

1320 GUARD SQUADRON

MISSION

The purpose of this organization was to maintain security for the base and patrol the nearby town of Marietta, Georgia.

LINEAGE

1302 Guard Squadron

Activated, 10 Jun 1943

Inactivated, 25 Mar 1944

STATIONS

Cobb County (later Marietta) Army Airfield, Marietta, GA, 10 Jun 1943-1 Apr 1944

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

On 10 June 1943, the 1320th Guard Squadron was activated with station at Cobb County Army Airfield in Marietta, Georgia.

Captain John P. Ilsley, was assigned to the squadron on 27 June and was appointed commanding officer vice 2nd Lt. Leonard Marks. Captain Ilsley also assumed the duty as base provost marshal. During the months of June, July, August, September, personnel were acquired from installations from all parts of the United States. On 6 December 1943, Major Maynard C. Clark assumed command of the squadron by his Captain Ilsley. A new guard system was installed, dividing the squadron into four platoons, military police, interior guards, overhead, and fatigue detail. This was accomplished by verbal orders from Major Clark. A day room, a reading room, and a classroom were opened in the squadron area. The reading room was furnished completely by the Rotary Club of Marietta. The other rooms were furnished by donations from squadron personnel, special services, and fraternal organizations in Marietta.

In December 1943, 16 men were transferred to Mitchell Field, New York. The squadron's strength by the end of December consisted of five officers and 342 enlisted men. On 17 March 1944, Major James Sims, Base Intelligence Officer, assumed command of the 1320 Guard Squadron from Major Maynard Clark, who was assigned to Harding Field in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Personnel of the Guard Squadron were gradually transferred to other Air Force installations, and on 25 March 1944, the strength of this squadron consisted of three officers and 224 enlisted men.

From March 25 to 27 March 1944, the squadron was inspected by the Assistant Provost Marshall from Headquarters, 2nd Air Force. It reported the base was well guarded and the guards were well informed. Also, that the police and prison setup were excellent. About 98% of the squadron fired familiarization course in the carbine .45 automatic shotgun and the Thompson machine gun, with a good percentage qualifying in more than one weapon.

On 25 March 1944, the 1320 Guard Squadron was inactivated and personnel and equipment became part of the 202 Army Air Force Base Unit (Standby), designated as Section D, Security Section.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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