

667 AERO SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

241 Aero Squadron organized Dec 1917
Redesignated 667 Aero Squadron (Supply)
Demobilized Jun 1919

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX
Garden City, NY, Mar 1918
Port of Embarkation, Hoboken, NY, Mar 1918
AEF, Mar 1918
Mitchel Field, NY

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 667th Aero Squadron, formerly the 241st Aero Squadron, was organized at Kelly Field, Texas on December 23/24, 1917. 2nd Lieutenant Paul S. Phalan, afterward commissioned chaplain, was placed in charge. On December 31st 1917 Lieut. Phalan was relieved and 1st Lieut. Theibert Martin and nine other subalterns were assigned to equip the squadron which they did to the best of their ability and the quartermaster department's beneficence, as the squadron was not on the preferred list for drawing supplies.

On January 15th, 1918, the permanent officer of the squadron were assigned; 1st Lieut. John Miller, Commanding; 2nd Lieut. John C. Cahill, Supply Officer; 2nd Lieut. Henry T. Pratt, Adjutant; 2nd Lieut. William T. Donegan, Mess Officer; the latter being reassigned a few days later. These officer completed the equipping of the squadron and we were moved among the outgoing squadrons, 2nd Training Brigade, Kelly Field No 1, on January 17th, 1918, where the men were instructed in Infantry Drill when not doing fatigue work until March 2nd, when orders came to entrain for Aeronautical General Supply Depot and Concentration Camp, Garden City, Long Island, N. Y., in company with the 666th Aero Supply Squadron.

March 6th, 1918 the squadron arrived at Garden City and two days later 76 men were transferred out to fill up outgoing units which had received orders to move on while part of their personnel were either on leave (regular or "French") or sick in hospital. Our Surgeon, Lieut. James F. Wood and 2nd Lieutenants Earl A. Ross, Franklin Paden and Henry O. Wyett who had been attached at Kelly Field were also detached. On March 20th, at 4:00 P.M. the outfit received confidential orders to leave at 4:00 A.M. March 21st, 1918 for Hoboken and France, and after an all night session on service records, passenger lists and drawing supplies, 81 men were transferred in plus Lieut. Lucius V. Dunlap, and we entrained on time.

The U.S.S. Antigone, formerly the "Necker" of the North German Lloyd, started for France March 23rd, 1918, but only started as her engines broke down while rounding Sandy Hook and as she missed her convoy we disembarked for Camp Dix, N. J. Repairs were rushed and on Mar 30th the same passengers again bid "an revoir" to New York Harbor and the Statue of Liberty.

We had on board beside our outfit the 659th Aero Supply Squadron and part of the Headquarters Regiment of the First Army Corp. Beautiful weather prevailed and after an uneventful voyage the "Antigone" arrived in the pretty harbor of St. Nazaire, France on April 13th, 1918. April 21st, we left the rest camp at the port and took our first ride on the French railways feeling fortunate in traveling third class and not in cattle cars. The day of arrival at our "permanent station" A. S. P. C. #2, Supply Depot No.3, Remorantin, Loire et Cher, the men of the outfit were assigned to their duties according to trades. Motor experts, chauffeurs, clerks, machinists but most of all unskilled men started to do their bit.

Although a "Supply Squadron" our personnel included several gas-engine experts among the being our M.E. John M. Webber who with Sergeants John C. Motter and Wilfred D. Richmond took down the first "Liberty" motor to arrive in France and taught classes in the assembling of this motor under the direction of Captain afterward Major Lowry.

The duties performed by the 667th Aero Supply Squadron were not of an exciting nature. There is nothing heroic in the handling of supplies such as heavy steel beams and millions of feet of lumber or the necessary machinery to equip a plant for turning out motors and airplanes. It was work - hard work - and long hours without a redeeming feature, except that it was necessary and therefore it was accomplished.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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