

2 TROOP CARRIER SQUADRON (MEDIUM)



MISSION

LINEAGE

2 Photographic Squadron constituted, 15 May 1941

Activated, 10 Jun 1941

Redesignated 2 Mapping Squadron, 13 Jan 1942

Redesignated 2 Photographic Mapping Squadron, 9 Jun 1942

Redesignated 2 Photographic Charting Squadron, 11 Aug 1943

Redesignated 2 Reconnaissance Squadron (Long Range, Photographic), 15 Jun 1945

Redesignated 2 Reconnaissance Squadron (Very Long Range, Photographic), 20 Nov 1945

Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946

Redesignated 2 Reconnaissance Squadron (Photographic), 11 Mar 1947

Activated in the reserve, 6 Oct 1947

Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

Redesignated 2 Troop Carrier Squadron (Medium), 26 May 1952

Activated in the reserve, 14 Jun 1952

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1953

STATIONS

Gray Field, WA, 10 Jun 1941

Geiger Field, WA, 2 Jan 1942

Felts Field, WA, 1 Feb 1942

Peterson Field, CO, 5 Jan 1944

Buckley Field, CO, 2 Jul-2 Sep 1944

Hollandia, New Guinea, 20 Oct 1944
Morotai, 13 Dec 1944
Palawan, 5 May 1945
Clark Field, Luzon, 22 Jan-4 Feb 1946
Buckley Field, CO, 9 Feb-31 Mar 1946
Rome AAFld, NY, 6 Oct 1947-27 Jun 1949
Mitchel AFB, NY, 14 Jun 1952-1 Apr 1953

ASSIGNMENTS

1 Photographic (later Mapping; Photographic Charting) Group, 10 Jun 1941
311 Photographic (later Reconnaissance) Wing, 5 Oct 1944-31 Mar 1946
65 Reconnaissance Group, 6 Oct 1947-27 Jun 1949
65 Troop Carrier Group, 14 Jun 1952-1 Apr 1953

ATTACHMENTS

Far East Air Forces, 20 Oct 1944-4 Feb 1946

WEAPON SYSTEMS

OA-9
F-2, 1941-1942
A-29, 1942-1943
F-3, 1942
B-25/F-10, 1943-1944
B-24/F-7, 1944-1946

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

American Theater

Campaign Streamers

New Guinea
Southern Philippines

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

EMBLEM



On a disc white, bordure blue, a caricatured derisive squirrel tan and brown, teeth and stomach white, shoes and gloves yellow, eye blue, tongue red, holding a white map roll under the right arm, and sighting a black camera to rear over left shoulder, dodging five bullets trailing three speed lines black; left knee emitting two red lines and star to base. (Approved, 10 Oct 1942)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Mapped areas of the United States, 1941-1944; Canada and Alaska, 1941-1943; South America, 1942-1943; and Kuril Islands, Jun-Sep 1944. Mapping and photographic reconnaissance in Southwest Pacific, 10 Dec 1944-Sep 1945.

Six thirty A. M., March 9th, whistles blew and bedlam reigned--the orders were out--Get ready to move, eat early chow; HURRY! HURRY! HURRY! It had been expected but not this soon. All was in a turmoil, problems seemed unsurmountable--but we made it!

After chow, tents were rolled up, footlockers were jammed shut, barracks bags over-stuffed, musette bags were spilling over am sweat stood out on the brows of all concerned.

The night before Lt. Gooldy (Acting c. o.) asked the Top Kick and Supply Sergeant if would be possible to break camp and be loaded by seven o'clock the following night. He was told that if he said so that it could be done by three o'clock the next day. It was--and again it proved that the Second when given the orders can do its share in record time.

It was exactly seven hours later when the trains were parked, boxcars packed, flatcars loaded, mess hall all set up in the baggage car; and the men were showered and shaved ready for chow. Many of the boys were giving Douglas their last look and bidding farewell to the many friends they had made there.

Late that night the wheels started rolling and the mighty Second was on the move again. Where????? No one knew.

As the miles flew from under, the boys were having a high old time and everybody was in high spirits in anticipation of new prospects.

After two days of dust, dirt and cramping muscles, we roared through Texas--San Antonio was in sight--and then it came like a bolt of lightning, a shock that surprised everyone--"Our New Home"----Laredo.

Sliding into the Laredo Air Base at about eight o'clock in the evening of the 12th, there was never a sadder bunch of men than those of the Second. Like soldiers they griped their heads off and hollered, for which no one could blame them. Kept on the train that night and messing in the baggage car for breakfast was not much run, but morning brought the "Battler" to take us cross town to Fort McIntosh--our new temporary home.

Now that we are stationed in Texas, the I.am of the winds and dust, we take stock of our surroundings. The Fort is a swell lay-out. The lawns are green and well kept, the trees are pruned, and the outfits which call this place home are really proud of the job they have done.

The Fort has a swell hospital in which yours truly, was confined with an injury. It is small, but nice and the best doctors to be had are in charge. The Post Exchange is well kept and always completely stocked. We often visit the Post Theater where almost all the latest shows are running, The Non-Coms Club is quite the place and greatly appreciated by the higher ranks in the outfit. We hear tell the Officers have a swell lay-out for O club. The lab men, mainly Pfc. Rosenau, have taken a flock of record shots of the Fort and they are pretty good, There are also tennis courts for our netmen, ball diamond for our undefeated team and two swimming pools which will be opened to the Second this month.

On 20 May 1944, the 2 Photo Charting Squadron arrived on Shemya for temporary duty. This unit, with its fourteen officers and fifty enlisted men, flew classified missions over enemy territory. On 27 Sep, they departed the Alaskan Department for their home station of Buckley Field, CO.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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