772 RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)



MISSION

LINEAGE

772 Aircraft Control And Warning Squadron Redesignated 772 Radar Squadron (SAGE)

STATIONS

Claysburg, VA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS



Maj Russell F. Henry (USAF photo)

Maj Russell F. Henry

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

772nd Radar Sq (SAGE): assigned 1 Jan 51 at Connellsville, PA, assigned to 503rd ACETW Gp; moved to Blue Knob Park, PA by Dec 51; transferred to 26th AD 6 Feb 52; transferred to 4710th Def Wg '16 Feb 53; site redesignated Claysburg AFS, PA 1 Dec 53; transferred to 4708th AD Wg 1 Mar 56; transferred to 30th AD 8 Jul 56; transferred to Syracuse ADS 15 Aug 58; redesignated from ACP4 Sq to 772nd Radar Sq (SAGE) Feb 59; transferred to NY ADS 1 May 61 and moved to Pedricktown A[, NJ; transferred to 21st AD 1. Apr 66; reassigned to 35th Al) 1 Dec 67; reassigned to 21st. AD 19 Nov 69; redesignated 772nd Radar Sq 1 Feb 74.

1958 26 AD 772 ACWS

Radar types: AN/CPS-6B, AN/TPS-1, AN/CPS-4

CPS-4; FPS-3; FPS-4; FPS-6 (2), -6A; FPS-20, -20A

a.k.a. Blue Knob Park (AFS), PA; Sq relocated to RP-63, Gibbsboro AFS, NJ; Claysburg AFS became Det. 1, 772nd AC&W Sq. (SAGE); later, gap-filler site P-30H / Z-62F (but possibly was never operational as such).

The 772nd AC&W Squadron began operations at this peak in April 1952, allowing shutdown of the Connellsville L-16 Lashup site. In 1956 an AN/FPS-4 replaced the original AN/CPS-4 height-finder radar, and two years later an AN/FPS-20 replaced the original AN/FPS-3 search radar. In 1958 two AN/FPS-6 height-finder radars were installed, and the AN/FPS-4 was retired. One height-finder radar was upgraded to an AN/FPS-6A in 1959. Also in 1959, the search radar was upgraded to an AN/FPS-20A. This site was deactivated in 1961, and the squadron and the site designation relocated to Gibbsboro, New Jersey (RP-63 / Z-63), a shared Army Nike long-range radar site (for the Pedricktown, NJ, Nike Missile-Master control center) and previously Air Force gap-filler radar site P-9A. Claysburg AFS was redesignated a gap-filler annex, but reportedly never became operational as such.

P-63 - Blue Knob Park, Claysburg

The 772nd began operations at this peak in April 1952, allowing shutdown of the Connelsville L-16 Lashup site. In 1956 an AN/FPS-4 replaced the original AN/FPS-4 height-finder radar and two years later an AN/FPS-20 replaced the original AN/FPS-3 search radar. This site was deactivated in 1961 and repositioned to Gibbsboro, New Jersey (RP-63).

RP-63/Z-63/J-51- Gibbsboro

Initially this site was operating during the late 1950s as a gap-filler radar site with an AN/FPS-14 radar. To provide more protection for the east coast, the Air Force moved site designation P-63 and the 772nd Radar Squadron from Claysburg, Pennsylvania to this site located twelve miles east of Philadelphia. This station began operations in 1961 with AN/FPS-66 and AN/FPS-6 radars. The center initially fed data to the SAGE center at McGuire AFB. An AN/FPS-27 replaced the AN/FPS-66 in 1963. At this time the site used AN/FPS-6A and AN/FPS-26A height-finder radars. The site became an ADC/FAA joint-use facility around 1966. The 772nd continued operating the AN/FPS-27 and AN/FPS-26A radars until 1983. The squadron was deactivated in 1984. However, an AN/FPS-117 became operational in 1986 under contractor support. This radar served as a prototype for units installed

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL. Unit yearbook. *4710 Defense Wing*. Taylor Publication Co. Dallas, TX. Nd.