

RESTRICTED

395th BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (H)

Army Air Field,
Pratt, Kansas,
30 September, 1943.

HISTORICAL RECORD
20 AUGUST 1943 to 30 SEPTEMBER 1943

On 24 August, 1943, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group published Special Orders No. 50 which in effect reorganized the 395th Bombardment Squadron by transferring all of its personnel but two, 60 officers and 353 enlisted men to Army Air Field, Victoria, Kansas, for duty with the 462d Bombardment Group (H) at that place. The two remaining, Major Warren S. Wilkinson, AC, was transferred to the 25th Bombardment Squadron, this station, and Major Walter Y. Lucas, AC, remained to command the organization.

Paragraphs 3 and 4, Assignment Memorandum No. 65, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 24 August, 1943, assigned 30 officers and 177 enlisted men from the 45th Bombardment Squadron to begin the organization's functioning anew. The squadron was then composed of the following personnel:

Major Walter Y. Lucas	Capt Edwin R. Glass
Capt Perier A. Koenig	Capt Olfert W. Topp
Capt Chester A. Woolsey	Capt Alex N. Zamry
1/Lt Birt Allison Jr	1/Lt Harold J. Driscoll
1/Lt Jim W. Evans	1/Lt Alvin E. Hills Jr
1/Lt George E. Lowry	1/Lt Harold B. LeCrone
1/Lt William M. McNair	1/Lt Walter E. Mock
1/Lt Henry Morgen	1/Lt Sidney I. Needleman
1/Lt Louis C. Sorrentino	2/Lt Walter J. Ball
2/Lt Garland H. Butler	2/Lt John W. Childress
2/Lt Elliott Coldwater	2/Lt John C. Davies
2/Lt Merritt A. Deuel	2/Lt Ira C. Dodd Jr
2/Lt Richard W. Evans	2/Lt Keith C. Foster
2/Lt Herschel Goffe	2/Lt Louis McK. Jones
2/Lt Nathan J. Reznick	2/Lt Wesley A. Tarwid
2/Lt Charles A. Wiedman	
F/Sgt Stephen Dzurik	M/Sgt Sigmund B. Chalk
M/Sgt Kermit V. Conner	M/Sgt Gerald P. Dougherty
M/Sgt James E. Dozier	M/Sgt Elmer W. Martin
M/Sgt William Mehnert	M/Sgt Floyd F. Park
M/Sgt Stephen R. Shaffer	M/Sgt Howard C. West
T/Sgt Otto Buero	T/Sgt Howard T. Farlow
T/Sgt Irvin B. Gaver	T/Sgt James E. Gore

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T/Sgt	Kenneth J. Hassenflug	T/Sgt	James A. Jenkins
T/Sgt	John M. McKain	T/Sgt	Charles A. Olason
T/Sgt	John Sabanosh	T/Sgt	Pascal D. Shepard
T/Sgt	Edwin C. Spikes	S/Sgt	Loren E. Abell
S/Sgt	Mark A. Armstrong	S/Sgt	Alton E. Benninghoff
S/Sgt	George W. Birkinsha	S/Sgt	Jesse C. Black
S/Sgt	Vincent C. Eurns	S/Sgt	Russel A. Butterworth
S/Sgt	Darl J. Chamberlain	S/Sgt	Harry L. Crawford
S/Sgt	Thomas H. Frederick	S/Sgt	William L. Gordon
S/Sgt	Edward G. Gumpert	S/Sgt	Phillip E. Heffron
S/Sgt	Ralph C. Holmes	S/Sgt	Raymond J. Jozwiak
S/Sgt	Thomas W. Mackey	S/Sgt	Harold W. McKim
S/Sgt	Douglas H. McLelland	S/Sgt	James P. McMahon
S/Sgt	John K. McMaster	S/Sgt	William F. O'Connell
S/Sgt	Henry T. Omstead	S/Sgt	Wilby H. Robinson Jr
S/Sgt	Charles H. Robann	S/Sgt	John W. Sample Jr
S/Sgt	Elmer E. Stilfield	S/Sgt	Paul Wargo
S/Sgt	Linn R. White	S/Sgt	Sidney Williamston
S/Sgt	Joseph T. Yagos	Sgt	Thomas B Aden Jr
Sgt	Dearon J. Bailey	Sgt	Edward K. Bowes
Sgt	Harmon T. Brunley	Sgt	Frederick J. Cyr
Sgt	William D. Stenbridge	Sgt	Thomas M. Connolly
Sgt	Homer Daniels	Sgt	Ernest M. Duncckhorst
Sgt	Paul F. Evans	Sgt	Paul E. Flinn
Sgt	Renato J. Frigo	Sgt	Donald E. Stevenson
Sgt	Joe W. Harvey	Sgt	Rodolfo Hernandez
Sgt	George W. Hewett	Sgt	Harold A. Hoffman
Sgt	Jack N. Johnston	Sgt	Clay A. Knight
Sgt	Maurice C. Kesh	Sgt	Joseph J. Kuteher
Sgt	Edward S. Laskowski	Sgt	John E. Lines
Sgt	Mark C. Mayer	Sgt	John D. Mortimore Jr
Sgt	Jay R. Mullins	Sgt	Charles P. Murphy
Sgt	Charles O. Patterson	Sgt	Wilfred D. Perkins
Sgt	Willie J. Poole	Sgt	Leo C. Reeder
Sgt	Richard D. Saylor	Sgt	Wayne H. Sims
Sgt	James T. Smith	Sgt	Raymond M. Smith
Sgt	Henry A. Staude	Cpl	King H. Austin
Cpl	Warren A. Bagur	Cpl	Francis W. Browning
Cpl	Apolinary Byczkowski	Cpl	Jack A. Chaney
Cpl	George J. Figarino	Cpl	Joseph J. Goode
Cpl	Elmo B. Graham	Cpl	Walfred Higginbotham
Cpl	Rex R. Ingraham	Cpl	Wesley E. Kevington
Cpl	Vernon G. Lease	Cpl	Charles A. Mack Jr
Cpl	Donald A. McGrath	Cpl	Paul A. McGrath
Cpl	Alpysius O. Milier	Cpl	Thomas E. O'Conner
Cpl	Robert P. Peterson	Cpl	Ned E. Pleasant
Cpl	Jesse G. Roberts	Cpl	Carl R. Sandusky
Cpl	Alvin R. Schwanz	Cpl	Francis E. Schwed
Cpl	Gerald Schmitt	Cpl	Bert D. Schoonmaker
Cpl	John F. Sheehan	Cpl	Paul H. Smith
Cpl	William O. Smith	Cpl	Charles P. Stanley

Cpl	Ignatius M. Steele Jr	Cpl	Harold D. Taden
Cpl	Roy L. Teter	Cpl	Kenneth L. Todnem
Cpl	Thadues R. Waddell	Cpl	Melvin O. Webb
Cpl	William T. Wright	Cpl	Robert L. Young
Pfc	Daniel A. Burkhardt	Pfc	Harold J. Corr
Pfc	John G. Devitt	Pfc	Louis P. Gasperich
Pfc	Robert H. Hauck	Pfc	Aaron E. Kessler
Pfc	Harold I. McGee	Pfc	Woodrow Roberts
Pfc	Vincent F. Ross	Pfc	Earl D. Stanley
Pfc	Andrew C. Stern	Pfc	Homer E. Tooley
Pfc	Gustave J. Vanderlooven	Pfc	Victor Frank
Pfc	Lavern E. Whitmer	Pfc	John O. Woodard
Pfc	Clark O. Wilson	Pfc	Edward A. Woolridge
Pvt	Merle E. Baker	Pvt	Ernest L. Byrd
Pvt	Vernon E. Chattin	Pvt	Carrol F. Coleman
Pvt	Wilbur W. Cooney	Pvt	Ralph R. Cox
Pvt	Odis C. Edmons	Pvt	John J. Gaddis
Pvt	Elwyn C. Gardner	Pvt	Julio Garza
Pvt	William Gurski	Pvt	Walter E. Hall
Pvt	Lester Hickman	Pvt	Gerald V. Horton
Pvt	Lewis M. Hunt	Pvt	Thomas H. Jackson
Pvt	Francis L. Keene	Pvt	Zollie Lynn
Pvt	Rudolph Pasternak	Pvt	Joseph V. Racila
Pvt	Frederick W. Sampsel	Pvt	Alex L. Sisk
Pvt	Harold C. Smith	Pvt	Theodore R. Smith
Pvt	Kenneth E. Sowre	Pvt	Hubert L. Stephens
Pvt	Joseph R. Stevens	Pvt	Geza J. Telekesi
Pvt	George Thompson Jr	Pvt	Monroe C. Tucker
Pvt	Lee T. Veltrie	Pvt	John Verbonitz Jr
Pvt	Willis Walker	Pvt	John M. Woodruff
Pvt	Nathan Zimmer		

Paragraph 4, Assignment Memorandum No. 66, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, August 28, 1943, assigned two additional officers:

1/Lt	Ralph N. Kallock	2/Lt	William L. Nichols
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Paragraphs 1 and 6, Assignment Memorandum No. 67, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, August 29, 1943, assigned five additional enlisted men to the organization:

M/Sgt	Russell H. Miller	T/Sgt	Ralph W. Wilkinson
Pvt	Rubin Fried	Pvt	Harold R. Jones
Sgt	Thomas A. Androsko		

Paragraphs 1 and 3, Assignment Memorandum No. 68, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, August 30, 1943, assigned four additional officers:

1/Lt	Robert G. Cheatum	2/Lt	Clarence Stephens Jr
2/Lt	William K. Stevenson	2/Lt	Sidney D. Vittara

PERSONNEL

Duties were initially assigned to officers by Standard Order No. 10, dated 31 Aug 1943:

Maj	Walter Y. Lucas	Commanding Officer
Capt	Edwin R. Glass	Pilot - Operations Officer
Capt	Perrier A. Koenig	Flight Comdr B Flight
Capt	Olfert W. Topp	Surgeon
Capt	Chester A. Woolsey	Pilot
Capt	Alex N. Zanry	Flight Comdr A Flight
1/Lt	Birt Allison Jr	(DS Flt Engr Sch)
1/Lt	Robert G. Cheatum	Engineering Officer
1/Lt	Harold J. Driscoll	Bombardier - Bombardier Officer, Athletic Officer
1/Lt	Jim W. Evans	Navigator - Navigation Officer
1/Lt	Alvin E. Hills Jr	Pilot - Oxygen Officer
1/Lt	Ralph K. Kallock	Asst Armament Officer
1/Lt	George E. Lowry	Pilot
1/Lt	Harold B. LeGrone	Training Officer
1/Lt	William H. McNair	Intelligence Officer, Public Relations Officer (DS Harrisburg Pa Intelligence School)
1/Lt	Walter E. Mock	Bombardier - Group Trans- portation Officer
1/Lt	Henry Morgan	Pilot
1/Lt	Sidney I. Needleman	Asst Operations Officer
1/Lt	Louis C. Sorrentino	Armament Officer, Gas Officer
2/Lt	Walter J. Ball	Pilot
2/Lt	Garland H. Butler	Supply Officer, Transporta- tion Officer
2/Lt	John W. Childress	Pilot
2/Lt	Elliott Coldwater	Asst Engineering Officer
2/Lt	John C. Davies	Bombardier
2/Lt	Herritt A. Deuel	Bombardier
2/Lt	Ira C. Dodd Jr	Bombardier
2/Lt	Richard W. Evans	Bombardier
2/Lt	Keith C. Foster	Bombardier
2/Lt	Herschel Goffe	Communications Officer
2/Lt	Louis McK. Jones	Asst Intelligence Officer
2/Lt	William L. Nichols	Bombardier Maintenance Officer
2/Lt	Nathan Reznick	Executive Officer, Adjutant
2/Lt	Clarence Stephens Jr	Asst Supply Officer, Asst Transportation Officer
2/Lt	William K. Stevenson	Technical Supply Officer, Asst Engineering Officer
2/Lt	Wesley A. Farvid	Athletic Officer
2/Lt	Sidney D. Villere	Personnel Officer, Statistical Officer
2/Lt	Charles A. Wiedman	Asst Adjutant, Mess Officer

MEMORANDUM

55 enlisted men of this organization were given well-deserved promotions which were announced by paragraph 7, Special Orders No. 57, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 2 September, 1943. One Technical Sergeant was promoted to Master Sergeant; six Staff Sergeants to Technical Sergeant; five Sergeants to Staff Sergeant; seventeen Corporals to Sergeant; seven Privates First Class to Corporal and seventeen Privates to Corporal.

By the assignment of a number of B-29 school graduates in special fields, this organization has increased in strength of qualified personnel. Six B-29 Power Plant Specialists became members by paragraph 1, Assignment Memorandum No. 75, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 9 September, 1943. Six men, graduates of Factory Training course on B-29 airplane, became members of this squadron by paragraphs 1 and 2, Assignment Memorandum No. 73, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 6 September, 1943.

Six enlisted men, formerly members of Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 58th Bombardment Wing, Marietta, Georgia, were assigned this squadron by paragraphs 1 and 4, Assignment Memorandum No. 74, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 9 September, 1943. Four of them were Army Airplane and Engine Mechanics, one was an Army Air Forces Radio Operator and one was a Power Turret and Gunsight Specialist.

The following officers, graduates of Flight Engineers School, were assigned this organization by paragraphs 2 and 3, Assignment Memorandum No. 76, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 10 September, 1943:

2/Lt	ROY E GLEASON	0679497	AC
2/Lt	VINCENT E NORELLI	0680372	AC
2/Lt	LEON L BALLARD	0684672	AC
2/Lt	GEORGE J JAMESON	0683136	AC
2/Lt	ROBERT G MYERS	0684390	AC
2/Lt	EARNEST J B NELSON	0684393	AC
2/Lt	ALBERT S WOOLFOLK	0729537	AC

By paragraphs 1 and 2, Assignment Memorandum No. 77, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 11 September, 1943, one enlisted cook was assigned from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, 58th Bombardment Wing, Marietta, Georgia, and two men, graduates of Factory Training course on B-29 airplane, from Training Detachment, Boeing Aircraft Factory, Seattle, Washington.

Our loss of Sergeant Maurice C. Koch, an Administrative and Technical Clerk, was the gain of Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group who issued paragraph 2, Assignment Memorandum No. 78, 12 September, 1943, and the transfer was made in grade.

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A 4 engine pilot, Second Lieutenant Donald J. Lund 0877539 Air Corps, became a member of this squadron by paragraph 3, Assignment Memorandum No. 80, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 15 September, 1943. By the same memorandum, paragraph 5, thereof, we regretfully lost to us our Flight Surgeon, Captain Olfert W. Topp, 0889433, Medical Corps, by his assignment to the 45th Bombardment Squadron of our Group. To replace him Captain Dale D. Dickson 0441934, Medical Corps, was assigned from Headquarters 58th Bombardment Wing, by paragraph 4, Assignment Memorandum No. 80, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 15 September, 1943. By paragraph 7 one enlisted man (Corporal) was lost to us by transfer to Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group.

Corporal Sampsel, while sick in hospital (Line of Duty), was transferred in grade to Winter General Hospital, Topeka, Kansas, by paragraph 9, Special Orders No. 161, Headquarters Army Air Field, Pratt, Kansas, 17 September, 1943.

Assignment Memorandum No. 81, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 16 September, 1943, transferred to this squadron 17 enlisted men of the following qualifications: four Army Airplane and Engine Mechanics, graduates of Factory Training course on B-29 airplane; four B-29 Airplane Mechanics; two B-29 Radio Operator Mechanics; three B-29 Electrical Specialists; and four B-29 Airplane Mechanics.

Three additional 4-engine pilots were assigned this organization from Lockbourne Army Air Base, Columbus, Ohio, by paragraph 1, Assignment Memorandum No. 82, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 17 September, 1943:

2/Lt	CURTIS D HORLACHER	0805921	AC
2/Lt	WILLIAM G HOUSTON	0805923	AC
2/Lt	HERBERT W WRIGHT	0807095	AC

First Lieutenant Ralph N. Kallcock, Air Corps, was relieved from assignment and assigned 462d Bombardment Group, Victoria, Kansas, by paragraph 3, Special Orders No. 67, Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group, 19 September, 1943.

Second Lieutenant Garland E. Butler, Air Corps, our Supply Officer and Transportation Officer, was relieved from assignment and reassigned to Headquarters 40th Bombardment Group for supply duties by paragraph 5, Special Orders No. 68, 20 September, 1943, of that Headquarters.

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On 18 September, 1943, this squadron participated in a parade review and presentation of air medals to deserving members of the 40th Bombardment Group. The reviewing General was well pleased with the troop formation.

During the present period when our equipment is limited furloughs are being granted the newer members of the organization who have been deprived of such absence from duty by their period of training at Army Schools. In some instances men have been at school for almost a year without a short visit home.

The training of combat crews for the B-29 airplane is a major aim and is carried forward with all the means at our disposal. All possible time is being devoted to training flights and navigation schools.

To better nourish the enlisted personnel for the job ahead by having our own cooks prepare the meals, the 395th Bombardment Squadron opened its Mess Hall 26 September, 1943. A dinner of baked ham and pineapple, with all the trimmings, made a fine beginning.

During September the 395th Bombardment Squadron participated in the Third War Loan Drive and its showing in this connection was among the leaders.

Members of the Jewish faith were permitted two-day passes to visit nearby towns for religious services. The first of the Jewish holidays was 29 September, 1943.

C. A. Wiedman
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2d Lieut, Air Corps
Historical Officer.