

12 AIR POSTAL SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

12 Air Postal Squadron constituted, 14 May 1953

Activated, 8 Jul 1953

Discontinued and inactivated, 8 Jan 1963

STATIONS

Paris, France, 8 Jul 1953-8 Jan 1963

ASSIGNMENTS

7025 Air Postal Group, 8 Jul 1953-8 Jan 1963

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

15 Jul 1962-8 Jan 1963

EMBLEM

A shield shape of twelve vertical stripes blue and white, thereon a stylized wing pattern of Air Force yellow, all within a narrow border of the last. The blue and yellow are for the Air Force. The stylized wing symbolizes the speed and efficiency with which the squadron performs its mission. The field of twelve alternating stripes of blue and white indicate the unit's designation. The simplicity of the design symbolizes efficiency and service. ((Approved, 1 Jun 1954)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 12th Air Postal Squadron was activated on 8 Jul 1953 in Paris with six Air Postal Offices, and 11 officers and 85 airmen from the 2d Air Postal Sq personnel in France. Squadron Headquarters and a Mail Distribution Center, APO 230 were established in Paris at 8 avenue Kleber near the Arc de Triomphe. In 1955, to handle the increasing volume of mail and reduce expenses, a larger two story facility with 18,000 square feet was acquired and remodeled at 41 Rue d'Alleray near Gare Mont-parnasse. All mail arriving by train and aircraft destined for a USAFE facility in France was processed through APO 230.

On 31 December 1954 the 12th APO Sq had 16 officers and 178 airmen performing postal duties at nine APOs across France. By 1955 a typical air base Air Postal Office would handle 5100 pounds of airmail, 2400 pounds of first class mail, 4200 pounds of official mail, issue 2100 money orders worth \$78,000, and sell \$4200 worth of postage stamps every three months. These often forgotten small postal detachments were crucial in maintaining base morale with reliable mail services.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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

U.S. Air Force in France 1950-1967. Jerome J. McAuliffe. Milspec Press Way. San Diego, CA.