118 UTILITY FLIGHT

MISSION

LINEAGE 118 Utility Flight Activated Inactivated, 2 Sep 1950

STATIONS Bradley Field, East Granby, CT

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS B-26B

COMMANDERS Cpt John L. Hoar

HONORS Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

ΜΟΤΤΟ

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

After the World War II reorganization of the Connecticut Air National Guard, the first unit to be recalled to Federal Service, on a voluntary basis, was the 118th Utility Flight.

During periods from 1948 to 1950 this unit, still under the command of Cpt John L. Hoar, flew a total of five B-26s, on tow-target missions for the United States Army, on Cape Cod and at Camp Stewart, GA, on the East Coast. The pilots performed the same type of mission for the Air Force on the West Coast. They also showed up for National Gunnery Week, at Las Vegas, NV, in 1948 and 1949. Simply stated, this work consisted of towing fairly large targets on a cable behind the B-26s, while anti-aircraft guns on the ground (Army) and guns in the air (Air Force fighter planes) tried to clobber these same targets. Of course, any wild shooting by the artillery men or the fighter pilots could end in disaster for the tow-plane pilots in this operation.

Air Force Lineage and Honors Created: 12 Oct 2010 Updated:

Sources Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.