

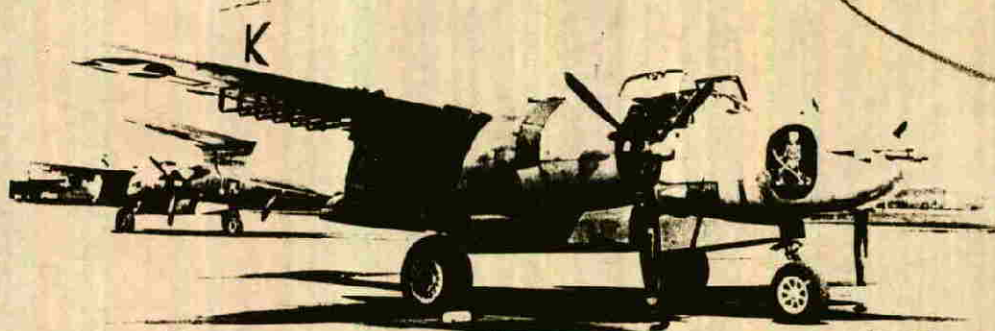
13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
314TH COMPOSITE WING
FIFTH AIR FORCE

S&BOMB-13-HI
AUG 1948

AUG 48

P.R.C.

UNIT HISTORY



60043598

2-5913

"CDIM DE ADEDO"

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L) 13/JJH/wfs
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
APO 328

5 September 1948

SUBJECT: Letter of Transmittal

TO: Commanding General
United States Air Force

P.R.C.

This history was compiled by 1st Lt Jerry J Hunt with the clerical aid of S Sgt William F Shawler. Facts included in the narrative have been compiled from reports submitted by Section Heads. Observations not otherwise credited are based on the personal knowledge and opinions of 1st Lt Jerry J Hunt.

Jerry J Hunt
JERRY J HUNT
1st Lt, USAF
Squadron Historian

00043598

2-5913-78

13TH BOMBARDMENT SQUADRON (L)
3RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP (L)
APO 328

UNIT HISTORY

1 August through 31 August 1948

The mission of the 13th Bombardment Squadron (L) continues to be that of occupational duties in Japan, as well as operational training and surveillance. Our objective is to become 100% combat ready, both individually and collectively in all phases in which the B-26 is considered a combat weapon.

Personnel:

Morning report status:

	31 July	31 August
Officers	30	24
Enlisted Men	121	124

There was a large turn-over of personnel in this squadron, due to the change-over to Wing-Base setup. Effective 19 August, the squadron lost seven officers and twenty five enlisted men. The same date, we gained one officer and thirty-one enlisted men.

Key personnel of the squadron as of 31 August were:

Major	C. H. Gross	Commanding Officer
Capt	D. E. Godbey	Adjutant
Capt	C. L. Martindale	Operations Officer
Capt	E. E. Jahnke	Supply Officer
Capt	G. K. Hannaford	Armament Officer
Capt	R. M. Elam	Engineering Officer
F Sgt	T. J. McCann	First Sergeant
T Sgt	E. J. Hays	Line Chief
T Sgt	E. J. Jackson	Armament Chief
S Sgt	J. L. Harling	Supply Sergeant
S Sgt	H. C. Swanson	Operations Specialist

Organization:

During this month, both the base and the squadron have undergone a major change. The base is now operating under Wing-Base set-up with 3rd Bomb Wing L controlling.

The squadron has been reorganized under a new T. O. & E., 1-1123. All personnel records have been brought down to squadron level and are being maintained in the headquarters section. Following is a personnel breakdown under the new T. O.:

SSN	Lt Col	Maj	Capt	1 Lt	Total
0141				1	1
0200				1	1
1037			1	15	16
1051	1		4	12	17
2110				1	1
2161		1			1
4823			1		1
4902				1	1
Total Officers	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>39</u>

	MSgt	TSgt	SSgt	Sgt	Cpl	Pfc	Pvt	Total
055				1	1			2
144					1			1
275				1				1
405			1	2	2			5
502	1							1
528				1				1
542		1						1
548			1					1
555				2	1			3
573				1				1
594				1				1
631		1						1
683			1	1	2			4
684A			4	4	8			16
685			1	1	1			3
686			1	1				2
687			1	1				2
747G			4	5	8			17
748			16					16
750G	7	16						23
754			2	2	4			8
791		1						1
821			1					1

SSN	MSgt	TSgt	SSgt	Sgt	Cpl	Pfc	Pvt	Total
826		1						1
835				1	1			1
853		1	2	3				6
867		1	2	3				6
911		1	1	2	3		3	10
941				1				1
960			1	2	1			4
Total	8	23	39	36	33	—	3	142

Operations:

There has been little unusual activity in the Operations Section this month. A great deal of difficulty is being experienced in attaining flying time requirements, largely due to several aircraft being AOCP for nose struts. Much more difficulty is anticipated as we have been informed that there is little prospect for obtaining struts for approximately ninety days and more aircraft are being grounded each day. At present, this squadron has five aircraft AOCP.

Miscellaneous activities:

A drive was held during the month for the Air Force Aid Society Membership. This squadron placed second on the base with 100% of personnel contributing. We were assigned a quota of \$135.00, which we topped with a total collection of \$409.80. Cpl Elmer A Clark, our supply clerk, contributed \$100.00 to become the first enlisted man at Yokota to receive a patron life membership.

"Oscar" celebrated his thirty-first birthday the 25th of this month. Activated on 25 August 1917, the 13th Bombardment Squadron has been serving the Air Force for thirty one years.

A P P E N D I X

Unit History

August 1948



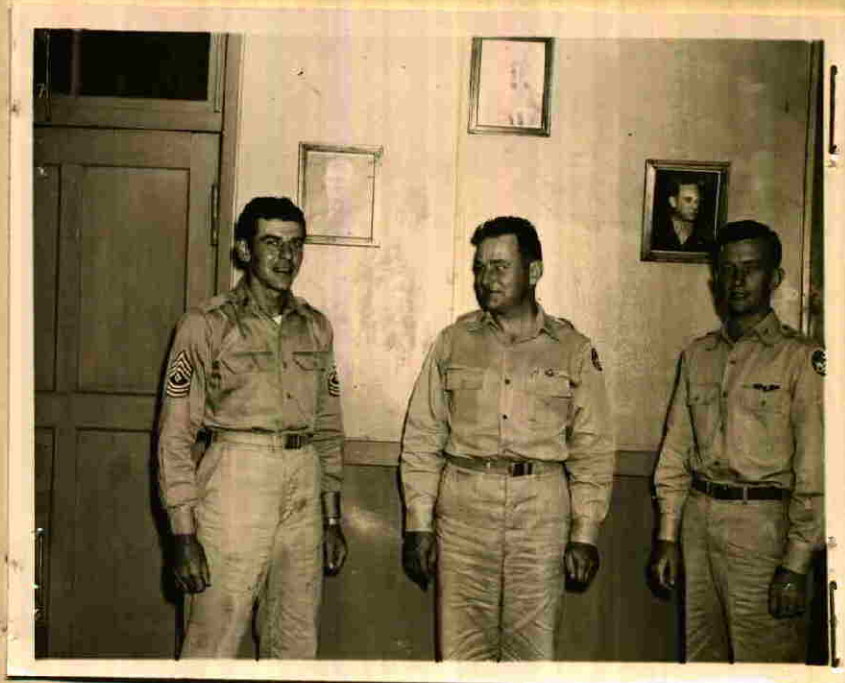
Standing L. to R., 1st Lt J. J. Hunt, Asst Adjutant, Major C. H. Gross, Sq C.O., and Capt D. E. Godbey, Sq Adjutant. Kneeling L. to R., T Sgt E. J. Jackson, Sq Armament Chief, F Sgt T. J. McCann, and M Sgt L. W. (Pappy) Garner, Line Chief.



F Sgt McCann and Major Gross "cutting Oscar's birthday cake."



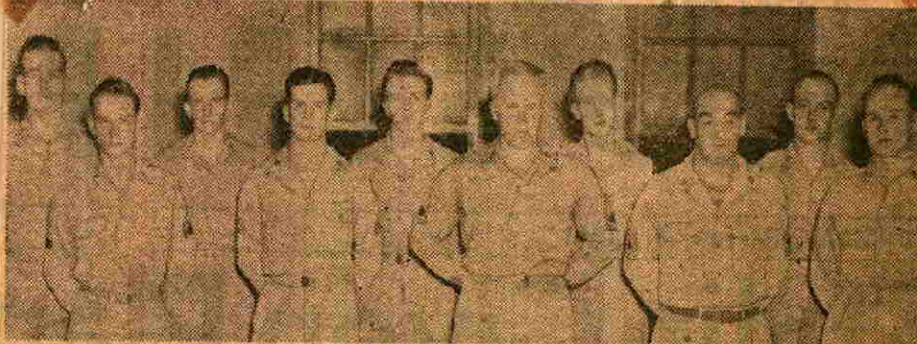
1st Lt J. J. Hunt, AFAS Drive Officer congratulating
Cpl E. A. Clark on his \$100. contribution for a life
patron membership.



L. to R., F Sgt Thomas J McCann, Major C. H. Gross,
Sq Commanding Officer, and 1st Lt Jerry J Hunt,
Assistant Squadron Adjutant.

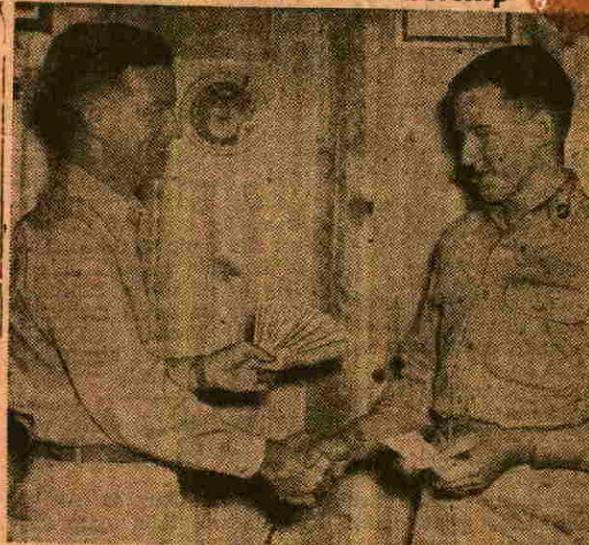
Clippings from Pacific.
Stars and Stripes

Unit Soldiers Of The Month



(U.S. Air Force Photo)
Pictured above are "Unit Soldiers of the Month" at Yokota Air Force Base. They are left to right: T/Sgt. Orville D. Jones, 65th Air Engineering squadron; S/Sgt. Donald W. Chisholm, 71st Reconnaissance group; S/Sgt. James A. Hoover, 608th Air Materiel squadron; Sgt. Richard E. Klein, 31st Reconnaissance squadron; S/Sgt. Robert B. Hughes, 82nd Reconnaissance squadron; Frank Eldikaitis, 13th Bombardment squadron, Sgt. Edward H. Williams, 600th Air Engineering squadron; M/Sgt. Harold K. Older, Third Rescue squadron; M/Sgt. Jerome Holub, Eighth Bombardment squadron and S/Sgt. Grady Carsan, Headquarters Third Bombardment group. Sergeant Eldikaitis was selected as outstanding "Soldier of the Month" for the base.

Receives Life Membership



(U.S. Air Force Photo)
Above (right) is Cpl. Elmer A. Clark, 13th Bombardment squadron, Yokota Air Force Base receiving congratulations from Lt. Jerry J. Hunt, Air Force Aid Society Campaign chairman for the 13th squadron. Corporal Clark contributed \$100 to the organization to become the first enlisted man at Yokota to receive a patron life membership.

Fliers Believed Dead In Crash Off Osaka

YOKOTA AFB, Aug. 3—Names of three airmen missing and believed to have died in an aircraft accident July 26 in the Pacific Ocean 60 miles south of Osaka were announced today.

They were in a B-26 medium attack bomber which made a turn too close to the sea and was unable to pull up after one wing struck the water.

The missing men are: Capt. Christopher J. Herman, pilot, Jackson, Wis.; Lt. Donald E. Roberts, bombardier, Denver Colo.; Sgt. Edmund A. Klar, gunner, Detroit, Mich.

THIRD STRIKE

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13

13TH SQUADRON OBSERVES 31ST ANNIVERSARY

HDQRS., YOKOTA AFB (PIO)--The 13th Bombardment Squadron, one of the main components of the 3rd Bombardment Wing (L), celebrated its 31st anniversary of continuous service with the United States Air Force on the 25th of August. The "Grim Reapers" have been in business since the fateful war-torn year of 1917 when the U.S. entered World War I and the 13th squadron answered the call to battle at Kelly Air Force Base, then Kelly Field, Texas.

Shortly after, the 13th squadron embarked by convoy for overseas duty and landed at Liverpool, England. Upon the completion of intense combat training here they were transferred to an air-drome in France. This was where "Oscar," famed "symbol of death" mascot, got the first chance to swing his scythe in the form of two hundred and thirty-eight (238) combat missions against the Boches. Included in these strikes over Europe were reconnaissance, artillery adjustment, liaison and combat missions. These were carried out mostly in the Saint Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne drives where the Allies were engaged in pushing the Germans out of France.

These pioneer pilots flew with the aid of a feather, a statuette, or some other good luck charm--the De-Havilland DH-4B attack biplane.

These so-called crates, in comparison to our present day planes of the jet era, stood up nobly in the first World War and were the forerunners of our air power today. The old DH-4Bs that these first pilots of the 13th piloted were credited with destroying six German aircraft. This number seems puny when compared to present-day standards, but with the thought in mind of the pioneering spirit and the "wing and prayer" attitude taken by these pilots these feats stand out as one of the greatest accomplishments of

the Air Force.

The 13th Squadron returned to the United States on the 27th of April, 1919. They were placed on an inactive status from 1924 until 1929. The first seven years of operation for the "Grim Reapers" were days of experiment and hard work along air trails.

The squadron was reactivated as a nucleus of the 3d Attack Group in 1929. The mission of the Group at that time was experimentation, border patrol, and mail carrying for the U.S. Government. They also participated in numerous air reviews for the benefit of high-ranking government officials, included among these was an aerial demonstration for high Japanese officers of the Imperial Japanese Air Force.

When the thunderhead of World War II broke at Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941 the 13th Squadron was stationed at Savannah Air Force Base, Georgia. The "Grim Reapers" once again returned to its wartime self.

In January, just one month after that fateful date, the "Grim Reapers" were in Australia. Here they started their long trail of destruction that led up through the islands of the Southwest Pacific. Flying the A-20 Attack bomber and the B-25 Mitchell bomber, the 13th squadron wrecked death and destruction on the Imperial Japanese forces at every encounter.

The Gasmata attack on April 6th, 1942, marked the first in the long line of attacks that were to follow in the five war years. With their backs to the wall the 13th squadron, as a part of the invincible 3rd Bomb Group, turned back the Japanese forces at Port Moresby which could have been the important stepping stone to Australia and world conquest. From here they carried on up through the islands to their ultimate goal....Japan. Included in the long list of island stepping stones were New Guinea, the Solomons, Newak, the Admiralties, Borneo, Philippines, Formosa, Okinawa.

'OSCAR': 13TH'S SYMBOL



HDQRS., YOKOTA AFB, JAPAN -- The men that stand behind "Oscar" at the present time aid him in carrying out the mission of the "Grim Reapers": (left to right back row) First Lieutenant Jerry J. Hunt, Squadron Public Information Officer; Major Clarence H. Gross, Commanding Officer; and Captain Donald E. Godbey, Adjutant; (Front row) Technical Sergeant E.J. Jackson, section chief of the Armament Department, who recently left for the United States; First Sergeant Thomas J. McCann; and Master Sergeant Lloyd W. Garner, Line Chief. (Photo by Sgt. Pacheco)

VOL. 4. NO. 31.

YOKOTA AIR FORCE BASE

MO

Report From Washington

The Armed Forces From Service

THE ARMY HAS DISCARDED war time olive drab underwear, towels and handkerchiefs. Future procurement orders will specify that these items be of white material. Undershirts will be of the T-shirt type, flat-knit. The decision to substitute the T-shirt for the present sleeveless shirt resulted from comparative tests in which 10,000 soldiers participated.

* * * * *

THE PEACETIME PROMOTION plan for civilian component Army officers has been approved. The Adjutant General soon will issue an implementing circular.

* * * * *

UNDER A RECENT DIRECTIVE, Combat and Expert Infantrymen may be utilized in other than Infantry assignments in training divisions without loss of additional pay.

* * * * *

ARMY ENLISTED MEN volunteering for overseas service may now name three Theaters in the order of preference. If assignment to a chosen Theater is not possible, the voluntary application will be withdrawn administratively. The applicant will then remain subject to overseas service in other Theaters, in accordance with current policy.

* * * * *

THE "LIVING" Pacific war memorial, sponsored by Pacific War Memorial, Inc., and headed by Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson Jr., USA (ret.), is open for membership. Persons who wish to participate in remembering the sacrifices of Armed Forces personnel in the Pacific war may join the

FUNDS INCREASED FOR OFF-DUTY EDUCATION

The U. S. Air Force headquarters has allocated substantial funds to support the Information and Education program for enlisted and commissioned Air Force personnel during the current fiscal year, and these funds, several times greater than last year's, will be utilized to provide the maximum service to the greatest number of personnel.

A large number of Air Force personnel will participate in the program to further their individual education and advance their careers as airmen with the realization that a firm foundation in basic education will aid in the efficient performance of duties and requirements of Air Force service and leadership.

Air Force Letter 34-30, dated 22 June 1948, which supersedes WD Memo. 85-40-1, 7 May 1947, lists three categories of activities to be supported by the allotted funds:

1.) Group Study Classes through payment of instructors. These classes will be organized to meet the educational desires and needs of personnel. Well-qualified instructors must be obtained to instruct the group study classes.

2.) Individual Extension Courses at Civilian Schools or Colleges, by payment of all fees excepting those for textbooks and other individual equipment.

3.) Information Service, by payment for facilities used in dissemination or presentation of informative materials.

Provision is also made for

AF TRAINING 300 LINGUISTS ANNUALLY

The USAF is training approximately 300 linguists a year, including officers, warrant officers, and enlisted men.

Training includes a four-month course in romance languages, a one-year course for more difficult straight language training, and a four-year program of language and area training, which would include one year's instruction at a civilian university and two years as area training overseas.

Graduates of the courses are placed in attache, intelligence, GIC, communications or military mission assignments, except for the romance language students, who are returned to their respective commands.

The first year of the longer term language and area instruction, which is available to selected officers only, is given at the Army Language School, Presidio of Monterey, California, which is staffed and used jointly by the Air Force, Army, and Navy. The second year of instruction is given at Yale University, or Columbia University; and the third and fourth years are in the overseas locale of the language being studied.

AF TO HONOR O'S

The United States Air Force will award scrolls of appreciation to honor the stage, screen, and radio stars who entertained Air Force personnel overseas during the war.

The scrolls will be presented during an Air Force

Article from "The Third Strike", the Base
Weekly Paper.

HEADQUARTERS
FAR EAST AIR FORCES
APO 925
Office of the Commanding General

13 July 1948

AG 201-LAST, John F. (O)

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation

TO: Commanding General
Fifth Air Force
APO 710

1. To obtain operating experience in adopting Cost Control Reporting to Far East Air Force operations, this Headquarters directed that a service test be conducted at Yokota Air Force Base.

2. First Lieutenant John F Last was appointed Cost Control Reporting Officer at Yokota and was charged with inaugurating and conducting the Cost Control Reporting service test. The initiative and ingenuity displayed by this officer in establishing and monitoring the service test was far beyond that normally exercised by officers of his corresponding rank and experience.

3. As a result of the service test at Yokota and the procedures developed and recommended by Lieutenant Last for Far East Air Forces operations, a Cost Control Reporting system for all Far East Air Forces activities is now being installed.

4. I wish to commend Lieutenant Last for superior performance of duties while Cost Control Reporting Officer at Yokota Air Force Base.

/s/ Ennis C. Whitehead
ENNIS C. WHITEHEAD
Lieutenant General, United States Air Force
Commanding

Clipping from Pacific Stars and Stripes

FEAF REORGANIZED IN PACIFIC AREAS

The Far East Air Forces' major bases in Japan, Guam, Phillippine Islands and Okinawa have been reorganized and are operating on a wing-base plan designed to streamline air activities in this part of the world, Lt General Ennis C. Whitehead, commanding general, FEAF, announced today.

The wing-base organization plan has been tested for a year at various bases in the United States and has been adopted for Air Force implementation throughout the world because of improved results obtained under the new organization plan.

This plan replaces the former organization of a combat group and an air service group on a base and substitutes for this organization a single organization on the base with a wing commander responsible for and controlling all activities. The activities under him are divided among four assistants as follows:

A combat group, which has combat operations and training responsibilities only. It does not have supply and house-keeping duties.

A maintenance and supply group, comprising the normal functions of those activities in functions of those activities in support of a base and combat wing.

A medical group, comprising station hospital and related facilities.

An air base group, responsible for administrative functions other than supply and maintenance, such as civilian personnel, administration, transportation, security, repairs and utilities, food service, base air operations, communications, weather service and similar base functions.

The wing-base plan centralizes responsibility for and control of the varied activities necessary on each station to carry out the mission of the station. It is a functional type organization and was first implemented in Air Force organization because of the success of this type of organizational structure in the most efficient private business firms in the United States. Functional type organization has proven successful in various Air Depots in the United States as well as on the Air Force Bases.