## 23 MOBILE RECLAMATION AND REPAIR SQUARON

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Mobile Reclamation and Repair Squadrons

Because of the large number of battle-damaged and crashed bombers landing away from home bases in the United Kingdom, the Mobile R & R Squadron was developed. It was organized to be completely mobile, self-sufficient, and equipped to perform on site repairs at various locations. In the IX Air Force Service Command, a Mobile R & R Squadron was assigned to each Service Group and its units were split up between the two Service Teams, its headquarters remailling

with headquarters of the Service Group. This Squadron was later divided evenly between the two Service Teams.

On the Continent, a Mobile R & R Squadron was attached to each Army to provide supply and maintenance for the 300 liaison type aircraft serving with each Army. This organization proved to be one of the most valuable service organizations in the invasion Air Force and was used for innumerable purposes not anticipated in the original troop basis, such as for glider and aircraft assembly. These squadrons gave to the Command much of its flexibility.

Of the part played by the IX Air Force Service Command and its units on the Continent, Gen. Omar N. Bradley wrote, in part: " ... The IX Air Force Service Command and its subordinate units by enthusiastic, efficient and unfailing labor have kept field artillery aircraft flying under the most difficult combat conditions. This support has contributed materially to the success of the Twelfth Army Group."

On the Continent, despite relatively heavy losses in aircraft and the stubborn supply difficulties incident to the rapid advance of the First U. S. Army across France and Belgium, the support rendered by the 23rd Mobile Reclamation and Repair Squadron has been continuous and unfailing."

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## Sources

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