

640 AERO SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

121 Aero Squadron organized Aug 1917
Redesignated 121 Aero Squadron (Supply), Sep 1917
Redesignated 640 Aero Squadron (Supply), Feb 1918
Demobilized Apr 1919

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX,
Garden City, NY, Jan 1918
Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, NY, Jan 1918
AEF, Jan 1918
Mitchel Field, NY

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 640th Aero Squadron was formed at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas, Sep 1, 1917, as the 121st Aero, Squadron, with Corp. Fred C. Nelson, Cadet, in charge, who assumed the responsibility of making soldiers out of these recruits. He continued in this capacity until the latter part of Sep when 1st Lieut. Andrew R. Shiland was designated as the first Commanding Officer.

This squadron had the honor of being one of the founders of Kelly Field No. 2, which has since proved to be the Mecca of Southern Aviation. While at this field five members of the squadron were selected as flyers, five as instructors in the aviation schools and five were selected to attend the Officer's Training Corps. It was also the banner Liberty Bond Squadron of the Post.

Lieut. Shiland was relieved on Nov 3, 1917, by 1st. Lieut. Roscoe S. Porter, assuming command who was in turn relieved December 3 by 2nd. Lieut, Chester C. Ford., December 24, Lieut. Ford was relieved by 1st, Lieut. William C. Repass.

The squadron entrained Dec 28, 1917, for Garden City, L. I., arriving there January 1, 1918. Here the squadron was equipped and embarked from Hoboken N. Y., January 13, 1918, and After an uneventful voyage, landed at Brest January 24., entrained same date for St. Maixent, arriving there on January 29.

The squadron remained at St, Maixont during the month of February and it was here that its name was changed from the 121st squadron to the 640th squadron. From there the squadron proceeded to Issoudun arriving, March 1. At this post 2nd. Lieut. Frank V. Smith was relieved March 7, and 2nd. Lieut. Walter E. Dove was relieved on March 30th 1st Lieut. Edward J. O'Conner was relieved April 1, and on May 25, Lieut. William C. Repass was relieved from command by 1st Lieut. William C. Rector who has remained with it ever since.

There has not been a death in the organization and only one man has been discharged for physical disability.

Commanders

1Lt William G. Rector

Maj Richard B. Barnitz

Maj Edward L.Hoffman

1Lt James H. Briggs

1Lt Lee F. Lanham

1Lt Roscoe S. Porter

1Lt William C. Repass

1Lt Andrew R. Shiland

2nd Chester C. Ford

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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