

AEROSPACE GUIDANCE AND METROLOGY CENTER



LINEAGE

STATIONS

Newark AFS, OH

COMMANDERS

Col Morris C. Burkhart, #1971

Col Joseph M. Renaud July 1992-Sept. 1996

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

The Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center emblem was developed from a design proposed by Harold A. Kaiser, Newark AFS Security Police, in 1964. Selected from about three hundred entries in a contest, it was originally designed for the 2802d Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group.

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

We Repair the Missiles and Measure Accurately

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

In 1968, the 2802d IG&CGp was inactivated and replaced by the Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center.

Missiles depended on inertial guidance systems to direct them to their targets. What was inertial guidance? In its simplest terms inertial guidance can be described as a type of guidance which is complete within itself. It needs no exterior energy radiating source to determine a course. It emits no signal and is not dependent on any ground equipment to operate. Other forms of guidance may be dependent upon waves of energy and a reference point either from the earth or other universal bodies such as the moon, the air or the stars.

Up to this point, maintenance of the sensitive guidance systems used on such missiles had generally been a contractor responsibility. While contractor repair was adequate for missiles in the R&D stage, such servicing was both inadequate and costly once large numbers of missiles became operational. Thus, the Air Force sought to develop an in-house maintenance capability for some of its inertial guidance systems.

Although Newark Air Force Station (AFS), home of the 2802d Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group (2802d IG&CGp), was formally dedicated on 13 December 1962, the reasons for its establishment obviously predated that event. Efforts to develop two important Air Force workloads, calibration and inertial guidance system repair, were the primary factors in the facility's origin. The first workload, the Air Force calibration program, had its roots at Dayton Air Force Depot (AFD) located in Dayton, Ohio. The second, the repair of inertial guidance systems, was closely associated with the calibration program and also resulted from actions taken at the Dayton depot. The growing maturity of the former, and the critical need to perform the latter, formed the confluence of events reason, Dayton AFD and HQ AFLC agreed that Heath Directorate personnel (364 strong at that time) be temporarily relocated to Area A, Wright-Patterson AFB, effective 15 January 1962 until the Heath facilities were available.

Although the time they spent at Sherwood Forest (as that section of Area A was known) was brief, it was nonetheless an interesting interlude for the Heath Directorate. The buildings that housed them were old wooden structures that were poorly heated at best and the cold was often a constant companion. Although they spent their "Valley Forge" shivering through the winter of 1961-1962, the Heath planners largely ignored the conditions because of their preoccupation with the many tasks necessary for their move to Heath. They began moving to the Heath facility in April 1962 and by June most of the Directorate personnel had relocated to the Newark-Heath area. In order to better identify the Heath organization, on 11 June 1962 HQ AFLC designated and organized HQ 2802d Inertial and Calibration Group (IG&CGp) and assigned it to Middletown AMA. Col. Thomas O. Lawton became the first commander of the new organization. This organization replaced the Heath Directorate but had essentially the same responsibilities.

Although an organization had been established and personnel assigned, the Heath facilities were still not completed as of June 1962. Contractor difficulties had resulted in minor delays. Thus, the Navy did not turn over functional operation of the facility to the 2802d IG&CGp until 8 August 1962.

In the introduction, I asked the question, "Why were Newark AFS and the 2802d IG&CGp established?" Like most historical questions, the answer is somewhat complex. Certainly, it was obvious that the Calibration Division at Dayton AFD needed better laboratory facilities. It was just not feasible to modify the old laboratories to the level of environmental control necessary for the increasingly stringent measurement requirements. Thus, Newark AFS was, in part, a result of the search for a facility capable of housing new calibration laboratories. At about the same time, the Air Force had decided that repair and maintenance of inertial guidance systems would be accomplished in-house. Since inertial guidance systems required very precise calibration, it was natural that the two missions be combined. Why, then, was the old Heavy Press plant at Newark chosen as the site of the calibration and inertial guidance repair facility? First, the heavy press pits were ideally suited for the environmentally controlled calibration laboratories. Second, the building had settled and had a history of seismic stability. Third, the site had enough room to house the inertial guidance repair shops. Finally, its close proximity to Dayton compared to other possible sites made it an attractive location.

This does not, however, completely answer the question as to why Newark AFS was established. That question can only be answered with one word, "missiles." Ray Y. Bailey, a calibration administrator at Dayton AFD at that time recalled why the missile program was so important. A specific incident I recall vividly followed two spectacular missile launch failures from the West Coast at Vandenberg AFB. We volunteered to send a group of experts out to help them. They had a PMEL of sorts there although it was primarily contractor operated. There were very few in-house launches. Most of the things that were done there were done by contractors. Some of those contractors had laboratories, but we had established a PMEL at Vandenberg that was primarily for electronic equipment. In reviewing the launch failures it was obvious to us that there were measurement requirements that were not being satisfied, particularly for flow rates, volume of fuel, thrust rates and other similar readings. The group sent out from Dayton AFD was people that knew the significance of precision measurements and how they should be made prior to a scheduled launch. As I recall, there were five or six people that went out there at that time. After the equipment was supposedly calibrated and was operational, it was their job to recheck everything to ensure accuracy. What they found was that either the people didn't know how to make the precision measurements or they were reusing standards that were not adequate to make those kinds of measurements. I think there was a little of both. Our people took our standards, our measuring equipment, and our knowledge, put them together and went through a complete calibration of all the launch equipment. They found some incredible things, such as pressure gages that were 100 percent off. To read 50 lbs it might read 100, or if it was supposed to read 100 lbs it might read 50. Given the deplorable condition of the launch equipment, how they ever got a missile off the ground was a mystery to us. It just so happened that on that particular launch they went through the countdown without a hold and the missile went off and had almost a perfect flight. That impressed a lot of people there and of course it impressed a lot of people at HQ USAF also ... That particular incident was a real turning point as far as gaining recognition and approval for the programs that we established later on. Interestingly enough, from that point on we had very little difficulty in getting funds.

Although participants denied many of the specifics of Bailey's story, it nonetheless illustrated the close connection between missile and calibration programs. For years, the Dayton calibration division had worked closely with the Ballistic Missile Division (BMD) to ensure the most precise

calibration of inertial guidance systems and other instruments used on Air Force missiles. It had become increasingly apparent that not all civilian contractors took the same attitude towards calibration that the Dayton calibration experts did. Lack of precise calibration, however, had caused problems in the past and was an important factor in the success or failure of the USAF strategic missile program. Thus, within the Air Force, the BMD became a strong adherent of the Air Force calibration program and recognized the need for precision in the repair of inertial guidance systems. Their support was an important factor in the decision to establish Newark AFS. A close look at the congressional hearing held to evaluate the need for Newark AFS revealed the USAF missile program was a major part of the decision to fund Newark AFS. When the chairman of the Subcommittee on Appropriations, Senator Stennis, asked what the Air Force would do without the proposed facility, Dayton AFD's representative, Colonel Johnson, made the connection between Newark AFS and the missile program crystal clear. Colonel Johnson stated, "with reference to your question as to what we would do without it [Newark AFS], I can say without doubt, without this facility we can-not guarantee accuracy in our missile systems. This is how urgent we feel it is." One of the most important reasons for the establishment of Newark AFS, then, was support of the USAF missile program.

One should, of course, put the establishment of Newark AFS in the context of its times. In the early 1960s there was great concern in the United States over the growing military might of the Soviet Union as evidenced in such issues as the so-called "missile gap." Thus, the U.S. strategic missile program assumed great importance. It was no wonder then, that the repair depot at Newark, linked so closely to the missile program, finally received funding approval from even a fiscally conservative Congress.

When Col. Thomas O. Lawton assumed command of the 2802d Inertial IG&CGp on 11 June 1962 that organization consisted of nine divisions. As noted earlier, the 2802d IG&CGp had been assigned to Middletown AMA which provided support functions for the Heath facility. From 1962 to 1968 a number of changes took place in the 2802d IG&CGp's organization. These modifications reflected a gradual movement towards organizational independence.

It soon became apparent that the 2802d's subordinate position to Middletown AMA would not last. The 2802d was dependent on Middletown AMA for administrative, personnel and logistics support. Un-fortunately, the hundreds of miles distance separating the two organizations often made coordination in those areas difficult. Colonel Lawton explained:

No Air Materiel Area was organizationally equipped to handle the problems that we were having. Fundamentally, we were a maintenance organization. If you put us under Middletown, then you ... put us under the Chief of Maintenance. Here this poor guy was faced with problems he was ill-equipped to handle ... We had the whole problem here and you just couldn't work through that way. They recognized it and we did too ... Maj. Gen. Frederick Miller [Commander of Middletown AMA] ... really supported establishing the 2802d IG&CGp as a separate unit ... [He took] the message to HQ AFLC that the 2802d could not operate as a true part of Middletown.

Irrelevant of the difficulties existing between the 2802d and Middletown, HQ AFLC actions led to a resolution of the problem. Beginning in 1963, HQ AFLC initiated a plan to reduce the number of its major field installations. In November 1964, HQ AFLC announced that Middletown AMA,

Newark AFS' parent organization, would be phased out. Middletown AMA's responsibility for instrument repair was transferred to other installations, and by September 1967 Middletown AMA was completely shut down. Since Middletown AMA was being closed, the 2802d IG&CGp was reassigned from Middletown AMA to HQ AFLC itself on 1 February 1965

Administrative, personnel, and logistics support, formerly furnished by [Middletown AMA], was assumed by the 2750th Air Base Wing at Wright-Patterson AFB ... After the transfer, the 2802d was, however, to have some additional responsibilities. It was to assume budget authorization, allotment, and reimbursable authorizations formerly handled by [Middletown AMA] ... It would also assume responsibilities for services such as base restaurant and civilian welfare funding.

The fact that Newark AFS was moved directly under HQ AFLC was, in part, recognition by the Command of the increasingly important work done at the air station. Following the transfer, two additional divisions, Civilian Personnel, and Supply and Transport, were created. Further changes in November 1966 occurred when a Plans and Management Office replaced the Management Services Division and a new division, the Service Engineering Division, was created to further engineering requirements necessary to accomplish the organic repair of inertial systems.

When HQ AFLC established the 2802d IG&CGp on 11 June 1962, much work remained to be done at the facility it occupied. As noted earlier, great emphasis was placed on ensuring that key work areas were as environmentally clean as

Nicknamed "The Missile Base" by Newark residents and station employees, Newark AFS earned that reputation by its early workloads. The first IGSs arrived on 22 October 1962 and were part of the Atlas missile system. Other inertial guidance systems repaired at Newark AFS were those for the Minuteman I and Titan I missiles.

Maj. Gen. T. Alan Bennett, Commander of the Ogden AMA (which managed the Minuteman maintenance program) applauded Newark's efforts: Since November, Newark has produced thirty-five NS-17 [Minuteman II] systems which are seven more than originally projected. The average depot flow time has been 20.4 days which is approximately one-third better than the contractor and the quality in each case has been comparable or better. This record is remarkable in view of the fact Newark is in the early phases of the learning curve while the contractor has been producing the equipment since 1965.

The 2802d's Minuteman II record was a major factor in its winning the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 April 1967 to 7 April 1968. The award citation included the recognition that the 2802d IG&CGp successfully counteracted a failure rate and eliminated the "not operationally ready" condition of the Minuteman II ballistic missile.

In April 1967, an alarmingly high Minuteman II inertial guidance system failure rate in the field causing a "Not Operationally Ready Condition" led the Ballistic Systems Division to request that Newark increase its production of Minuteman II inertial guidance systems to compensate for contractor problems. The first Minuteman II inertial guidance system was successfully repaired, tested, and returned to the Strategic Air Command in November 1966. The repair was accomplished in just eleven days, about half of the expected average turn-around time,

Newark Air Force Station received its first major non-missile repair workload in April 1965 with the introduction of the LN-12 inertial navigation platform used on the F-4C aircraft. The first F-4C aircraft inertial navigation platform was repaired and tested at Newark AFS in April 1965.

Missile systems were not the only systems repaired at Newark AFS. As a result of increasingly sophisticated technology, aircraft were also being equipped with inertial navigation systems (INS) made up of components such as platforms, gyroscopes and accelerometers. Newark AFS received its first major non-missile repair workload in April 1965 with the introduction of the LN-12 inertial navigation platform used on the F-4C aircraft. Although only sixteen such units were repaired by Newark AFS in 1965, the number repaired would leap dramatically. By 1967, production of this one aircraft inertial navigation platform alone surpassed the production of all the missile systems combined. The Vietnam War accounted for much of this increase. Thus, the introduction of LN-12 platform repair capability in 1965 was highly significant, for it quickly became the work staple of the station.³⁰ in the realm of calibration and metrology; progress was made towards centralizing the program at Newark AFS. In 1962, the 2802d IG&CGp initiated a program to establish the direct exchange of calibration standards between the Air Force Measurement Standards Laboratory (AFMSL) located at Newark and the base PMELs. Previously, base PMELs had relied on the AMA PMELs for their standards. By centralizing the distribution of standards at the AFMSL, HQ AFMC was able to reduce duplication of reference standards. This process was largely completed by 1968. In addition, steps were taken in 1965 to ensure greater control over the PMEL system by designing a program to evaluate PMEL capabilities. The Air Force assigned the Calibration and Metrology Division as manager of a world-wide PMEL certification program in 1965. Each PMEL was evaluated by teams from nearby AMAs. The AMAs were evaluated by Newark AFS personnel. Also, the Metrology division began publishing Controlled Multiple Address Letters (CMALs) to keep PMEL personnel abreast of changes in the calibration program.

AGMC's motto, "A Center of Excellence" was printed in bold letters on Building 4 in August 1972. There was a station legend that the sign was originally misspelled and had to be repainted. The truth of the matter was that the spacing for the original sign was in error. This led to the reaccomplishment of the project.

In 1968 a major change took place at Newark AFS. At that time the 2802d IG&CGp was inactivated and replaced by the Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center (AGMC). Although the organization changed, the mission and the people remained essentially the same. Col. Morris C. Burkhart, AGMC commander from 1968 to 1972, gave the new organization its motto, "A Center of Excellence." Colonel Burkhart explained: At that particular time and for a period from maybe 1969 to 1972, there was quite a drive within the Air Force to cut back a number of installations and one criterion that was used in evaluating installations was whether or not they were replaceable. Did they perform a special mission for the Air Force? Were they run of the mill or even poorer than average as far as the skills of the work force? So, to preclude our ever being considered for elimination, it was my contention that we had to be something special because here we were out in the middle of nowhere in the center of Ohio. We were in the middle of some fields and always suspect. You can picture someone sitting in the Pentagon and saying, "Hey we've got to cut some money and we've got to cut some installations, what's this little thing out here in the middle of Ohio? It must eat up a lot of overhead. What does it do for us?" Well, if we wanted to stay in business, the thing that we had to do was be something special, the Cadillac of the repair business.

With a reputation as the "Center of Excellence," I thought we had a better chance to stay in business and that was the reason I pressed for that.

The tribute "A Center of Excellence" seemed appropriate since AGMC's expertise in the area of inertial navigation/guidance repair led to a number of interservice workloads in the 1970s. Moreover, the Directorate of Metrology improved the extent and quality of its standards as well as strengthening its role in the management of the PMEL system. Thus, AGMC enhanced its reputation as a leader in the field of inertial systems and calibration.

Since its beginning, reorganizations at Newark AFS reflected, in part, the facility's growing independence. The facility evolved from a depot annex to an AMA subunit and finally to an independent organization that reported directly to command headquarters. This process often mandated internal changes in order to manage the requirements of an independent organization.

Beginning in October 1967, HQ AFLC sponsored studies to reorganize the 2802d IG&CGp. The 2802d's organization at the time did not conform to accepted AFLC organization principles and this caused unnecessary misunderstandings between organizations within the 2802d and its AFLC counterparts. In addition, the large number of divisions within the 2802d made it difficult for the commander to exercise proper management control. For example, the chiefs of Shops, Quality Control, Production Control, and Industrial Engineering divisions all reported directly to the commander. This increased the burden upon the commander by making him, in addition to his other responsibilities, his own chief of maintenance. The proposed reorganization of Newark AFS eliminated those problems by establishing a few large organizations.³⁴ After a year of studies and proposals, HQ AFLC feared that HQ USAF would impose further delays on this important project. In a letter dated 28 September 1968, Lt. Gen. Lewis L. Mundell, HQ AFLC Vice Commander at the time, urged HQ USAF to approve the reorganization as soon as possible. The Office of Manpower and Organization, HQ USAF, responded by authorizing the reorganization on 11 October 1968, and the actual change occurred on 8 November 1968." The reorganization of 1968 created major changes in Newark AFS's internal organizations, although the personnel and workload were not changed. The most important change was the replacement of the twelve divisions by four directorates and three staff offices.

The 2802d IG&CGp was inactivated on 8 November 1968 and AGMC was activated on the same date. HQ AFLC described AGMC's mission as follows: Accomplish single point repair of inertial guidance systems for aircraft and missiles for the Air Force and other DOD agencies; provide engineering consultant and support services for inertial guidance when requested by cognizant engineering activity and to other DOD agencies when required by Interservice Support Agreements; manage the Air Force Measurement Standards Control System and provide technical and procedural direction that assures a single integrated Air Force Calibration and Metrology Program.

The end of the 2802d IG&CGp was not without distinction, however, for in 1968 it won the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for its work in repairing Minuteman II inertial guidance systems. Throughout the 1970s there was a gradual growth in the number of staff offices. As an independent organization, Air Force regulations often required AGMC to have such staff offices. For example, AGMC acquired a staff level historical office. Elevated in August 1970 to an autonomous office,

the historian's primary function was to write an analytical history of each year's significant events.* This was followed two months later by the removal of safety functions from the Directorate of Supply and Support and the establishment of a Safety Office. In April 1971, the short-lived Depot Maintenance Activation Office was established. Three months later a Headquarters Squadron Section was created. The following October the Office of Information was elevated from a branch under the Services and Administration Division, Directorate of Supply and Support, to a staff level office. Organically, therefore, there was great fluctuation as well as proliferation of staff offices. Indeed, throughout the 1970s, there was a steady growth in the number of staff offices reflecting the center's specialized needs.

A significant reorganization occurred in 1973 under AGMC commander Col. Albert R. Neville, Jr. During Newark AFS's early years, commanders had to devote most of their time and energy to establishing the facility, assembling the people and equipment, and adapting the facilities. Support functions, therefore, took up much of their time. However, as AGMC's facilities neared completion and the acquisition of workloads required more attention from the commander, Colonel Neville felt that a new organization was necessary to free his command section from the myriad of support functions and allow it to focus upon planning and directing AGMC. In addition, Colonel Neville wanted to more closely integrate the various elements of the directorates and staff offices to make AGMC run more efficiently and effectively. In order to achieve these objectives, Colonel Neville suggested to HQ AFLC that a subordinate command, an Air Base Group (ABG), be established at the center. The AFLC Council approved the establishment of an ABG, and HQ AFLC designated and organized HQ 2803 ABG, effective 15 February 1973. Lt. Col. Albert G. Houston became the ABG's first commander on the same date. The 2803 ABG was assigned to AGMC and had the responsibility of operating all the support functions at Newark AFS. A six month evaluation period followed to ensure that the new organization was in fact more efficient and cost effective than the old system. The reorganization successfully passed this test.⁴² The 2803 ABG dramatically changed the organization of AGMC. The Directorate of Supply and Support was eliminated and its functions were assigned to the 2803 ABG. In addition to the five divisions formerly under the Directorate of Supply and Support,** the Headquarters Squadron Section, Office of Information, Comptroller, and Civilian Personnel Office were all transferred to the 2803 ABG. A Support Plans Office was also established within the ABG in order to consolidate functions normally contained under base operations. As a result, AGMC's structure was reduced to six major elements:

1. Command and Staff
2. Plans and Programs Office
3. Directorate of Maintenance
4. Directorate of Service Engineering
5. Directorate of Metrology
6. 2803 ABG

Following this major reorganization, smaller changes were made to further enhance AGMC's ability to perform its mission properly. They were, in part, necessary adjustments resulting from AGMC's creation. The 2802d IG&CGp had been deliberately structured to be dependent upon Middletown AMA for its administrative support (e.g., medical services, contracting). With the transfer to HQ AFLC in 1965, the 2802d gained control of some of these areas. However, control over legal matters, real property accountability, personnel and administrative support had been given by HQ AFLC to the 2750th Air Base Wing (ABW) at Wright-Patterson AFB.⁴⁴ The

establishment of AGMC in 1968 largely terminated the 2750th ABW's responsibility for Newark AFS. In September 1974 HQ AFLC granted AGMC the right to establish a Staff Judge Advocate Office that would provide the center with its own legal services. This was eventually done in April 1975. Three months later a separate Social Actions Office was established as well. Previously it had been combined with the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, a part of the Civilian Personnel Division.⁴⁵ In addition; long-range planning was culminated in October 1978 when AGMC enlisted the first fourteen members of its reserve force. Organized to ensure production during surge situations, the requirement for 157 Category A Mobilization Augmentees was approved by HQ USAF in January 1981.

There were also adjustments to AGMC's organization at the directorate level. On 23 January 1976 HQ AFLC approved a reorganization of AGMC's Directorate of Service Engineering which included a change in nomenclature as well. In order to more accurately reflect the directorate mission, the directorate was renamed Inertial Engineering.

Although under various names, there had been an organization committed to inertial engineering from the very beginning of the air station. Colonel Lawton, the first commander explained the reasoning for this: We were dealing in very technical areas. We had problems on the floor that required engineering decisions on what tolerance you could permit and what deviation or variation you could accept from the norm ... Moreover, in order to prepare for future workloads, we had to have an engineering capacity to look at what was coming in the future, to understand what the Research and Development people were developing. This would enable us to prepare for equipment and training needs. It wasn't sufficient just to have people who were technically capable of handling the repair aspects of a workload. You had to prepare for the next one and that took engineering. Also, quality control took engineering. That is basically why we had it set up this way.

In April 1977, HQ AFLC approved AGMC's plan to elevate the Plans and Programs Office to the level of a directorate. This allowed it to function as an equal with other directorates as well as with its counterparts at the other ALCs.

16 Mar 1961 Representative John Ashbrook publicly announced that the Air Force planned to modify the Heath Maintenance Annex to house IGS repair shops and calibration laboratories.

1 Apr 1961 The Directorate of Heath Operations was established.

Jun 1961 Simmons Construction Company, Lexington, Kentucky, won the contract to modify Heath Maintenance Annex into a repair and calibration facility.

1 Aug 1961 HQ AFLC officially recognized the Directorate of Heath Operations and assigned Col. Thomas O. Lawton as Commander, Detachment 1, HQ Dayton AFD, Heath Maintenance Annex, and Directorate of Heath Operations.

Jan 1962 A large influx of Defense Supply Agency personnel at Gentile AFS forced Heath Directorate Personnel to temporarily relocate to Sherwood Forest, Area A, Wright-Patterson AFB.

15 Feb 1962 Responsibility for the management and operation of the Heath Maintenance Annex was transferred from Dayton AFD to Middletown AMA.

Apr 1962 Heath Directorate personnel began moving to the Heath facility.

2802d Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group

11 June 1962 HQ AFLC designated and organized the HQ, 2802d IG&CGp, and assigned it to Middletown AMA.

11 Jun 1962 Col. Thomas O. Lawton became the first commander of the 2802d IG&CGp. He had previously been commander of the Directorate of Heath Operations.

22 Oct 1962 The first inertial guidance systems arrived at the Heath Maintenance Annex for repair. They were for the Atlas missile.

7 Nov 1962

The Heath Maintenance Annex was redesignated as Newark AFS.

13 Dec 1962 The first Minuteman I IGS was repaired and returned to the field.

Dec 1964 Newark AFS acquired 7.51 acres of land from neighboring Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation. The purchase increased the total area of the station to 45.78 acres.

1 Feb 1965 The 2802d IG&CGp was reassigned from Middletown AMA to HQ AFLC.

Apr 1965 The first LN-12 platform for use on the F-4C aircraft was repaired and tested at Newark AFS.

15 Jul 1966 Col. Edwin L. Little became commander of the 2802d IG&CGp.

Nov 1966 The first Minuteman II IGS was repaired and returned to the field.

Sep 1967 A Minuteman I missile was erected near the main gate as a monument to one of the important systems repaired at Newark AFS.

22 Jul 1968 Col. Morris C. Burkhart became commander of the 2802d IG&CGp.

Jul 1968 The 2802d IG&CGp was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 April 1967 to 1 April 1968.

Sep 1968 The Access Road was named Irving-Wick Drive in honor of the first two Heath residents to die in action in Vietnam.

Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center

8 Nov 1968 The 2802d IG&CGp was inactivated. AGMC was activated on the same date.

Aug 1969 A new maintenance facility was opened for Minuteman III IGS repair as an addition to the north end of Building 4.

May 1971 AGMC opened a new Data Automation Center adjacent to Building 4.

21 Jun 1972 Col. Albert R. Neville became commander of AGMC.

Jul 1972 The elevation and audit of all PMELs was assigned to the Directorate of Metrology at AGMC.

21 Sep 1972 AGMC received the AFLC Maintenance Effectiveness Award for Depot Maintenance for FY 1972.

15 Feb 1973 The 2803 ABG was designated and organized for operation at Newark AFS.

26 Oct 1973 AGMC was redesignated from a Specialized Repair Activity to a Technical Repair Center for inertial measurement units used on missiles and aircraft.

Nov 1974 A T-33 aircraft was placed as a monument near the main gate to Newark AFS. This was done to demonstrate that aircraft systems as well as missile systems were part of the station's workload.

Mar 1975 The city of Heath transferred ten acres of land to Newark AFS extending the area of the station to fifty-six acres.

30 Jun 1975 Col. William H. Bush became commander of AGMC. Apr 1976 A new supply warehouse was opened at the station. 17 Jun 1977 Col. David W. Huff became commander of AGMC.

10 Nov 1977 AGMC received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 January 1974 to 31 December 1975.

15 Jun 1981 AGMC received the Air Force Maintenance Effectiveness Award for Depot Maintenance.

26 Oct 1981 AGMC received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 January 1979 to 31 December 1980.

Col. Thomas O. Lawton 1 August 1961-14 June 1966

Col. Edwin L Little 15 July 1966-21 July 1968

Col. Morris C. Burkhart 22 July 1968-20 June 1972

Col. Albert R. Neville, Jr. 21 June 1972-29 June 1975

So much of Special Orders G-36, this Headquarters, 29 May 1962, as reads: "The Headquarters 2802nd Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group is designated and organized at Heath Annex, Heath, Ohio, effective 1 July 1962, with assignment to Middletown Air Materiel Area" is amended to read: "The Headquarters 2802nd Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group is designated and organized at Heath Annex, Heath, Ohio, effective 11 June 1962, with assignment to Middletown Air Materiel Area."

The Headquarters, Dayton Air Force Depot, located at Gentile AF Station, Ohio, is discontinued effective 1 July 1962. Concurrently this unit will revert to the control of the Department of the Air Force. Manpower authorizations associated with this action are transferred to the Defense Supply Agency, or to Air Force Logistics Command activities receiving AF workloads. Civilian personnel rendered surplus by this action will be absorbed by the Defense Electronics Supply Center or in other Air Force Logistics Command units.

The Headquarters, 2907th Air Base Group, located at Gentile AF Station, Ohio, is discontinued, effective 1 July 1962. Concurrently with discontinuance the numerical designation will revert to the control of Air Force Logistics Command. Manpower authorizations associated with this action are transferred to the Defense Supply Agency, or to Air Force Logistics Command activities receiving AF workloads. Civilian personnel rendered surplus by this action will be absorbed by the Defense Electronics Supply Center or in other Air Force Logistics Command units.

HQ 2802d Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group, assigned to AFLC, is inactivated at Newark AFS, Newark, Ohio, effective 8 November 1968. Personnel and manpower authorizations revert to AFLC and will be used to activate the HQ, Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center. The number 2802d reverts to AFLC and will not be used to designate a similar unit.

HQ, Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center, a named unit, is activated at Newark AFS, Newark, Ohio and assigned to AFLC, effective 8 November 1968. Personnel and manpower authorizations will be provided from AFLC resources. The mission of the Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center is to: Accomplish single point repair of inertial guidance systems for aircraft and missiles for the Air Force and other DOD agencies; provide engineering consultant and support services for inertia! guidance when requested by cognizant engineering activity and to other DOD agencies when required by Interservice Support Agreements; manage the Air Force Measurement Standards Control System and provide technical and procedural direction that assures a single integrated Air Force Calibration and Metrology Program.

Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center. Health Maintenance Annex established 1 February 1959; redesignated 2802d Inertial Guidance and Calibration Group, 11 June 1962, Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center, 8 November 1968.

Sources

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