

**45TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON HISTORY**  
**March 1946**

This month showed a marked improvement over the past few months for organization and operation. More personnel were added from time to time though the squadron is very short in some departments and long in others due mainly to the manner of reenlistments. This same problem is general thru-out the group and the Air Forces. On the 20th of the Month the 343rd Squadron was deactivated and the 45th gained sorely needed personnel from the deactivation. Ten combat crews were formed, but vacancies still exist for bombardiers, navigators, radar men, flight engineers, and gunners categories. These vacancies could be filled in the near future since the group is scheduled to be brought up to combat strength. The present unrest caused by the Russian situation has hastened solidification.

Maintenance problems were few since the squadron has only one B-29 one B-25 and two AT-11's to maintain. Tech Orders and directives have increased the amount of inspections necessary and has caused the airplanes to be off flying status more often than in the past. Tech Supply has been on the faulty side, since if something becomes inoperative, the whole part must be turned in before a new item may be obtained. This requires the turn in of a complete item too, and not just a part thereof.

On the 15th the Orderly room was painted a buff and cream color under the direction of 1st Sgt. Ralph Kuttler making the room much more attractive and makes for more pleasant work for Office personnel. The Day Room is also being redecorated and furnished for use of Squadron Personnel. A Pilots lounge has been set aside for the use of flying personnel to use while awaiting flights in the orderly room. This month also inaugurated the use of the Squadron Mail room in the orderly room which saves time for all concerned. The Squadron Mess hall is still not in use, but is being equipped for use in the near future. As in the past, the Enlisted Men continue to Mess in the Group Mess hall with cooks and kitchen helpers furnished from the Squadron in ration with the other Squadrons.

Morale has been good due mainly to the fact that personnel have become acquainted with each other and are now familiar with their jobs and what is required of them. March Field, has had several great performances by outstanding people plus other educational and recreational projects which have tended to relieve any monotony that might exist. The weather has been very good and this has allowed personnel to visit the beaches, resorts, and nearby cities. Softball teams have been organized and some games have been played with other organizations at March Field.

During the month most of the Officers were detached from time to time to Ft. MacArthur for the purpose of taking examinations for the Regular Army.

On the 29th of March the 40th Group was reassigned from the 4th Air Force to the 2nd Air Force per Section 1, 4th Air Force, CO 32 dated 28th March, 1946. Thus the 45th Squadron had been a member of the 4th Air

for six months. This change has also been the cause for numerous rumors of impending changes. March Field has been transferred into the 3rd Air Force in the current reorganization of the Air Forces.

At the end of the Month the strength of the Squadron was as follows:

Lt. Col.	1	1st Sgt.	1
Major	5	M/Sgt.	47
Cpts	16	T/Sgt.	21
1st Lts.	30	S/Sgt.	14
2nd Lts.	7	Sgt.	5
WO/IC	1	Col.	7
F/O	1	Pfc.	5
Total	61	Total	100

A roster of assigned personnel follows.

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