

EARLY HISTORY OF 9TH BOMB GROUP



BE CERTAIN TO READ PARAGRAPH 10 OF THE FOLLOWING !

Historical Section, A. W. O., March 12, 1945.

To: WD, SOB, The Adjutant General.

1. Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 9th Bombardment Group---The Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 9th Bombardment Group, was originally organized August 1, 1922, at Mitchel Field, New York, as the Headquarters, 9th Group (Observation); redesignated Headquarters, 9th Observation Group, January 25, 1923; redesignated Headquarters, 9th Observation Group, Air Corps, August 8, 1925; redesignated 9th Bombardment Group, March 1, 1935. The 9th Bombardment Group and the 61st Service Squadron were reorganized and combined September 1, 1936, and redesignated the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 9th Bombardment Group. The 61st Service Squadron was organized January 24, 1916, as the 822d Aero Squadron. The Squadron served overseas, and was redesignated Air Park No. 6, August 22, 1918. Under the latter designation, it was actively engaged in the Lorraine Defensive Sector. After the Armistice, it returned to the United States, and was demobilized July 21, 1919. On April 8, 1924, it was reconstituted and consolidated with the 61st Service Squadron, which had been organized October 1, 1921, at Mitchel Field, New York, as Air Park No. 6, and redesignated 61st Service Squadron, January 25, 1923.

2. The Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 9th Bombardment Group, is entitled to battle participation credit as follows:

LORRAINE.

3. 1st Bombardment Squadron---The 1st Bombardment Squadron was originally organized in 1913, as the 1st Aero Squadron, Signal Corps, by the Assignment of all enlisted men of the Signal Corps on aviation duty. It served with the Punitive Expedition in Mexico from March, 1916 to February, 1917. It served in France during World War I, and participated in battle in the Champagne-Marne, Aisne-Marne, St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne Operations, and in Defensive Sectors in Lorraine and Champagne. In 1918, the designation of the Squadron was changed to the 1st Aero Squadron (Observation), Air Service; redesignated 1st Observation Squadron, Air Service, 1922; redesignated 1st Observation Squadron, Air Corps, 1926; redesignated 1st Bombardment Squadron, Air Corps, pursuant to War Department letter, AG 320.2 (2-12-35), dated February 10, 1935, effective March 1, 1935.

4. The 1st Bombardment Squadron is entitled to silver bands for its guidon, engraved:

CHAMPAGNE
CHAMPAGNE-MARNE
AISNE-MARNE

5. In addition to the battle honors listed, the 1st Bombardment Squadron is entitled to battle participation credits as follows: Lorraine,

St. Mihiel, and Meuse-Argonne, which are carried by the 9th Bombardment Group, under the provisions of paragraph 12 a (1) (b) 2, and 12 (2) b (1) (a) 1, AR 260-10.

6. 5th Bombardment Squadron---The 5th Bombardment Squadron was organized at Kelly Field, Texas, May 11, 1917, as the 5th Aero Squadron; redesignated Squadron "A", Souther Field, Georgia, July 15, 1918; consolidated with other Souther Field Squadrons and became part of the Flying School Detachment, Souther Field, Georgia; which was disbanded in October, 1919. Squadron A, Souther Field, Georgia, was reconstituted and consolidated with the 5th Observation Squadron, which was organized October 24, 1919, at Hazelhurst Field, New York; redesignated 5th Squadron (Observation), March 14, 1921; redesignated 5th Observation Squadron, Air Service, January 25, 1923; redesignated 5th Observation Squadron, Air Corps, August 8, 1926; redesignated 5th Bombardment Squadron, March 1, 1935. The Squadron served within the continental limits of the United States during World War I.

7. The 5th Bombardment Squadron has no other history and is not entitled to battle honors.

8. 99th Bombardment Squadron---The 99th Bombardment Squadron was originally organized in August, 1917, at Kelly Field, Texas, as the 99th Aero Squadron. The Squadron served overseas, became an Observation Squadron in France, and participated in battle in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne Operations, and in a Defensive Sector in Lorraine. After the Armistice, it returned to the United States, and was demobilized at Hazelhurst Field, New York, June 9, 1919. The Squadron was reconstituted July 2, 1919, at Mitchel Field, New York, as the 99th Corps Observation Squadron; redesignated 99th Squadron (Observation), March 14, 1921; redesignated 99th Observation Squadron, Air Service, January 25, 1923; redesignated 99th Observation Squadron, Air Corps, August 8, 1926; made inactive July 31, 1927; made active at Mitchel Field, New York, November 9, 1928; redesignated 99th Bombardment Squadron, March 1, 1935.

9. The 99th Bombardment Squadron is entitled to battle participation credit as follows: Lorraine, St. Mihiel, Meuse-Argonne, which are carried by the 9th Bombardment Group, under the provisions of paragraph 12 a (1) (b) 2, and 12 (2) b (1) (a) 1 AR 260-10.

10. Due to battle participation of more than one-third of its units in the same actions, the 9th Bombardment Group is entitled to streamers in the colors of the Victory Ribbon, embroidered:

LORRAINE
ST. MIHIEL
MEUSE-ARGONNE

/s/ Oliver L. Spaulding
OLIVER L. SPAULDING
Brig. Gen., U.S.A., Ret.,
Chief

Incls. w/d

A TRUE COPY:

James Richardson
JAMES RICHARDSON
2nd Lt, AG.