

25TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON
40TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
March Field, Calif.

7 Oct 1946 to 10 Jan 1946

The first of the Air Echelon to leave Tinian was on the night of the 9th of Oct. 1946, between the hours of 2200 and 2400. It was a movement of four (4) B57s that had been designated as stand-bys for the 40th Group. They arrived in the United States at March Field, Sacramento, California on the morning of the 11th of October 1946.

The crews were then sent either to Separation Centers or on Temporary Duty, rehabilitation and rest amount, for forty-five (45) days; this was later extended until 10 Jan. 1946, ordered to report to March Field, California.

March Field, California is designated as the permanent base of the 40th Bomb Group. The main force of the 25th Squadron Air Echelon left Tinian on the 12th of Oct. and arrived in the United States at March Field, California on the 15th of Oct. They were given forty-five (45) days Temporary Duty, rehabilitation and rest amount.

On November 7th the Ground Echelon departed the tropical Isle of Tinian on the "Meybank" ship. Embarked at Wilmington Lee An olas, California, on the 25th of November 1946 at 1430. They then proceeded to Camp Anna Riverside, California. The troops were either separated or remained with the squadron.

The cadre and twelve (12) enlisted men arrived at March Field under the direction of its Lagerer, Keith, and Seising. Major de Winters remained at March Field, and was acting Adjutant of the 40th Group. The main force reported to March Field, on or about the 10th of January 1946, after a very happy Christmas and New Years.

Francis J. Sullivan
Capt., Air Corps
40th Bomb Group

SQUADRON HISTORY
OF
26TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON
40TH BOMBARDMENT GROUP
March Field, Calif.

1 Feb. thru 28 Feb. 1946

January 16, 1946 is recognized as the date of re-organization of the 26th Bombardment Squadron.

The Squadron, on this day, began the assignment of officers and enlisted men to various duties. These duties were considered as either primary, or additional. Some of the men were assigned to both.

On February 1, 1946 the Commanding Officer of the 26th Bomb Squadron was Lt. Col. Oscar R. Schauf. His date of command began as of January 16, 1946. He replaced Major John C. Eganman.

The following named officers were assigned duties as indicated as of 26 January 1946:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Maj Child, John E. | O 424 407 | Ops O |
| Capt. Hewitt, Melbert B. | O 500 525 | Adj |
| Capt. Klumicki, Leonard A. | O 531 556 | Eng O |
| Capt. Raulich, Warren | O 552 570 | Asst Adj |
| Capt O'Sullivan, Francis J. | O 435 458 | Intell O |
| Capt Underwood, William | O 603 515 | Spa Ser O |
| 1st Lt De Coster, James | O 751 106 | Supply O |
| 1st Lt Bowers, Fred W. | O 500 565 | Comm O |
| 1st Lt Bailey, John A. | O 650 907 | Bill O |
| 1st Lt Glass, Robert J. | O 754 605 | Wt & Bal O |
| 1st Lt Mickulich, John R. | 02 074 522 | Ath O & Radar |
| 1st Lt Barnes, William C. | 066 882 | Opd O |
| Flt O McCrearty, Edward TSB | 075 084 | Asst wt & Bal O |

On Feb. 7, 1946 the following named officers were assigned duties as indicated.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Capt Lloyd W. Miller | O 654 121 | Armament O |
| Capt John A. Crockett | O 420 605 | Sq Navigator |
| Capt Francis Williamson | O 661 906 | Sen A/C O |
| 1st Lt Robert T. Cannon | O 764 215 | Asst Opr O |
| 2d Lt Harry E. Herman | O 951 511 | Asst Eng O |
| 1st Lt Fred W. Bowers | O 500 560 | Sq File Marshall |

On Feb 15, 1946, a council to administer the Squadron fund as required by par 15 AR 210-80 was constituted composed of:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Lt. Col. Schauf Oscar R. | O 182 607 | President |
| Major Child, John E. | O 424 407 | Treasurer |
| Major Melbridge, Curtis | O 417 552 | Member |
| Capt. Crockett, John A. | O 420 605 | Member |
| Capt. Pugh, John F. | O 661 906 | Member |

as indicated.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|-----------------|
| Capt Macey, Arthur | 0454133 | Training 0 |
| Capt Turner, Thomas H. | 04372 7 | Entertainment 0 |
| Capt Nacht Thomas A | 0708915 | Asst Opr 0 |
| Releasing 1st Lt Stewart A. Garrison | | |
| Capt Leavitt, Max | 0674897 | Pub Rel 0 |
| 1st Lt Mc Clure, Wallace L. | 0667134 | Sq Vlt Eng |
| 1st Lt Harris, Randall L. | 0818223 | Of Safety 0 |
| 1st Lt Mallins, Robert L. | 0789191 | Asst P Rel 0 |
| 1st Lt Van Dyke | 0771848 | Asst Mess 0 |
| 1st Lt Vongettsomak, Oscar | 0607958 | Photo 0 |
| 1st Lt Edward A. White | 0729528 | Asst Sup ly 0 |

On 19 Feb 1948 the following named officers were assigned duties as indicated.

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|
| Maj De la, Carl H. | 0406718 | Air Safety 0 |
| Capt Pacey, Jean G. | 0726072 | Mess 0. |

Releasing Capt. Blaine J. Jamstrom.

Among the accomplishments for the month of February were the appointments afore mentioned. A school program was initiated for all flying personnel. Bowling teams and softball teams were organized.

The Squadron was handicapped by a shortage of clerical help. This impeded the functioning of administrative work. At the end of the month however, the problem was overcome.

The mission of the 28th Squadron is one of training. It's intention is to keep a high level of proficiency among all flying personnel. It is hoped that all men will gain in the knowledge and execution of their various duties thru the continuance of schooling. This type of schooling is not unlike the training undergone in their OTU days, and much of it may be considered in the nature of general reviews.

Training consisting of both ground school and flying began in the early part of the month.

For the pilots their program consisted of the following subjects: Radio, weather, code, D. A. navigation, air speed instruments, AI auto pilot, communication thru CAA Flight control men.

For the navigators: D.A. celestial navigation, code, weather, magnetic compass, A.P.L. and C.P.C.

For the bombardiers: D.A. navigation, bombing procedures and code.

For the engineer, A-20 engineering.

problems.

For the radio operators: radio, radio-telegraph, and radio and procedure.

or the aerial gunners: A-14 scanning procedure & I. O. I.

The flying phase of the program consisted of transition and instrument flying for the pilots. During these flights the navigators, bombardiers, engineers and the enlisted flying personnel were included as flight observers.

All the flying took place in B-25's and A-11's. The aircraft were temporarily assigned to the Squadron from the 25th Bomb Group.

The 25th Bomb Squadron during February had no aircraft assigned to it.

The morale of the officers and men is excellent.

No problem which seems to weigh on the mind of the men is the housing situation. An attempt to alleviate this has been made for the enlisted personnel. Barracks have been sub-divided for the purpose of housing the enlisted personnel and their families.

On Feb. 1, the squadron strength stood at 112 officers, and 174 enlisted men. Of the officers, 109 were present for duty, and 3 were on leave. Of the enlisted men, 165 were present for duty, and 11 were on furlough. The total squadron strength was 236 officers and enlisted men.

Of the officers, a total of 45 were attached from other organizations, while all of the enlisted men were assigned to the squadron. On Feb. 23, the squadron had 61 officers assigned and none attached. Nine of the officers were on detached service and one on leave.

Seventeen enlisted men were assigned to the squadron, with 120 present for duty, and thirty-four (34) on detached service. Eight (8) were on furlough.

The officer strength showed a loss of fifty-one (51) officers. During February, this loss is attributed to the fact that the officers attached were relieved from assignment either to the 25th Bomb Squadron.

The enlisted strength shows only a loss of three (3) men.

Rudolph E. Gurnea
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1st Lt. 25th Bomb Squadron
Historian