

## 686 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

686 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron

Activated, 1 Oct 1953

Discontinued, 1 Aug 1953

### STATIONS

Walker AFB, NM

### ASSIGNMENTS

34 Air Division

Albuquerque ADS, 1 Jan 1960

Oklahoma ADS, 15 Sep 1960

4752 Air Defense Wing, 1 Sep 1961

Oklahoma ADS, 25 Jun 1963

### COMMANDERS

Capt Cecil C. Spencer, Jr

Maj Grant H. Wilson, Jr., Aug 1954

Lt Col Theodore C. Hoffman, Sep 1956

Lt Col William R. Crooks, 15 Apr 1958

Lt Col Bunn Hearn, 10 Jun 1959

Lt Col B. B. Bilby, 11 Nov 1960

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 686th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron located on Walker Air Force Base, Roswell, N. M., was activated on 1 October 1953, taking over from the 120th AC&W Squadron. Personnel of the old 120th AC&W Squadron were members of the Arkansas National Guard and were deactivated and returned home in late 1953.

Until early 1955, the 686th operated as a "lash-up" radar site, located in an old government housing building, with a complement of less than 100 personnel.

In 1955, the squadron took on the aspects of a going organization with the construction of a separate operational area known as the "M-90" site. In addition, an airman housing area, plus administrative buildings, was constructed. The unit's assigned mission is that of an Air Defense Direction Center with approximately 150 Officers and Airmen working at the job of Air Defense.

1963 686 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON (ACWS), WALKER AIR FORCE BASE (AFB) NM, AND 697 ACWS, PYOTE AFB TX, CEASED OPERATIONS.

686th ACP/ Squadron: activated 1 Oct 53 at Walker AFB, NM, as the 34th Air Division; transferred to Albuquerque ADS on 1 Jan 60; transferred to Oklahoma City ADS on 15 Sep 60; transferred to 4752nd Air Defense Wing on 1 Sep 61, transferred to Oklahoma City ADS on 25 Jun 63; discontinued on 1 Aug 63.

An AN/CPS-5 Lashup radar was in place at this site in 1950 to protect the approaches of Walker AFB. Designated to receive a new radar as part of the mobile radar program, this radar site continued to be operational on a Lashup basis in late 1952 using an AN/TPS-1B radar. A more permanent facility at Walker was operational by late 1955. At this time the 686th AC&W Squadron operated AN/MPS-7 and AN/MPS-14 radars. In March 1963 the Air Force ordered the site to shut down. Operations ceased two months later.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of Sep 1953, the 686 ACWS was organized with a strength of 2 officers and 37 airmen.



LTC B. B. Bilby

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
Unit yearbook. *34 Air Division, Defense. 1956.*