

# 322<sup>nd</sup> OBSERVATION SQUADRON

## MISSION

### LINEAGE

322<sup>nd</sup> Aero Squadron organized, Feb 1918

Demobilized, Feb 1919

322<sup>nd</sup> Squadron (Observation) constituted in the Organized Reserve, 24 Jun 1921

Initiated, Nov 1922

Redesignated 322<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron, 25 Jan 1923

Reconstituted, 23 Nov 1936

322<sup>nd</sup> Aero Squadron and 322<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron consolidated, on 23 Nov 1936.

Consolidated 322<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron

Disbanded, 31 May 1942

### STATIONS

Kelly Field, TX

Not initiated 1921-1922

Concord, NH, 1922-1941

### ASSIGNMENTS

97<sup>th</sup> Division, 1922-21 Feb 1929

301<sup>st</sup> Observation Group, 1 Oct 1933

### COMMANDERS

Unknown, Nov 1922-Jun 1923

Cpt Philip W. Watson, Jul 1927-Jun 1931

Cpt Herman G. Partridge, Jun 1923-Jun 1925

Unknown, Jun 1931-Jul 1932

Unknown, Jun 1925-Jul 1927  
Cpt Edward H. Holterman, Jul 1932-Jun 1939  
Unknown, Jun 1939-7 Dec 1941

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

THE 322nd Aero Squadron was organized February 20, 1918, in Kelly Field No. 1, by C. A. Marone, 2nd Lieut. A. S. S. C., who appointed the following men on his administrative staff: Sgt. 1st Class Clarence L. Woodworth, Sergeant Major; Sgt. 1st Class Robert Berven, Supply Sergeant; Sgt. 1st Class Jesse B. Richardson, Mess Sergeant.

At that time the enlisted personnel of the squadron was made up of men on special duty with the Post Military Police and Post Signal Officer. On June 20th the squadron was reorganized, all the members with the exception of the administrative staff being transferred to other organizations in the Field, and with the administrative staff as a nucleus, moved to Kelly Field No. 2, where it was brought to full war strength by the addition of men from other organizations in the Flying Department. The Dual Stage of Flying, later known as Flight No. 2, was assigned to the squadron, and the men have made a great record for themselves by their interest and hard work in maintaining the high standard of efficiency which is required of them in the discharge of their duties on that Stage.

A number of changes in Officers were made in this organization since it was transferred to the Flying Department. Lieut. C. A. Marone was relieved of command on August 1st, and was succeeded by Lieut. A. W. Johnson, who, when transferred' to a port of embarkation, was succeeded by Lieut. Paul A. Smith, the present squadron commander. Lieutenants H. G. Davis, J. H. Greenwood. G. H. Russ, D. A. Brown and C. E. Brasher, have been connected with the organization in various capacities during the summer and fall of 1918.

Sgt. Major Woodworth was succeeded by Sgt. 1st Class Walter E. Tracy, and when Sergeant Tracy received his honorable discharge Sergeant Andrew Olson, the present incumbent, was

appointed Sergeant Major. When Supply Sergeant Robert Berven left for the Quartermaster's Officers Training School, the position was filled by Sergeant 1st Class Bernard S. Borie. Since Mess Sergeant Richardson's transfer in June when the squadron was reorganized a number of men have endeavored to fill his place with varying success, until Sergeant Hodgman was secured.

The Harmony Quartette, composed of Chr. Leslie E. Randall. Sgt. Charles L. Wilkins, Pvt. 1st Class Philip J. Beggs and Pvt. 1st Class Harvey H. Utter, furnish the laughs with their original rendition of the latest songs. Cpl. Lyon and Pvt. Schook. with their heated arguments on the vital questions of the day. also entertain. Sgt. 1st Class Borie. Sgt. Rine, Chr. 1st Class McCormack and Pvt. Isaacs have also been prominent in all entertainments given by the squadron.

Two members of the squadron died during the Influenza epidemic, Pvt. Alfred A. Harwood of Steubenville, Ohio, on October 18th, and Pvt. Gaston J. Cook, of Jacksonville, Texas, on December 13th. Both men were of the highest character, and their deaths were distinct losses to the service.

The 322nd Aero Squadron has been extremely fortunate in having officers of high ability and good judgment, who have been at all times in perfect harmony with their men, and there has always been a feeling of deep regret at their loss through transfer.

Constituted in the Organized Reserve on 24 June 1921 as the 322nd Squadron (Observation), assigned to the 97th Division, and allotted to the First Corps Area. Initiated, less 1st Flight, in November 1922 at Concord, NH. The 1st Flight organized at Bangor, ME. Redesignated as the 322nd Observation Squadron on 25 January 1923. Squadron conducted a fly over at Boston, MA, 27 July 1927 for Charles A. Lindbergh's homecoming parade. Relieved on 21 February 1929 from assignment to the 97th Division. Assigned on 1 October 1933 to the 301st Observation Group (XI Corps). Consolidated on 23 November 1936 with the 322nd Aero Squadron (a WWI unit organized in February 1918 at Kelly Field, TX; demobilized in February 1919 at Kelly Field, TX; reconstituted on 23 November 1936). Conducted summer training at Mitchel Field, NY. Also attended summer training some years as individuals with National Guard observation squadrons at Trumbull Field, CT, and Boston Airport. Status: Disbanded on 31 May 1942.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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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.