

734 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON



MISSION

734 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron mission man, equip, train and maintain in coordination with other friendly forces will provide warning of, and an effective defense against, hostile air operations directed against the Moroccan Area in consonance with current French/American agreements.

LINEAGE

734 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron

STATIONS

Djenane Krata, French Morocco

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

734th Aircraft Control & Warning Sq (Site Y3)

Djenane Krater, Maroc

Activated Sep 1952 Deactivated May 1962

Site Y3 was located approximately 90 miles South East of Oujda, Morocco. This site was established in Sept. 1952 about four years before Morocco gained independence from France. It was deactivated and razed around May 1962. In addition to the approximately 100 or so airman assigned to this radar site each year, there was also a small contingent of French Airman assigned for two year tours.

This Radar Sites first designation (Sep 1952) was 117th AC&W Sq, B Flight. It was then changed to 735th AC&W Sq, B Flight. It was permanently changed to the 734th AC&W Sq, Site Y3 in early 1953. Not much is known about what happened at this Site during 1953-1954, but we have to assume that the site was being built up with permanent buildings, living quarters, etc. First there were tent Buildings (wooden floors with tent tops). Then there were several "Dallas Huts." and finally permanent "Motar/Cement Barracks." Several of the the support building were large metal Quanset huts including the Gym and Communication Center. The Motor Pool was a large permanent building located about 75 yards from, and adjacent to the Air Police Shack at the Main Gate.

There were several AC&W Squadrons in Morroco, some of which were located in the Atlas Mountains and the Sahara Desert. Their mission was to calibrate, set up, and maintain early warning and tactical control radar and radio sites in support of the Strategic Air Command Bases at Nouasseur, Sidi Slimane, and Ben Guerir Air Bases in Morocco. The majority of these AC&W sites were activated in 1952-1953.

With the destabilization of French government in Morocco, and Moroccan independence in 1956, the government of Mohammed V wanted the US Air Force to pull out of the SAC bases in Morocco, insisting on such action after American intervention in Lebanon in 1958. The United States agreed to leave as of December 1959, and was fully out of Morocco in 1963. SAC felt the Moroccan bases were much less critical with the long range of the B-52, and with the completion of the Spanish bases in 1959.

734th

Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Jnane Rhat, French Morocco

8 October, 1952 – 18 September, 1953

Subordinate to: 316th Air Division, 549th Aircraft Control and Warning Group

Mission: Man, equip, train and maintain in coordination with other friendly forces will provide warning of, and an effective defense against, hostile air operations directed against the Moroccan Area in consonance with current French/American agreements.

Equipment: MPS-7, 1954

734 ACW Djenane Krater, Fr. Morocco, MA

Call Sign(s): Hobnob

734 ACW 734 ACW Djenane Krater, Fr. Morocco, MA GPS-4; MPS-14
1962

1952

Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Jnane Rhat, French Morocco

8 October, 1952 – 18 September, 1953

Subordinate to: 316th Air Division, 549th Aircraft Control and Warning Group

Equipment: MPS-7, 1954

Sale Airfield, Morocco

Djenane Krater, Morocco

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.