

681 AERO SQUADRON

MISSION

Supply

LINEAGE

681 Aero Squadron

Organized, Apr 1918

Demobilized, Aug 1919

STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

THE 681st Aero Squadron saw the light of the world for the first time on April 14, 1918. Its happy father was 1st Lieutenant R. D. Wilson. In its ten months of existence it has grown in wisdom and strength and it is considered, amongst the members of this organization, a state offense to place it second to any other organization.

This squadron has taken care of all the Transportation in Kelly No. 1; and as chauffeurs of the trucks and drivers of motorcycles we have had a chance to get acquainted with the M. Ps. in Kelly Field as well as in town. (When we do a thing, we do it fast). The 681st Aero Squadron has had the care of about two hundred vehicles from, driving to repairing and in all this time we have never had any serious mishaps. We lost a very essential man in the garage who considered it not in accordance with his rank to be lying on his back to look into the bowels of the intricate contraptions that make this particular Noah's Ark move.

About the end of September Lieut. R. D. Wilson was ordered away from this station and Lieut. Gay Crum became his successor. We can say that thru the efforts of our excellent Supply Sergeant, R. McKibbin we were always sufficiently clothed to withstand all sudden changes in the wonderful climate which seems to surround Kelly Field. The Orderly Room was well represented by Sergeant Major A. L. Backofen and his two clerks, Sergeant M. A. Baker, and Corporal O. B. Leonard.

Fifty per cent of this squadron took advantage of the opportunities offered the men on this field to take passes for the holidays and celebrated Christmas with relatives and friends.

It being known to the members of this organization that our Commanding Officer would be discharged in the near future we all endeavored to express our heart-felt thanks for his just and fair treatment of each and every one of us, of his wonderful interest, which he took in each individual, by presenting him with a Howard watch to memorize his service in the Army and especially his service as Commanding Officer of the 681st Aero Squadron. To bring his departure to a climax we gave a farewell dance on January 14th at the Gunter Hotel.

Lieut. Loren H. Pitkin was recently ordered from Washington, D. C., to this field and appointed Commanding Officer of this organization.

Like all good things, we are now coming to the end and it can be said that since the War has come to a victorious end. we have all looked to the time when we would return to our homes and former positions, in civilian life. It can not be denied that the creating of this large Army has caused a larger comradeship and will be the base of a unity in strength, which cannot find its equal in this nation. May every reader of this little history remember that all he went through in his Army life, was for democracy and liberty

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.