

400th AERO SQUADRON

Units began arriving in June. The 70th Service Squadron came from Kelly Field to operate the base. The 47th School Squadron came from Brooks Field as the training detachment. The 95th Pursuit Squadron from Selfridge Field, Michigan, and the 11th Bombardment Squadron from Langley Field, Virginia, paused briefly at March before moving on to Rockwell Field, San Diego. Lastly, the 44th Observation Squadron and the 23rd Photo Section were both transferred from Post Field, Oklahoma. Later, the 53rd and 54th School Squadrons were activated, and the three training units placed under the 13th School Group. Plans called for 143 training planes, consisting of PT-1, -2 and -3s and DH-4s.

After this reorganization, few changes took place before World War II. On September 1, 1936, the 64th and 76th Service Squadrons were inactivated and surplus personnel consolidated into the newly-formed 4th Air Base Squadron. On the same day, the 38th Reconnaissance Squadron was reactivated. Activation of the 1st Weather Squadron on July 1, 1937, completed the pre-war buildup. The 23rd Photo Squadron was inactivated on October 15, 1937, but the functions and personnel were merely transferred to the 4th Air Base Squadron. In 1938, the Muroc Bombing Range in the Mojave Desert was expanded. This established March as the central base for West Coast bombing and gunnery training. The 17th Attack Group was re-designated as a bombardment unit in 1939 in recognition of the increasing importance of bombing as a combat contribution rather than support of ground troops.

LINEAGE

STATIONS

March

DEPLOYED STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources