

327th OBSERVATION SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

327th Squadron (Observation) constituted in the Organized Reserve, 24 Jun 1921

Initiated, 17 Nov 1921

Redesignated 327th Observation Squadron, 25 Jan 1923

327th Aero Squadron organized, 10 Dec 1917

Demobilized, Aug 1919

Reconstituted, 23 Nov 1936

327th Observation Squadron and 327th Aero Squadron consolidated, 23 Nov 1936. Consolidated organization designated 327th Observation Squadron

Inactivated, 2 Oct 1939

Disbanded, 31 May 1942

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX

Little Rock, AR, 1921-1926

Pine Bluff, AR, 1926-1931

St. Louis, MO 1931-1939

Inactive 1939-1941

ASSIGNMENTS

102nd Division, 1921-21 Feb 1929

COMMANDERS

Unknown, 17 Nov 1921-9 Dec 1921

Capt. F. Van P. Ellsworth, 9 Dec 1921-Jan 1922

Unknown, Jan 1922-2 Oct 1939

Inactive, 2 Oct 1939-7 Dec 1941

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

OCTOBER. 1917. the 327th Aero Service Squadron was organized, consisting of two officers and 150 men. who immediately began training for overseas service. The personnel of this squadron was used principally to organize new squadrons, and was commended on numerous occasions for work accomplished in handling newly organized squadrons and detachments, Construction, Motor and Balloon.

On April 10th. 1918, Captain John M. Holcombe, Jr., was assigned as Commander, relieving Lieut. Chalk. June 23rd, 1918, the command was reduced to but 26 of the original personnel, the purpose being to transfer out all inefficient men for overseas service, and replenished the number to 150 of specially selected men from the Flying Department and Kelly No. 1. While awaiting travel orders, this squadron won the distinction of being the champion guard outfit of Kelly Field.

September 4th, 1918, 1st Lieut. Frank C. Yates succeeded Captain Holcombe in command, the latter being ordered out of the field. During the Influenza epidemic at this Field, this squadron again rendered valuable aid to the Medical Department, its members being also selected to guard the entrances to Kelly Field.

On October 4th, 1918, this organization was again replenished to its full quota,. 154 men, from all over Kelly Field. Captain N. M. Kraemer was ordered to command the squadron, he being one of the oldest officers on the field, and he received orders from Washington thru the Post Commander to prepare his squadron for immediate overseas service, which he did.

Orders came to entrain, the squadron baggage was Inaded. and while dinner was being prepared aboard the train, the squadron, in heavy marching order, was reviewed by Major S. S. Hanks, C. O. Concentration Brigade, on November 13th, 1918. Upon its return to the Company street, the Commanding Officer received orders from Post Headquarters to unload all baggage

and await further orders. The armistice had been signed and the officers and members of the squadron felt very blue, although its morale was not broken.

Constituted in the Organized Reserve on 24 June 1921 as the 327th Squadron (Observation), assigned to the 102nd Division, and allotted to the Seventh Corps Area. Initiated on 17 November 1921 at Little Rock. The squadron was one of a few in the Organized Reserve that possessed facilities, equipment, and aircraft. The squadron's equipment was stationed at the Little Rock Air Intermediate Depot. Redesignated as the 327th Observation Squadron on 25 January 1923. Relocated on 11 February 1926 to Pine Bluff, AR. Conducted summer training at Marshall Field, KS, or Richards Field, MO. Relieved on 21 February 1929 from assignment to the 102nd Division. Relocated on 12 October 1931 to St. Louis, MO. Consolidated on 23 November 1936 with the 327th Aero Squadron (a WWI unit organized on 10 December 1917 at Kelly Field, TX; demobilized in August 1919 at Kelly Field, TX; reconstituted on 23 November 1936). Inactivated on 2 October 1939 at St. Louis by relief of personnel. Status: Disbanded on 31 May 1942.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Updated:

Sources

US Army Order of Battle 1919-1941. Steven E. Clay. Combat Studies Institute Press. US Army Combined Arms Center. Fort Leavenworth, KS. Nd.