

The History 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. From providing close air support and air interdiction along the Western Front to conducting Air Policing Missions in the Baltics, the Airmen of the 48th Fighter Wing continuously demonstrated their dedication to providing worldwide responsive combat airpower and support. This heritage pamphlet seeks to highlight the numerous achievements and milestones of the 48th Fighter Wing and its predecessors.

The pamphlet is divided into three sections. First, it discusses the history of the 48th Fighter Wing and 48th Fighter Group, which the wing draws its heritage from. This section details the major operations, events, and achievements of the fighter group since 1941 and wing since 1952. The second section provides a brief history of Royal Air Force Station, Lakenheath, where the 48th Fighter Wing relocated to in 1960. Finally, the pamphlet provides the wing's and its subordinate organizations' heraldry and descriptions of its current operational aircraft.

The information contained within is as accurate as possible. The Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, maintains all official lineage and honors statements and emblems. This pamphlet should not be used for official determination of honors 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.

Finally, I want to acknowledge my predecessors, who researched much of this pamphlet before my arrival. Their dedication to preserving the institutional and operational memory of the wing allows me to present a detailed and insightful history of the 48th Fighter Wing and its significant milestones.

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48th Fighter Wing Historian
22 April 2022

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The History of the 48th Fighter Wing and 48th Fighter Group, 1941 – 2021

World War II

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 fifty-four combat groups to prepare for the looming Second World War.

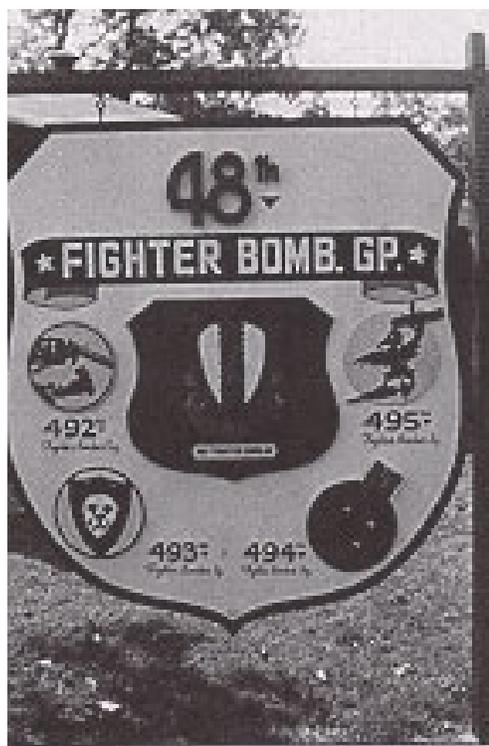
Initially, the group and its four flying squadrons served as a training unit, preparing its pilots and maintenance crews for eventual combat. After training, many of the group's members went on to serve in squadrons stationed in Europe and the Pacific, while the group remained in the states. Over the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

On 15 August 1943, while stationed at Key Field, the group received the new designation 48th Fighter-Bomber Group. The flying squadrons redesignated to the 492d, 493d, 494th, and 495th Fighter-Bomber Squadrons.

Five days after this organizational change, the group moved again, this time back to William Northern Field, Tennessee. With this move, the group ceased 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*.



Airmen from the 48th Fighter Group at William Northern Field, Tennessee, 1943.



48th Fighter-Bomber Group Headquarters Sign

In early 1944, after years of training and flying across the United States, the group returned to the East Coast. At first, the group conducted coastal patrol missions and training in the single-seat fighter it used throughout World War II, the P-47 *Thunderbolt*. After three months in South Carolina, the group moved 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. After a week of sea travel, the contingent arrived at Gourock, Scotland. From there, they traveled by train for two days to their first overseas base, Royal Air Force Station Ibsley in Southern England.

Almost immediately after their arrival, the group 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,” and becoming the 48th Fighter Group and. Subsequently, the 492d, 493d, and 494th Fighter Squadrons.

Unknown at the time to the pilots of the 48th, they were training for a campaign against the German positions in Normandy. On 6 June 1944, the group participated in Operation Overlord, 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 group flew nearly 2,000 sorties, dropping nearly 500 tons of bombs and firing more than 160,000 rounds of ammunition.



Remains of a German locomotive.

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

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

The group supported every major campaign on the Western Front throughout the war. 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 Fighter Group 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 group constantly moved. It arrived at Villacoublay, France, on 29 August, Cambrai/Niergnies, France on 15 September, and St Trond, Belgium on 30 September. From 17



Tiger Tank destroyed by the 48th Fighter Group near Saint Lo, France, ca. July 1944.



Airmen from the 48th Fighter Group at St. Trond, Belgium, 1944.

to 25 September, the group conducted drops over Nijmegen and Arnhem in support of Operation Market Garden, the Allied airborne offensive into occupied Holland. On 6 December, the group struck German buildings and troop concentrations in Julich, Germany, allowing ground forces to advance into the sector and earning the 48th Fighter Group a Distinguished Unit Citation. Two weeks later, the group received orders to hold back a massive German assault during the “Battle of the Bulge.” As the German military committed its forces in an all-out assault, the aircrews flew under heavy weather,

often flying as low as twenty feet off the ground. Nonetheless, the Airmen strafed ground positions, holding back the Nazi armies during their last major offensive.

By early 1945, the Allies successfully gained air superiority throughout most of Europe, allowing the 48th Fighter Group to conduct most missions at will. However, Allied forces still struggled with capturing the west bank of the Rhine and the key German cities it protected. On 1 March 1945, the Allies began Operation Lumberjack with the goal of capturing those areas. As German forces retreated during the Allied advance, German soldiers destroyed bridges across the Rhine in an attempt to stop the Allies from further advancing. On 7 March, elements of the 9th Armored Division—a unit whose advance the 48th Fighter Group supported—found the Ludendorff Bridge at Remagen still intact. U.S. troops captured the bridge and formed a defensive

perimeter on the east side. The 48th Fighter Group flew armed reconnaissance missions in support of the 9th Armored Division, striking targets as German forces desperately tried to destroy the bridge. Following the success of Operation Lumberjack, the 48th Fighter Group moved eastward with the front line, relocating to 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 Fighter Group flew its final mission from Illesheim. Capt Troy Smith observed the ground situation, stating, “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.”

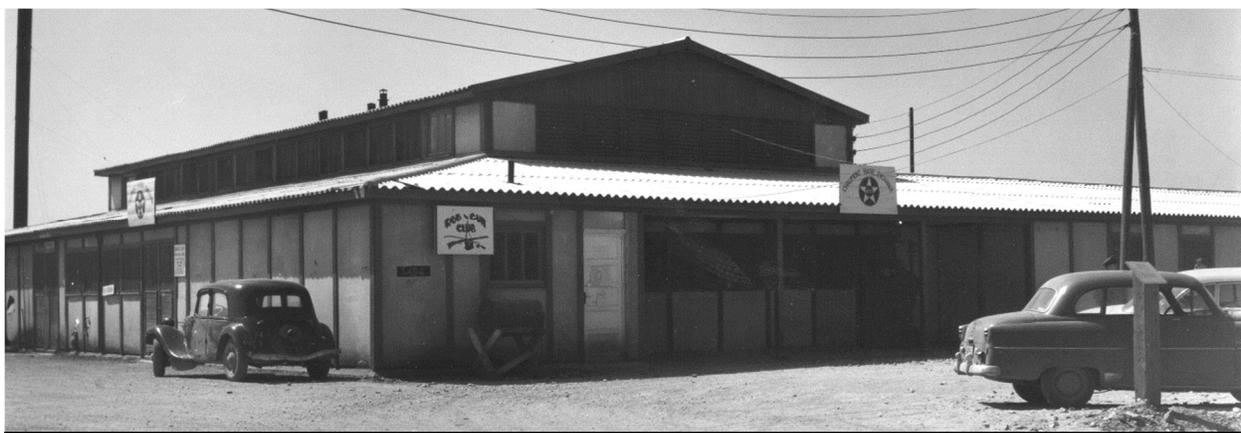
A month after the war ended, the group retraced its steps as it headed home. On 5 July 1945, the group arrived in Laon, France. After a few weeks in France, the group received orders to return to the U.S. With many of the group’s members separating at the port, those remaining established the group headquarters at Seymour Johnson Field, North Carolina. Two months later, on 7 November 1945, the U.S. Army Air Forces inactivated the 48th Fighter Group as a part of the massive, postwar drawdown.

Cold War

Soon after World War II ended, Europe found itself facing the threat of another war. Continental Europe was split between the communist controlled Eastern Bloc and the free countries occupied by the Allies in the west. For many European nations, American participation in the Korean War raised fears that the Soviet Union would take advantage of the U.S.’ force commitment in Asia and start another war in Europe. While the Soviet Union never initiated a physical assault in Europe, a Cold War emerged—a new geopolitical tension between the Western and Eastern Blocs.

With the onset of a Cold War, the U.S. increased its combat wings in the early 1950s. Under this program, the newly established U.S. 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 as the 48th Fighter Group in World War II, activated under the wing with the 492d, 493d, and 494th Fighter-Bomber Squadrons in tow.

The new 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing inherited a lacking base. The only hardened facilities at Chaumont Air Base were a concrete runway and a handful of tarpaper shacks. Within two years,



Chaumont Air Base Post Exchange Building, 1955.

the wing began construction of permanent barracks, a wing headquarters, flight line shops, and warehouses.

While trying to create a functional base, the 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing also served as an operational unit, flying the F-84 *Thunderjet*. With the F-84, the wing executed North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) operations and exercises. The organization frequently deployed to Wheelus Field, Libya, for training in bombing and gunnery skills.



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

Highly proficient with the F-84, the wing formed an aerial demonstration team known as “The Skyblazers” in 1953. When the wing transitioned to the F-86F *Sabre* later that year, so did the aerial demonstration team. The Skyblazers became USAFE’s official aerial demonstration team in May 1954. On 4 July 1954, the wing conducted an aerial demonstration during a ceremony in Chaumont. During the ceremony, which was 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, the wing received the moniker “Statue of Liberty Wing.” This resulted in the wing becoming the only Air Force unit with both a numeric and descriptive designation.

Not long after the wing proudly took on the title of the Statue of Liberty Wing, the wing’s comptroller discovered the factory that produced the Statue of Liberty resided only twenty-five miles from Chaumont. In addition, one of the actual molds still existed at the factory. 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 Chaumont as a memorial to the service of the 48th Fighter-Bomber Wing in France, with a replica located at RAF Lakenheath.

In 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 the 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 Force wide reorganization, it became the 48th Tactical

Fighter Wing (48 TFW). Its subordinate flying squadrons also added “Tactical” to their designations.

Despite the close relationship between the wing and the people of Chaumont, international relationships between France and the U.S. 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 in the United Kingdom, Royal Air Force Station, Lakenheath (RAF Lakenheath).

Royal Air Force Station, Lakenheath

On 15 January 1960, the 48 TFW landed at RAF Lakenheath for the first time. The wing and its fighters brought a new mission, and the first permanent American presence, to RAF Lakenheath. However, 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 support structure to host a permanent force.

Throughout the 1960s, the wing completed extensive training, inspections, and deployments. Training primarily focused on responding to potential Soviet Union aggression. Inspections, predominately in the form of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) tactical evaluations and operational readiness inspections, ensured the wing remained ready and capable to execute the mission. The wing earned their first Air Force Outstanding Unit Award following a successful tactical evaluation in 1964. In addition to maintaining readiness through training and inspections, the wing deployed to Turkey, Italy, Spain, and across the United Kingdom.

The wing received new aircraft in 1972. 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. 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, a slow turnover resulted in only seventeen F-4s being on hand at the time of the transition and only twenty-six aircraft available by June 1972. During this time, the 492 TFS and 493 TFS split the available aircraft while the 494 TFS took on a non-operational status. Aircrew struggled to maintain proficiency, averaging less than ten flying hours per month. The wing struggle with an aircraft shortage for two years, not receiving its full allotment of seventy-three airframes until July 1974. The 492 TFS became fully operational on 10 December 1974, the 493 TFS on 13 January 1975, followed by the 494 TFS on 25 March. The wing achieved its initial operational capability on 1 July 1975 and resumed its NATO and USAFE commitments after a three-year transition. However, the F-4’s history at RAF Lakenheath was brief.

As early as the summer of 1975, the wing began preparations to receive the F-111 *Aardvark*. The first official announcement occurred in October 1976. In a three- way move, the wing received F-111s from the 366th Tactical Fighter Wing, at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, while the 366th received F-111s from Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, and Nellis Air Force Base received the 48 TFW’s F-4s. 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 completing the transition so quickly. With the assignment of ninety-one F-111s, USAFE re-activated the 495th Fighter Squadron on 1 April 1977. Almost immediately

after swapping aircraft, the wing began a series of monthly exercises and deployments that took the Liberty Wing to Italy, Iran, Greece, and Pakistan.

Most notably, the wing employed their F-111s in support of Operation El Dorado Canyon. By the mid-1980s, terrorist attacks all over the world caused concern. Western governments attributed many of these attacks to the Libyan government, headed by Colonel Muammar al-Qadhafi. After receiving evidence that linked Qadhafi to the terrorist bombing of the La Belle Discotheque in West Berlin on 5 April 1986, which killed three people and injured over 220, U.S. President Ronald Reagan authorized air strikes against targets in Tripoli. The U.S. Navy's Sixth Fleet and F-111s from the 48 TFW carried out the operation.

At approximately 1900 local time, on the evening of 14 April 1986, twenty-four F-111Fs launched from RAF 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.



A 495th Tactical Fighter Squadron F-111F prepares to depart in support of Operation El Dorado Canyon, 14 April 1986.

Despite the mission's success, the reality of the danger experienced by the wing's aircrews hit home. As the strike force returned to RAF Lakenheath, both air and ground crews received the somber news that "Karma-52", aircraft 70-0389, and its crew Maj Fernando L. Ribas and Capt Paul Lorence of the 495th Fighter Squadron, were missing.²

On 8 September 1986, U.S. Navy Secretary John Lehman presented a U.S. 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 receive this prestigious award. Likewise, Gen 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.

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

Following the end of the Cold War and the drastic change in global politics, rumors spread about the future of RAF Lakenheath and other European bases. Politicians debated over what to do with the newly found “peace dividend.” However, the peace was short lived, as war in the Middle East emerged in 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, U.S. President George Bush directed the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces to Saudi Arabia in what became known as Operation Desert Shield—the Defense of Saudi Arabia. Following the president’s declaration, Col Thomas J. Lennon, 48 TFW Commander, received a call from Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, asking if the wing was ready to deploy. Colonel Lennon built a team of thirteen members from wing leadership, known as the “Lucky 13,” to begin preparing for the upcoming movement of personnel and F-111s to Saudi Arabia. On 25 August



A member from the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing in Taif, Saudi Arabia.

1990, nearly 500 Airmen and eighteen F-111s took off from RAF Lakenheath as the first USAFE unit to deploy in support of Operation Desert Shield. By January 1991, the 48th deployed sixty-six of its seventy F-111s to Taif, Saudi Arabia, along with more than 1,400 service members.

When Saddam Hussein failed to withdraw Iraqi forces from Kuwait by 15 January 1991, the U.S. government commenced with Operation Desert Storm—the war for the liberation of Kuwait. Dropping 7.3 million pounds of precision guided munitions, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing (Provisional)’s F-111 aircrews 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 wing recorded the first combat use of a GBU-28 (Guided Bomb Unit), successfully destroying an Iraqi command and control center. The wing successfully flew 2,500 combat sorties during Operation Desert Storm without a single loss of a pilot or aircraft.

Incorporating the lessons learned during their desert operations, the Air Force implemented the Objective Wing Organization across the service. Beginning in mid-1991, the 48 TFW restructured 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 re-designated many of the Air Force’s units by dropping the “Tactical” from their names. Thus, on 1 October 1991, USAFE re-designated the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing the 48th Fighter Wing (48 FW), and the 492d, 493d, and 494th Tactical Fighter Squadrons became 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 RAF Lakenheath, with the last F-111 departing on 16 December 1992. USAFE assigned the new F-15E mission to the 492d and 494th Fighter Squadrons and, subsequently, inactivated the 493d Fighter Squadron on 1 January 1993. The wing received its final F-15E in June 1993 and achieved initial operational capability that October.

In 1994, the wing expanded its mission when it received another new aircraft, the F-15C *Eagle*. With the arrival of the new weapon system, the wing reactivated the 493d Fighter Squadron on 1 January 1994. The squadron received its first maintenance trainer F-15C on 10 January 1994, then its full complement of aircraft by 22 July 1994. After flying air-to-ground missions for more

than fifty years, the introduction of the F-15C marked the first time the wing had specifically flown an air- to-air mission.

With its new weapon systems, the wing began a hectic pace of deployments that kept at least one squadron constantly deployed for nearly six years. On 5 August 1993, the 492d Fighter Squadron (492 FS) conducted the wing's first F-15E deployment when they deployed to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey in support of Operation Provide Comfort (succeeded by Operation Northern Watch). Thirteen days after the squadron's arrival, 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, 492 FS F-15Es struck the site, eliminating the missile threat. For the remainder of the decade, the three fighter squadrons continually rotated to Turkey and Aviano Air Base, Italy.

While the wing served another rotation in Turkey, NATO launched Operation Allied Force in response to Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic's military campaign to drive the Albanian population in Kosovo from the region.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 precision guided munitions, including the first combat use of a GBU-28 by an Air Force F-15E. Starting in May, the 492 FS launched combat operations directly from RAF Lakenheath.



Remains of a MiG-29, courtesy of the 493d Fighter Squadron.

During the air war over Serbia, the wing deployed 1,011 personnel to eighteen different locations. The wing's pilots and aircraft flew combat missions from three locations. 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 48 FW, 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.

After Operation Allied Force, the 48th Fighter Wing reconstituted its forces for the first time in six years. During this period, the wing upgraded its F-15E fleet with new Block E-210

³ The overall NATO operation was designated Allied Force, while the US-specific part was called Operation Noble Anvil.

models. At the same time, the wing participated in training with its NATO allies through a series of deployments across continental Europe and completed multiple NATO and USAFE inspections.

In December 2000, the wing's flying squadrons deployed to the desert of Southwest Asia for the first time since the Gulf War. As part of Air Expeditionary Forces (AEFs) 2 and 4, the 492d and 494th Fighter Squadrons supported Operation Southern Watch from Ahmed Al Jabar Air Base, Kuwait. The units employed several munitions against Iraqi targets, executing 690 sorties for 1,229 hours for the 494th Fighter Squadron in AEF 2 and 730 sorties for 1,173.9 hours for the 492d Fighter Squadron in AEF 4. While the 492d and 494th Fighter Squadrons executed precision air-to-ground operations, the 493d Fighter Squadron, which deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, supported Operation Southern Watch by providing air superiority, flying 893 sorties for 2,201.9 hours. With the launch of Operation Enduring Freedom—the U.S. government's war against terrorist organizations and training camps in Afghanistan—in 2001, 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. When Operation Iraqi Freedom began on 21 March 2003, nearly 500 people from the Liberty Wing served in various roles and locations. For the next two decades, the wing continued to deploy in support of Air Expeditionary Force commitments in Southwest Asia and Afghanistan, as well as Air Policing missions in Iceland and the Baltics.



48th Fighter Wing F-15E at Ahmed Al Jabar Air Base, Kuwait.

In 2006, the wing underwent another reorganization. Typically known for its fighter aircraft presence, the wing also conducted helicopter operations for twelve years, performing theatre search and rescue from 2006 to 2018. In 2006, USAFE reassigned the 56th Rescue Squadron to the 48 FW after the closure of the NATO base at Keflavik, Iceland. In February 2015, USAFE activated a second HH-60G unit at RAF Lakenheath, the 57th Rescue Squadron. The rescue squadrons provided North Atlantic theatre rescue, combat rescue, and reaction force response services for both USAFE and NATO and deployed multiple times in support of operations in the Southwest Asia and Afghanistan. USAFE relocated the rescue squadrons to Aviano Air Base, Italy in June 2018.



HH-60G water rescue mission.

In January 2015, the Department of Defense announced that RAF Lakenheath would be home to the new F-35A *Lightning II*. To operate the new aircraft, USAFE reactivated the 495th Fighter Squadron on 1 October 2021. After years of preparation, the wing crossed a significant milestone when the first F-35As arrived at RAF Lakenheath on 15 December 2021.



A 495th Fighter Squadron F-35A lands at RAF Lakenheath.

In addition to the multiple organizational changes that occurred during this period, the wing's Airmen continued to deploy in support of contingency operations, including Operations Freedom's Sentinel, Inherent Resolve, and Final Countdown. The 493d Fighter Squadron deployed in 2019, followed by the 494th Fighter Squadron later that year. In 2020, the 492d Fighter Squadron deployed, and, in 2021, the 494th Fighter Squadron deployed again. All in support of U.S. Central Command operations. Likewise, as the United States began drawing down its

presence in Afghanistan, it called upon the Liberty Wing again. Personnel from across the wing deployed to Ramstein Air Base in support of Operation Allies Welcome. Medical, security, logistics, and support experts worked tirelessly to ensure the refugees fleeing Afghanistan received important medical care and support before departing Germany. The wing culminated a busy 2021 with the receipt of the Commander-in-Chief's Award for Installation Excellence.

Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022, the wing began a steady pace of deployments. The wing deployed personnel and assets to multiple forward operating locations in support of the U.S.' contribution to the NATO Air Policing and Air Shielding missions, deploying F-15Cs and F-15Es to Poland and F-35As to Estonia and Lithuania. In doing so, the wing demonstrated its ability to assure, deter, and defend in an increasingly complex security environment so that the U.S.' allies and partners know that the 48th Fighter Wing remained ready to own the skies.



A 495th Fighter Squadron F-35A, Amari Air Base, Estonia, 2022.

At RAF Lakenheath, the wing embraced the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's initiative to "Accelerate Change or Lose," as they developed new ways to build a more resilient and agile combat force in 2022. As such, the wing saw the end of an era, with the last F-15C departing RAF Lakenheath on 27 April 2022. Following the divestiture of the wing's only dedicated air-to-air mission, the 493d Fighter Squadron became the second USAF unit to operate the F-35A overseas. On the maintenance side, the wing inactivated the 48th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and, in its stead, activated the 492d and 494th Fighter Generation Squadrons. The transition to the fighter generation squadron concept enabled the seamless deployment of maintainers with their respective

fighter squadrons, ensuring the wing's capabilities to rapidly deploy F-15E operations in support global operations. By the end of 2022, the wing's efforts resulted in their receipt of two Department of Defense, sixteen Headquarters Air Force, and fifty-one United States Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa (USAFE-AFAFRICA) awards.



The 493d Fighter Squadron flagship F-35A parked next to the 495th Fighter Squadron flagship F-35, RAF Lakenheath, 2022.

History of Royal Air Force Lakenheath, 1940 – 2021



As the threat of war loomed over England following the onset of World War II, the Royal Air Force (RAF) constructed over 500 airfields across the United Kingdom from 1940 until 1945. As a part of this £1 billion civil-engineering project, the British Government purchased over 1,800 acres of land for a new installation in Suffolk. By late 1940, the service commenced construction of RAF Lakenheath. The Air Ministry initially established the installation to be a decoy aerodrome for nearby RAF Mildenhall. The decoy RAF Lakenheath featured 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.⁴

RAF Lakenheath eventually shed its decoy status and became an alternate site for RAF Mildenhall aircrews. By November 1941, RAF Lakenheath opened as a satellite of RAF Mildenhall and included three concrete runways, hangars, and Quonset-style huts. The first Wellington twin-engine bombers arrived on 24 November 1941. From January to April 1942, the RAF’s 149 Squadron moved its four-engine Stirling bombers from the grass runways of RAF Mildenhall to RAF Lakenheath. Following their move, the 149 Squadron participated in the first “Thousand Bomber Raid” at Cologne, Germany on 30 May 1942.

The 199 Squadron joined the 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. Additionally, the 149 and 199 gradually took on a larger role in the mine laying mission, which focused on tying up enemy shipping and resources in extensive mine sweeping operations. By the end of 1943, mine laying became both squadrons primary mission. Both squadrons departed RAF Lakenheath by 15 May 1944.

Following the end of the Second World War, Lakenheath closed for an upgrade to a Very-Heavy Bomber base. During this time, contractors repaired, resurfaced, and extended the runways. The station reopened under the RAF’s Bomber Command on 15 April 1947.

⁴ RAF Lakenheath’s military affiliation predates its World War II operational use. During World War I, the Royal Flying Corps established several training areas around Lakenheath Warren, one of which was located across the A1065 roadway from the current perimeter of RAF Lakenheath. The service stationed a number of Royal Flying Corps units within several miles of the area, with at least two American units attached to the Royal Flying Corps for training. England conducted its first tank trials 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.

In 1948, the first U.S. Air Force personnel and aircraft arrived at RAF Lakenheath. As a Cold War emerged, the U.S. sought to secure its allies in Western Europe and began stationing American units throughout the continent. However, by 1949, the 7504th Base Complement Squadron was the only active unit on the base, and the only aircraft on the base belonged to rotational, temporary duty units. Despite the need to establish a U.S. presence at RAF Lakenheath, the U.S. Air Force did not formally take control of the base until 1 June 1950.

Initially slow to introduce U.S. air forces to RAF Lakenheath, war in Asia impelled the U.S. government to establish RAF Lakenheath as a permanent U.S. Air Force station. For many European nations, American participation in the Korean War raised fears that the Soviet Union would take advantage of the U.S.' force commitment in Asia and start another war in Europe. Within a month of the onset of the Korean War, the U.S. Air Force completed RAF Lakenheath. By August 1950, the base was home to twenty-nine permanently assigned B-29s and twenty-four additional B-29s temporarily deployed to the United Kingdom. These aircraft stood watch over Europe for the next three years in case the Soviet Union decided to launch an offensive into Europe. From 25 June 1950 until the cease-fire on 27 July 1953, eighteen 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 also activated, ranging from the 7504th Food Services Squadron to the 97th Maintenance Squadron. From 1953 until 1956, aircrews flew B-47s out of RAF Lakenheath and support staff assisted with a variety of temporary duty aircraft, including KC-97s and U-2 surveillance aircraft.

The mission at RAF Lakenheath drastically changed in 1960 when the first jet-fighter aircraft landed on 15 January. After relocating from Chaumont, France, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing, under the command of Third Air Force and United States Air Forces in Europe, now called RAF Lakenheath home. Because the base's layout could not accommodate a large, self-sufficient wing, the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing's arrival prompted several major construction projects. Base operations, flying, and maintenance facilities expanded to suit the new mission. By 1958, the service completed the first eighty-two family housing units. Within a year of the wing's arrival, the base theatre, junior high school, and high school also 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.

The arrival of F-111 *Aardvarks* in 1977 brought the most meaningful construction since the 48th Tactical Fighter Wing's arrival. Most significantly, the aircraft transition required the construction of sixty hardened aircraft shelters, an avionics facility, command post, and air-alert facility. With four squadrons of aircraft, the increased base population also necessitated an increase in support facilities. In addition, the wing built a new commissary and opened the child development center in the 1980s.

Throughout the 1990s, the 48th Fighter Wing worked to replace its deteriorating World War II facilities and upgrade the flying and maintenance areas to accommodate the F-15E *Strike Eagles* it received in 1992 and the F-15C/D *Eagles* that arrived in 1994. The wing also focused on improving quality of life facilities, with new one-plus-one single-bedroom dormitories, renovated housing units, and improved recreational facilities. In addition, the wing began



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

construction on its \$10 million hospital annex on 19 October 1999.

Throughout the early 2000s, the base experienced a wide-range of modernization and renovation efforts. 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 twenty-one percent of the buildings on base as substandard, with sixty-two percent of them unable to be restored. These included thirty-nine 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. That same year, the hospital opened its new annex in July. The new facility housed Bioenvironmental Engineering, Family Advocacy, Life Skills Support Center, and Physical/Occupational Therapy. In 2006, the wing competed renovating the Liberty Village neighborhood. In 2009, after sixty-three years of use, the wing demolished the old air traffic control tower, which had fallen into disarray after being abandoned in 1992. The 48th Fighter Wing continued updating old buildings and constructing new facilities throughout the rest of the decade.

In preparation for the arrival of the F-35A in 2021, the installation underwent another massive development project starting in 2019. The beddown of a new weapon system, along with the Airmen needed to operate and maintain the aircraft, required new facilities to be constructed, old buildings to be renovated, and upgrades to the flight line. The current F-35 project includes a flight simulator facility, a maintenance unit, new hangars and storage facilities to accommodate the new weapon system. As the wing moves forward with its new mission and continues developing its F-35A campus, RAF Lakenheath continues to grow far beyond its original decoy framework.

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 Squadron (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*

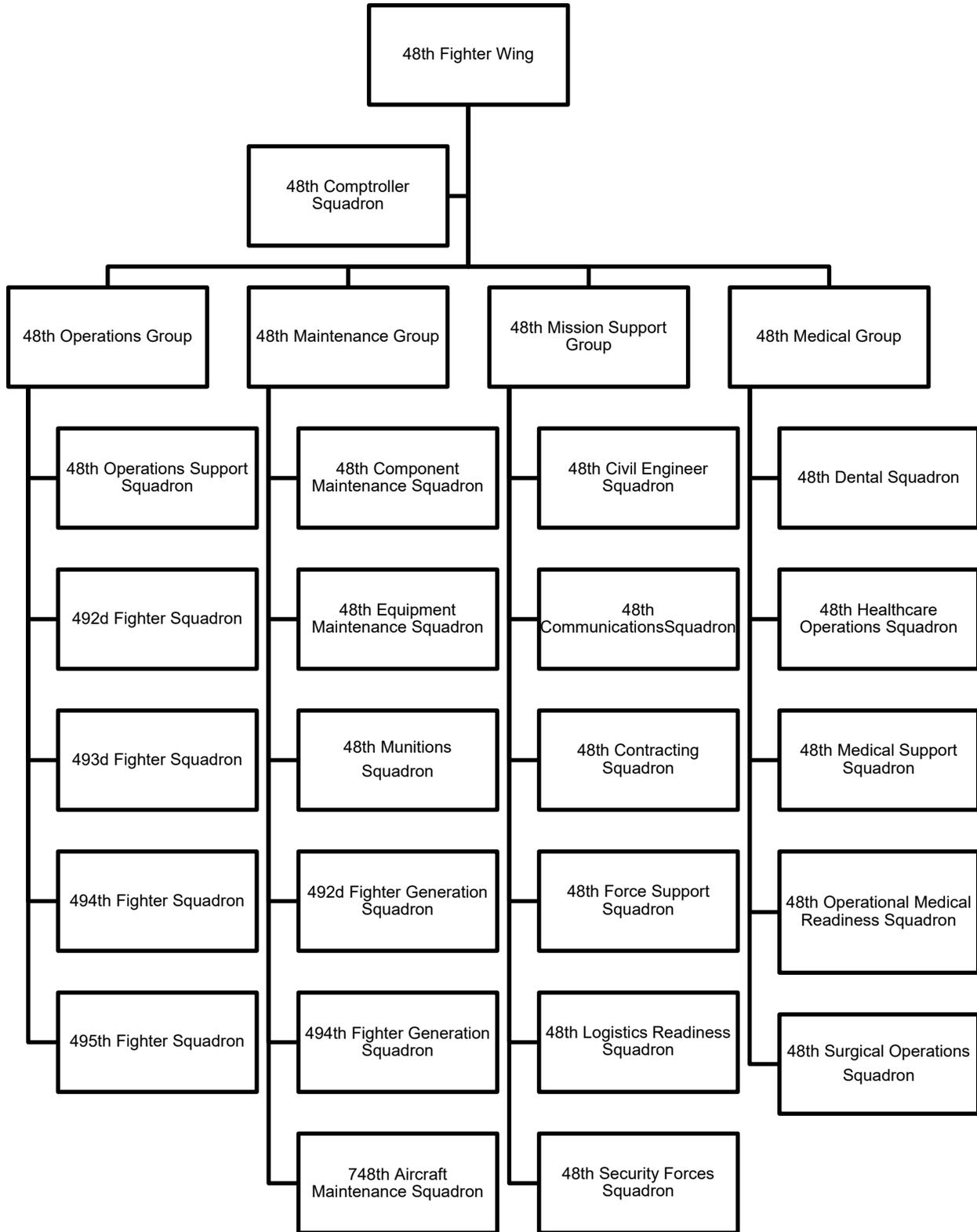
1994 – present: McDonnell Douglas F – 15C/D *Eagle*

2004 – 2018: Sikorski HH – 60G *Pave Hawk*

2021 – present: Lockheed Martin F – 35A *Lightning II*

48th Fighter Wing Organizational Chart

As of 1 April 2022



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 – present.

493d Fighter Squadron: 8 December 1957 – present.

494th Fighter Squadron: 8 December 1957 – present.

495th Tactical Fighter Squadron: 1 April 1977 – 13 December 1991; 1 October 2021 – present.

56th Rescue Squadron: 28 June 2006 – 22 June 2018.

57th Rescue Squadron: 18 Feb 2015 – 22 June 2018.

Stations

Chaumont Air Base, France, 10 June 1952.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 15 January 1960 – present.

Aircraft

1952 – 1956: Republic F–84 *Thunderjet* and North American F – 86 *Sabre*

1956 – 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 – 2018: Sikorsky HH – 60G *Pave Hawk*
 2021 – present: Lockheed Martin F – 35A *Lightning II*

Commanders

Brig Gen Joseph L. Campo	29 June 2022
Col Jason A. Camilletti	10 July 2020
Col William L. Marshal	16 July 2018
Col Evan L. Pettus	19 July 2016
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)

Kosovo:

Noble Anvil (24 March – 20 July 1999)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

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

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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

25 August 1990 – 31 March 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 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

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

* *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

Lt Col Damon R. Mace	6 August 2020
Maj William R. Rosado	20 July 2018
Maj Mary Mangum	28 June 2016
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
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 Mar 2015 – 29 Feb 2016

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 October 2000 – 24 September 2002
1 October 2002 – 30 September 2004
1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006
1 January – 31 December 2007
1 January – 31 December 2008
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2007
1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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 – 26 October 2022.

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.

492d Fighter Generation Squadron: 26 October 2022 – present.

494th Fighter Generation Squadron: 26 October 2022 – present.

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.

Commanders

Col Joseph M. Stangl	13 June 2022
Col James A. Jernigan	20 August 2020
Col Steven O. Collen	30 June 2017
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. Nakayama	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

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2007 – 31 December 2007
- 1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010
- 1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
- 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
- 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**Honors Conferred from the 48th Expeditionary Logistics 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 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.

Commanders

Lt Col Jared C. Struck	6 June 2022
Lt Col Christopher J. Rousseau	13 June 2019
Maj Darrel H. Chase	14 June 2017
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

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2007 – 31 December 2007

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

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.

Commanders

Lt Col Tyler B. Beal	24 June 2021
Maj Brandon D. O'Neil	11 June 2020
Maj Jessica R. Williams	3 July 2018
Maj Joshua A. DePaul	8 July 2016
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 Nikolaus 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

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

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

Lt Col Allison Barkalow	1 July 2021
Maj Cory A. Helms	28 May 2019
Maj Darrel H. Chase	20 July 2018
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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”



492d Fighter Generation Squadron

Lineage

Activated on 26 October 2022.

Assignments

48th Maintenance Group, 26 October 2022 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 26 October 2022 – present.

Commanders

Maj Nathan R. Stroupe 26 October 2022

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations: None

Emblem

None

494th Fighter Generation Squadron

Lineage

Activated on 26 October 2022.

Assignments

48th Maintenance Group, 26 October 2022 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 26 October 2022 – present.

Commanders

Maj Steven A. Ortner 26 October 2022

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations: None

Emblem

Pending

748th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Lineage

Activated on 9 November 2009.

Assignments

48th Maintenance Group, 9 November 2009 – present.

Stations

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

Commanders

Lt Col Brandon R. Glass	21 June 2022
Lt Col Daniel J. Connors	28 June 2019
Lt Col Joshua A. Depaul	3 July 2018
Maj Bradley D. Altman	8 July 2016
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

Honors

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

Emblem

None

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 (later, 48th Operational Medical Readiness) Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

48th Dental Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

48th Medical Operations (later, 48th Healthcare Operations) Squadron: 1 September 1994 – present.

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

48th Surgical Operations Squadron: 19 July 2007 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 July 1971 – present.

Commanders

Col Cory L. Baker	27 May 2021
Col Thomas W. Stamp	10 July 2018
Col Lee D. Williams	6 July 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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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 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 David A. Rothas	16 June 2022
Col Clifton W. Bailey	17 July 2020
Col James C. Choi	2 July 2018
Col Russell G. Boester	18 July 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 Mar 2015 – 29 Feb 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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 Healthcare Operations Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Medical Operations Squadron on 1 August 1994.
Activated on 1 September 1994.
Redesignated 48th Healthcare Operations Squadron on 7 July 2020.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

Col David H. Dickey	18 June 2021
Col Alicia A. Matteson	9 July 2019
Col Mark S. Oordt	27 June 2017
Lt Col Guy R. Majkowski	12 July 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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 Jack Vilardi	10 June 2022
Lt Col Brent J. Cunningham	31 July 2019
Lt Col Kathleen M. Mackey	9 Aug 2017
Lt Col Cory L. Baker	30 October 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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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 Operational Medical Readiness Squadron

Lineage

Constituted 48th Aerospace Medicine Squadron on 1 August 1994.

Activated on 1 September 1994.

Redesignated 48th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron on 7 July 2020.

Assignments

48th Medical Group, 1 September 1994 – present.

Stations

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 September 1994 – present.

Commanders

Col Valerie C. O'Brien	30 June 2022
Col Shawn M. McFarland	13 July 2020
Col Robert B. Woolley	9 July 2018
Col Maximillian S. Lee	2 August 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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 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 Jeremy P. Garlick	12 July 2021
Lt Col Kirstyn D. Caldwell	13 July 2020
Lt Col Shawn M. McFarland	27 June 2018
Lt Col Melissa J. Dooley	3 June 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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.

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 Shonry O. Webb	15 July 2022
Col Dennis L. Phillips	31 July 2020
Col Christopher J. Leonard	21 July 2017
Col Michael A. Zrostlik	24 August 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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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.

Commanders

Lt Col Edmund T. Spivak	25 June 2021
Lt Col Daniel A. Craig	26 July 2019
Lt Col Brandon H. Sokora	9 June 2017
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

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

Emblem (Approved 2 August 2016)

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 torch of Liberty is emblematic of the unit's Liberty Engineers, all – encompassing support and protection to the Liberty Wing in the traditional disciplines of engineering and in emergency services – performed anywhere, anytime. The compass is a symbol of the engineering profession, both in the military and in the private sector. Historically, the compass has been used to make precise measurements and was vital to the design and construction of facilities and equipment.

Motto: “LEAD THE WAY.”



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 Daryl R. Godfrey	15 June 2022
Maj Sean A. Williams	23 June 2020
Maj Brian T. Higgins	2 July 2018
Maj Ryan F. Schiffner	27 June 2016
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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

Lt Col James S. Simmons	17 July 2020
Lt Col Adam V. Coyne	7 July 2017
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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

Lt Col Mary E. Hossier	7 July 2021
Maj Mark M. Bailey	19 July 2019
Maj Kelli R. Moon	7 July 2017
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
 1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
 1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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.

Commanders

Lt Col Sarah E. Bowles	8 July 2020
Lt Col John S. Nolan Jr.	8 July 2016
Maj Donald S. Burke	27 July 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

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

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.

Commanders

Lt Col Benjamin R. Washburn	16 July 2021
Lt Col Kevin J. Eberhart	4 January 2019
Lt Col James E. Habeck	15 June 2017
Lt Col 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	24 May 1956
Maj Richard H. Collins	by September 1954
1Lt Bernard B. Carroll	by December 1953
Maj Howard W. Densford	ca. 1 December 1952
Capt Donald E. Collins	10 July 1952

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers. None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

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 – 22 June 2018.
57th Rescue Squadron: 18 Feb 2015 – 22 June 2018
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; 1 April 1977 – 13 December 1991; 1 October 2021 – present.

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.

Aircraft

1941: Douglas A – 20 *Havoc*
Curtiss A – 18 *Shrike*
1942 – 1944: Douglas A – 20 *Havoc*
Douglas A – 24 *Dauntless*
Vultee A – 31 *Vengeance*
Vultee A – 35 *Vengeance*
North American A – 36 *Apache*
Bell P – 39 *Airacobra*
Curtiss P – 40 *Warhawk*
1944 – 1945: Republic P – 47 *Thunderbolt*
1952 – 1956: Republic F – 84 *Thunderjet*
North American F – 86 *Sabre*
1956 – 1957: North American F – 100 *Super Sabre*
1992: General Dynamics F – 111 *Aardvark*
1992 – present: McDonnell Douglas F – 15E *Strike Eagle*
1994 – present: McDonnell Douglas F – 15C/D *Eagle*
2004 – 2018: Sikorsky HH – 60G *Pave Hawk*
2021 – present: Lockheed Martin F – 35A *Lightning II*

Commanders

Col Peter J. Lee	24 June 2022
Col Sean E. Lowe	8 July 2020
Col Jason A. Camilletti	22 June 2018
Col Donn C. Yates	15 Jul 2016
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 Kegelmann	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

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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards:

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 2002 – 30 September 2004

1 October 2004 – 31 October 2005

1 November 2005 – 31 December 2006

1 January – 31 December 2007

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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 Timothy D. Anderson	16 Dec 2022
Lt Col Michael B. Holl	6 April 2021
Lt Col Ryan M. Lippert	7 February 2020
Lt Col William J. Watkins	7 August 2018
Lt Col Randon L. Storms	24 Feb 2017
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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010
1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015
1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018
1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

**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.



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.

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 – 1979: McDonnell Douglas F – 4 *Phantom II*
 1977 – 1992: General Dynamics F – 111 *Aardvark*
 1992 – present: McDonnell Douglas F – 15E *Strike Eagle*

Commanders

Lt Col Daniel J. Etue	24 June 2021
Lt Col Benjamin A. Donberg	7 February 2020
Lt Col William D. Wooten	14 June 2018
Lt Col Jeremy Renken	10 February 2016
Lt Col Matthew Hund	20 November 2015
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. Polowitz 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. Tuchsien	Prior to 1 July 1955
Maj Donald J. Gravenstine	December 1953
Lt Col William A. Norris	March 1953
Maj Staryl 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

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

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 March – 20 July 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 Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 January – 31 December 2007

1 January 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

**Honors Conferred from the 492d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron – Noble Anvil.*

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

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.

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 – 1977: McDonnell Douglas F – 4 *Phantom II*
1977 – 1992: General Dynamics F – 111 *Aardvark*
1992 – present McDonnell Douglas F – 15C *Eagle*

Commanders

Lt Col Grant J. Saum	11 October 2022
Lt Col Todd D. Pearson	19 May 2021
Lt Col Mark C. Perry	18 December 2020
Lt Col Anthony E. May	1 March 2019
Lt Col Cody Blake	2 August 2017
Lt Col Jason C. Zumwalt	3 June 2016
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 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

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)

Global War on Terrorism:

GWOT-E

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 6 December 1944

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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

**Honors Conferred from the 493d Expeditionary Fighter Squadron – Noble Anvil.*

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. Dilley, Jr.	1.25	17 December 1944
2Lt Howard W. Foulkes, Jr.	0.25	17 December 1944
1Lt 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
Capt Jeff Hwang	2.0	26 March 1999

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.

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*

Commanders

Lt Col Curtis B. Culver	26 May 2022
Lt Col Jonathan M. Hutto	9 January 2021
Lt Col Jaina L. Donberg	8 March 2019
Lt Col Morgan P. Lohse	5 January 2018
Lt Col Michael C. Alfaro	1 July 2016
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
Capt J. O. Cimaglia	16 November 1943
Capt Ward P. Robinson	Unknown
Unknown	January 1942
1Lt R. D. Callaway	15 Jan 1941

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

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, honors conferred from the 494th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron)

Global War on Terrorism:

GWOT-E

Afghanistan:

Consolidation II

Consolidation III

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer: None

Decorations.

Distinguished Unit Citation: Germany, 6 December 1944

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award: 1 March 2015 – 29 February 2016

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 2009 – 31 December 2010

1 January 2014 – 31 December 2015

1 January 2017 – 31 December 2018

1 January 2019 – 31 December 2020

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.

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

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

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/misile 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.



495th Fighter Squadron

Lineage

Constituted as 9th Reconnaissance Squadron (Light) on 20 November 1940. Activated on 15 January 1941.

Redesignated as 88th Bombardment Squadron (Light) on 14 August 1941;

Redesignated as 88th Bombardment Squadron (Dive) on 28 August 1942.

Redesignated as 495th Fighter-Bomber Squadron on 15 August 1943.

Disbanded on 1 April 1944.

Reconstituted, and redesignated as 495th Tactical Fighter Squadron on 24 January 1977.

Activated on 1 April 1977.

Inactivated on 13 December 1991.

Redesignated as 495th Fighter Squadron on 6 Apr 2021.

Activated on 1 October 2021.

Assignments

48th Bombardment (later, 48th Fighter-Bomber) Group, attached 15 January 1941, later assigned 14 August 1941.

407th Fighter-Bomber Group, c. 24 March – 1 April 1944.

48th Tactical Fighter (later, 48 Fighter) Wing, 1 April 1977 – 13 December 1991.

48th Operations Group, 1 October 2021 – present.

Stations

Savannah, Georgia, 15 January 1941.

Will Rogers Field, Oklahoma, 28 May 1941.

Savannah, Georgia, 7 February 1942.

Key Field, Mississippi, 15 June 1942.

William Northern Field, Tennessee, 20 August 1943.

Galveston Army Air Field, Texas, c. 24 March – 1 April 1944.

RAF Lakenheath, England, 1 April 1960 – 13 December 1991; 1 October 2021 – present.

Aircraft

1941: Douglas B-18 *Bolo*

1941 – 1943: Douglas A-20 *Havoc*

1943: Douglas A-24 *Banshee*

1943: Vultee A – 35 *Vengeance*

1942 – 1944: Curtiss P – 40 *Warhawk*

1942 – 1944: Bell P – 39 *Airacobra*

1944: Republic P-47 *Thunderbolt*

1977 – 1991: General Dynamics F – 111 *Aardvark*

2021 – present: Lockheed Martin F-35A *Lightning II*

Commanders

Lt Col Ian D. McLaughlin 1 October 2021

Lt Col James R. O'Brian, Jr. 28 January 1991

Lt Col James M. Young 16 October 1989

Lt Col Scott D. Ingram	3 December 1987
Lt Col Robert W. Peterman	5 January 1987
Lt Col William P. Kramer	7 June 1985
Lt Col John C. Aarni	30 May 1984
Lt Col Edward D. Huber	4 April 1982
Lt Col William E. Collins	12 June 1979
Lt Col Donald E. Langwell	1 July 1977
Maj Richard T. W. Rivers	17 May 1944
Maj John H. Paulk	1 February 1944
Capt Homer A. Forsythe	26 July 1943
Unknown	15 January 1941

Honors

Service Streamers. None

Campaign Streamers.

World War II American Theater:

Antisubmarine

Southwest Asia:

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

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

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer: None

Decorations.

Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation: 10 – 16 April 1986

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

Emblem

(Approved 21 March 2023)

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 white and light green checkered background signifies the battle arena. The upper blue portion of the disc alludes to the veil of night with nine white stars indicating the aircraft flown by the Squadron. A double-edged Norman sword cutting through the upper blue portion suggests cutting away the veil of night from the battle arena, denoting the Squadron's ability to be devastating to an enemy anytime, anywhere. The Latin motto, "MALA IPSA NOVA," translates to "BAD NEWS ITSELF."



Current Aircraft of the 48th Fighter Wing



Further information about the following aircraft is located at the United States Air Forces Website, <https://www.af.mil>

F-15E Strike Eagle



Background

The F-15's superior maneuverability and acceleration are achieved through its high engine thrust-to-weight ratio and low-wing loading. It was the first U.S. operational aircraft whose engines' thrust exceeded the plane's loaded weight, permitting it to accelerate even while in vertical climb. Low-wing loading (the ratio of aircraft weight to its wing area) is a vital factor in maneuverability and, combined with the high thrust-to-weight ratio, enables the aircraft to turn tightly without losing airspeed.

The first flight of the F-15A was made in July 1972. In November 1974, the first Eagle was delivered to the 58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing at Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, where training began in both F-15A and B aircraft. In January 1976, the first F-15 destined for a combat squadron was delivered to the 1st Tactical Fighter Wing at Langley AFB, Virginia.

The single-seat F-15C and two-seat F-15D models entered the Air Force inventory in 1979 and were first delivered to Kadena Air Base, Japan. These models were equipped with production Eagle package improvements, including 2,000 pounds of additional internal fuel, provisions for carrying exterior conformal fuel tanks and increased maximum takeoff weight of 68,000 pounds.

The first production model of the F-15E was delivered to the 405th Tactical Training Wing, Luke AFB, Arizona, in April 1988.

Mission

The F-15E Strike Eagle is a dual-role fighter designed to perform air-to-air and air-to-ground missions. An array of avionics and electronics systems gives the F-15E the capability to fight at low altitude, day or night and in all weather.

General Characteristics

Primary function: Air-to-ground attack aircraft

Contractor: The Boeing Company

Power plant: Two Pratt & Whitney F100-PW-220 or 229 turbofan engines with afterburners

Thrust: 25,000 - 29,000 pounds each engine

Wingspan: 42.8 feet (13 meters)

Length: 63.8 feet (19.44 meters)

Height: 18.5 feet (5.6 meters)

Weight: 37,500 pounds (17,010 kilograms)

Maximum takeoff weight: 81,000 pounds (36,450 kilograms)

Fuel capacity: 35,550 pounds (three external tanks plus conformal fuel tanks)

Payload: depends upon mission

Speed: 1,875 mph (Mach 2.5 plus)

Range: 2,400 miles (3,840 kilometers) ferry range with conformal fuel tanks and three external fuel tanks

Ceiling: 60,000 feet (18,288 meters)

Armament: One 20mm multibarrel gun mounted internally with 500 rounds of ammunition. Four AIM-9 Sidewinder missiles and four AIM-120 AMRAAM or eight AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles. Any air-to-surface weapon in the Air Force inventory (nuclear and conventional)

Crew: Pilot and weapon systems officer

For further information, see <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/104499/f-15e-strike-eagle/>

F-35A Lightning II



Background

The F-35 is designed to replace aging fighter inventories including U.S. Air Force F-16s and A-10s, U.S. Navy F/A-18s, U.S. Marine Corps AV-8B Harriers and F/A-18s, and U.K. Harrier GR.7s and Sea Harriers. With stealth and a host of next-generation technologies, the F-35 will be far and away the world's most advanced multi-role fighter. There exists an aging fleet of tactical aircraft worldwide. The F-35 is intended to solve that problem.

Mission

The F-35A is the U.S. Air Force's latest fifth-generation fighter. It will replace the U.S. Air Force's aging fleet of F-16 Fighting Falcons and A-10 Thunderbolt II's, which have been the primary fighter aircraft for more than 20 years, and bring with it an enhanced capability to survive in the advanced threat environment in which it was designed to operate. With its aerodynamic performance and advanced integrated avionics, the F-35A will provide next-generation stealth, enhanced situational awareness, and reduced vulnerability for the United States and allied nations.

General Characteristics

Primary Function: Multirole fighter

Prime Contractor: Lockheed Martin

Power Plant: One Pratt & Whitney F135-PW-100 turbofan engine

Thrust: 43,000 pounds

Wingspan: 35 feet (10.7 meters)

Length: 51 feet (15.7 meters)

Height: 14 feet (4.38 meters)

Maximum Takeoff Weight: 70,000 pound class

Fuel Capacity: Internal: 18,498 pounds

Payload: 18,000 pounds (8,160 kilograms)

Speed: Mach 1.6 (~1,200 mph)

Range: More than 1,350 miles with internal fuel (1,200+ nautical miles), unlimited with aerial refueling

Ceiling: Above 50,000 feet (15 kilometers)

Armament: Internal and external capability. Munitions carried vary based on mission requirements.

Crew: One

For further information, see <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/478441/f-35a-lightning-ii/>