

321st OBSERVATION SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

321st Aero Squadron organized, 8 Jul 1918

Demobilized, 20 Dec 1918

321st Squadron (Observation) constituted in the Organized Reserve, 24 Jun 1921

Initiated, 13 Feb 1922

Redesignated 321st Observation Squadron, 25 Jan 1923

321st Aero Squadron reconstituted, 12 Aug 1933

321st Aero Squadron and 321st Observation Squadron consolidated, 12 Aug 1933

Consolidated unit designated 321st Observation Squadron.

Inactivated, 30 Jan 1942

Disbanded, 31 May 1942

STATIONS

Camp Morrison, VA

Garden City, NY, Jul 1918

Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, NY, Jul 1918

AEF, Jul 1918

Garden City, NY

Not initiated 1921-1922

Portland, OR, 1922-1941

ASSIGNMENTS

96th Division 1922-21 Feb 1929

312th Observation Group, 1 Oct 1933

WEAPON SYSTEMS

DH-4B

JNS
PT-1

COMMANDERS

Unknown, 13 Feb 1922-5 May 1922
1Lt George Mitchell, 5 May 1922-Jun 1922
Unknown, Jun 1922-Jan 1923
Cpt Willard J. Chamberlain, Jan 1923-Aug 1924
Maj Howard C. French, Nov 1924-30 Jul 1938
Maj G. Robert Dodson, 1 Aug 1938-1 Apr 1941

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Constituted in the Organized Reserve on 24 June 1921 as the 321st Squadron (Observation), assigned to the 96th Division, and allotted to the Ninth Corps Area. Initiated on 13 February 1922 at Portland, OR. The squadron was one of a few in the Organized Reserve that possessed facilities, equipment, and aircraft. The squadron's equipment was stationed just across the Columbia River at Pearson Field, Vancouver Barracks, WA. 1st Lt. Oakley Kelly, Air Service Reserve, a pilot who made the first non-stop transcontinental flight in 1923, was the unit instructor 1924-28. Redesignated as the 321st Observation Squadron on 25 January 1923. Relieved on 21 February 1929 from assignment to the 96th Division. Consolidated on 12 August 1933 with the 321st Aero Squadron (Service) (a WWI unit organized on 8 July 1918 at Camp Morrison, VA; demobilized on 20 December 1918 at Garden City, NY; reconstituted on 12 August 1933). Assigned on 1 October 1933 to the 312th Observation Group (XIX Corps). Typically conducted Inactive Training Period meetings at the Chamber of Commerce Building in Portland and at Pearson Field. Conducted summer training at Pearson Field or Gray Field, WA. (Inactivated on 30 January 1942 by relief of personnel). Status: Disbanded on 31 May 1942.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 4 Sep 2011

Updated:

Sources

US Army Order of Battle 1919-1941. Steven E. Clay. Combat Studies Institute Press. US Army Combined Arms Center. Fort Leavenworth, KS. Nd.