

683th ARMAMENT SYSTEMS SQUADRON

Ardmore Air Force Base (1953-59)

On August 20, 1943, Ardmore Army Air Field passed from the Third Air Force to the Second Air Force. Things seemed to solidify for the first time, September 16, 1943, with the transfer of the 46th Bombardment Operational Training Wing of the 20th Bomber Command (Headquarters, Biggs Field, El Paso, Texas) to Ardmore. With this move, the 46th BOTW became responsible for direction and supervision of Ardmore and seven other fields.

This wing had been stationed at Dalhart, Texas under the recent command, September 10, 1943, of Brigadier General Frank A. Armstrong, Jr.. Armstrong, who was promoted to Brigadier General, February 8, 1943, had recently returned from overseas duty with impressive combat experience in B-17s before arriving at Dalhart and AAAFId. He commanded the 306th Bomb Group, 8th Air Force, Thurleigh, UK, January 4, 1943 to February 17, 1943.

Soon after the arrival of the 46th BOTW, a full contingency of men and Boeing B-17 "Flying Fortresses," Squadrons 588, 589, 590 and 591, from the 395th Bombardment Group arrived from Ephrata Army Air Base, Washington. Barracks that had been sparsely occupied since activation, were quickly filled with support troops from various locations. In quick succession, five bombing ranges (2,550-plus acres each) and an air-to-ground gunnery range (9,430 acres) were added to the facilities of the field. On November 24, 1943, the 395th was transformed into the 395th Combat Crew Training School providing instructional personnel for the training of new combat crews for the B-17s.

Dalhart Army Air Field, Tex.

- 46 Bombardment Operational Training Wing
- 96 Service Squadron
- 100 Airdrome Squadron
- 305 Airdrome Squadron
- 338 Base Hq and Air Base Squadron

356 Sub Depot
361 Aviation Squadron
368 AAF Band
536 Service Squadron

LINEAGE

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

MISSION EQUIPMENT

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

CALL SIGN

OPERATIONS

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources