 24 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Nelson W. Koscheski | 2.0 | 27 December 1944 |
| 1Lt William R. Johnson | 1.0 | 27 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Kenneth T. Jones | 1.0 | 27 December 1944 |
| 1Lt Garret D. Wakefield | 1.0 | 27 December 1944 |
| 2Lt Willard B. Lenton | 1.0 | 27 December 1944 |

Aircraft

1941: Curtiss A-18 *Shrike*
 1941 – 1942: Douglas A-20 *Havoc*
 1942 – 1943: Vultee A-35 *Vengeance*
 1943: Curtiss P-40 *Warhawk*
 1943 – 1944: Bell P-39 *Airacobra*
 1944 – 1945: Republic P-47 *Thunderbolt*
 1952 – 1954: Republic F-84 *Thunderjet*
 1953 – 1956: North American F-86 *Sabre*
 1956 – 1972: North American F-100 *Super Sabre*
 1972 – 1974: None
 1974 – 1977: McDonnell Douglas F-4 *Phantom II*
 1977 – 1992: General Dynamics F-111 *Aardvark*

1992 – present: McDonnell Douglas F-15E Strike Eagle

Emblem (Approved 6 December 1963; modified 30 April 2007; replaced emblem approved 22 August 1942)

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. The tri-colored “Mach” chevron denotes the “Forward Look.” The aircraft/missile and the clouds symbolize the unit’s air mission. The Black Panther, emblematic of this squadron since 1942, represents stealth, silence, and speed of attack, thus taking a victim quickly and unaware.

