

# **3139<sup>th</sup> AMMUNITION SUPPLY SQUADRON**

## **LINEAGE**

## **STATIONS**

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **COMMANDERS**

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

St. Mihiel Sub-Depot

St. Mihiel, located in the Meuse Department, is 172 miles (274 km) east of Paris and 18 miles (29 km) south of Autoroute A4 on Department Route D964. The St. Mihiel Sub-Depot (48° 53'N - 05° 34'E) was located in a French Army Caserne on the southeast edge of the city on route D907.

St. Mihiel was established in summer 1951 as the aircraft munitions specialized sub-depot of Chateauroux Air Depot to support the fighter air bases in northeastern France. This sub-depot was operated by 73d Air Depot Wing, CAMAE, from September 1951 until January 1967. St. Mihiel Air Station, Annex #2689, was offered by France for our use in February 1951. This facility had been the French Infantry Cas-erne de Senarmont built in 1887. Approximately eighteen large structures had housed an infantry battalion and its horse drawn wagons. This caserne was used by the U.S. Third Army in its drive east to the Moselle River in the fall of 1944. The structures needed repairs and new construction to get the sub-depot in operating condition. Depot personnel operated in temporary facilities until the warehouse, offices, motor

maintenance shop, and munitions training buildings were finished in June 1954. A munitions repair building with 3,800 square feet of shop space was constructed in 1956. Finally twenty-two buildings comprised the sub-depot. A second annex was developed as part of the sub-depot, the St. Mihiel Ammunition Storage Annex #8446, a conventional ammunition storage site. The St. Mihiel property and buildings were officially accepted from France and dedicated on 18 September 1953. In January 1953 the 75th Ammunition Supply Sq arrived from CONUS to operate the new sub-depot. Later this unit changed designation to the 7372d Ammunition Supply Sq.

The mission of the 7372d Ammunition Supply Sq, as stated in Twelfth Air Force Regulation 23-49 was: "To receive, store, issue, inspect, renovate, and dispose of base level ammunition stocks and explosive items of Air Force Stock Class 39B; and to assist other ammunition sites as directed in the handling, movement, and storage of ammunition." In 1956 the 7372d Ammunition Supply Sq was redesignated the 3139th Ammunition Supply Sq with the same mission.

The St. Mihiel depot manning on 1 January 1957 consisted of 6 officers, 159 airmen, 2 DAF civilians, and 212 French personnel. The ammunition squadron also provided logistical support to three attached units. Det #14, 12th Postal Sq operated a small post office, APO #188, Detachment #27, 8th Radio Relay Squadron maintained the, OL G-II, microwave station, and Detachment #1, 7410th EOD Squadron disposed of outdated explosive bolts, pylon ejectors, and aircraft seat/canopy charges, as well as removing aircraft ordnance from accident sites. From 1954 to 1966, the St. Mihiel sub-depot received logistical support from Toul AB located twenty-five miles to the east. The 465th TCWg, the 50th FBWg, and later the 7544th Combat Support Gp provided all required services. This support was always coordinated with Chateauroux Air Depot Base Services, located 360 miles away.

The St. Mihiel Sub-Depot, as well as the other sub-depots, were transferred between the USAF Air Material Command (AMC) and USAFE during their operations in France. These transactions were primarily done to switch the operational costs to different major air command budgets. For instance, the St. Mihiel sub-depot was initially built and operated under the direction of AMC Europe. Then it was assigned to Twelfth Air Force, effective 1 January 1956, under authority of General Order #94, Headquarters USAFE, Wiesbaden, West Germany, dated 12 December 1955. Then on 1 January 1958, St Mihiel was transferred by USAFE back to the USAF Air Material Command, Central Air Material Area Europe. On 1 November 1962 the USAF Logistic Command, formerly AMC, transferred St. Mihiel back to USAFE. In mid 1961, USAFE offered the sub-depot to the U.S. Army for its use, but USAFE was directed to maintain ownership and control of this sub-depot. Det #1, 7374th Ammunition Supply Sq remained at the St. Mihiel depot to assist the Army.

On 31 January 1967, St. Mihiel Administration Annex #2689 and the St. Mihiel Ammunition Storage Annex #8446 were transferred to the Military Liquidation Section in Paris. These were the first major USAFE installations to be turned over to the MLS and returned to France as part of Project FRELOC.

AMC approved OOAMA's long-time request for consolidation of all airmunitions functions into one organization. These were the changes: designation and organization of the Headquarters, 2705th Airmunitions Wing; abolishment of the Directorate of Airmunitions; discontinuance of the 2700th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group and the 25th Ammunition Supply Squadron; transfer of functions and personnel of the Directorate of Materiel Management's Ammunition Logistics Support Division to the Wing, redesignated as the Inventory Management Division. EOD functions were performed by an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Division within the Wing and these EOD Squadrons: 2701st, Hill AFB with five Detachments; 2702nd, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio with five Detachments; 2703rd, Tachikawa Air Base, Japan with six Detachments. Functions of the 25th Ammunition Supply Squadron were performed by the Wing's Depot Operations Division. 8 Jan 1960

AFLC reorganized the 2705th Airmunitions Wing, OOAMA, discontinuing the 2702nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Squadron, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio and its Detachments: 1, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma; 2, Kelly AFB, Texas; 3, Robins AFB, Georgia; 6, Griffiss AFB, New York., 1 Feb 1962

AFLC designated, organized and assigned to OOAMA's 2705th Airmunitions Wing., the four officers, nine airmen and seven Civil Service civilians and the functions of the Headquarters, 2730th Airmunitions Group, Chateauroux Air Base, France. Concurrently, it relieved the following Ammunition Supply Squadrons (with no change in location) from assignment to Air Materiel Force, European Area (AMFEA) and assigned them to Hq, 2730th: 3115th, RAF Welford, England (seven officers, 145 airmen, 140 indigenous civilians); 3134th, Leghord, Italy (three officers, 30 airmen, nine indigenous civilians); 3139th, Morbach, Germany (three officers, 28 airmen, 48 indigenous civilians); 3148th, St. Mihiel, France (six officers, 70 airmen, 162 indigenous civilians). 1 Jul 1962

The Department of the Air Force relieved from assignment to the AFLC and assigned to the United States Air Forces, Europe, with no change in location, these outfits which had been under OOAMA's 2705th Airmunitions Wing since 1 July 1962: Headquarters, 2730th Airmunitions Group., Chateauroux Air Station, France, and these Ammunition Supply Squadrons, 3115th, RAF Welford, England; 3134th, Leghord, Italy; 3139th Morbach, Germany; 3148th, St. Mihiel, France, 1 Nov 1962

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Sources