

# 826 AERO SQUADRON

## **MISSION**

Repair

## **LINEAGE**

826 Aero Squadron

Organized Feb 1918

Demobilized Jun 1919

## **STATIONS**

Waco, TX

Mineola, NY, Mar 1918

Garden City, NY, Apr 1918

Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, NY, May 1918

AEF, May 1918

Farnborough, Hampshire, England

Flowerdown Camp, Hampshire, England

France

Mitchel Field, NY

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **COMMANDERS**

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 826<sup>th</sup> Aero Repair Squadron, made up as it were from the cream of America's skilled mechanics and technical experts was organized 1 Feb 1918, at Aviation Camp, Waco, Texas, with 2Lt Jefferson C. Weekly in command. This squadron, consisting of 150 enlisted men, after a months usual camp duties at Waco, TX, entrained 25 Feb 1918, for the Aviation Supply Depot, Garden City, L.I., N.Y., with 1Lt James L. Snedecor, Air Service, U.S.A., in command. Upon arrival at Mineola, Long Island, NY, on 3 Mar 1918, the squadron was quartered at Field #3, and performed regular camp duties. Later the squadron moved to Aviation Tent Camp Field #2, Aeronautical General Supply Depot and Concentration Camp, Garden City, L.I., NY, to be equipped and await orders for overseas service.

On 2 May 1918, orders were received to entrain for dock #58, and that evening the squadron boarded the steamship Carmania. At this time 2Lt Jefferson C. Weekly, was relieved from duty with the organization and 2Lt William F. Rolle, was assigned for duty; also 1Lt James M. Torrence was attached.

Upon arrival at Liverpool, England, on 16 May 1918 the squadron proceeded to Knotty Ash Rest Camp. On 16 May squadron proceeded to Flower Down American Rest Camp, Winchester, England. Here the usual camp duties were performed until 7 Jun 1918, when orders came to proceed to South Farnborough, Hants, England. Upon arrival at this station the squadron was attached to the British Air Service (Royal Flying Corps)

Upon the date of arrival the squadron was review and Inspected by their Majesties, the King and Queen of England; also by the Duke of Connaught, Princess Patricia and the Duchess Athlone. As we were in detachment with only one other American squadron, this was a signal honor. While at this place members of the command had the privileges and honor of acting as guard to Their Majesties, the King and Queen, on their review and inspection of the women's Army Auxiliary Corps, at Farnborough, England.

On 10 Jun 1918, the personnel of the squadron were assigned to work on airplanes at the Southern Aircraft Repair Depot No. 1, which was established at the place and considered the largest Aircraft Repair Depot on the British Isles. Not until the members of this squadron were assigned to duty here had they had the opportunity of proving their worth and effective skill as mechanics. So great was the capacity of our men to do work that required skill and fine technical knowledge, that the English people began to admire and wonder at the supreme quality of American labor. But, before these experts had a chance to show their real worth, the

squadron was ordered to France.

On 29 Jun 1918, the squadron left South Farnborough, and reached the American Air Service Camp, Flower Down, Winchester England on the same date while awaiting orders to proceed to France, 2Lt, William E. Rollo was relieved from duty and placed in command of the 841<sup>st</sup> Aero Squadron. At this time the organization came under the personal observation of the Camp Commandant, Maj Frank C. Page, who pronounced it the best squadron that had passed through England.

July 7th, 1918, squadron left Winchester and proceeded to pier at Southampton, where it boarded the steamship St. George. On 18 Jul 1918, squadron arrived at LeHarve France, and was quartered at American Rest Camp, #2, at this port.

10 Jul 1918, squadron was ordered to proceed to Romorantin France. This place was reached 12 Jul and soon after the men were assigned to mechanical duties in the shops of Air Service Production Center 2, the largest Aircraft Production center in the American Expeditionary Force. 1Lt James M. Torrence, was relieved from duty with the squadron and assigned to Camp Hospital No. 37 on 13 Jul 1918. On 24 Sep 1918, 2Lt Walter P. Shiner, was assigned to the squadron for duty.

It was that the military service in general and the United States Air Service in particular, received its greatest aid and help from the members of this command. So fine was the quality of the service rendered, and so patriotic was the zeal and ambition of every member, that the squadron won the esteem of all the department heads of this great center. LTC E.V. Sumner, Commanding Officer of the post, has written, "This in one of the most efficient and best run organizations on the post.

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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.