

342nd SUB DEPOT

MISSION

LINEAGE

342nd Sub Depot

STATIONS

Elmendorf AAF, AK

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Military aircraft could not keep flying without the assistance of air depots and maintenance crews. When Alaska's first Air Corps units began to operate at Ladd and Elmendorf Fields, repair and maintenance organizations had to follow them in and set up shop. Before the war, when

the operations at both airfields were still quite limited, aircraft and supplies were provided by the Sacramento Air Depot in California. Beginning in February 1941, units of the 23rd Air Base Group, headquartered at Elmendorf, arrived to take care of on-site maintenance and repair. Detachments from this group were also present at Ladd Field.

After the United States entered the war, depot functions in Alaska were reorganized. In February 1942, the Sacramento Air Depot activated two sub-depots to take over Air Corps supply activities, one at Ladd and one at Elmendorf. The sub-depots' primary concern was to service tactical aircraft for what became the Eleventh Air Force, headquartered at Elmendorf Field. A few months later, in the summer of 1942, the 11th Air Force Service Command was activated and took command of these sub-depots. In August, the Ladd sub-depot was redesignated as the Alaska Air Depot (AAD), while the Elmendorf unit remained a sub-depot, the 342nd. The Alaska Air Depot's mission was to support the Eleventh Air Force by maintaining and improving aircraft and equipment for use in the Alaska Theater. Its responsibilities also included distributing parts and supplies to Elmendorf.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.