ARCHIVES RECORD

RG538 United States Air Force

Records: 1940-1954
Histories of Air Bases operating in Nebraska
No. of Items: 28 reels of microfilm

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The following rolls of film contain histories of the U.S. Army Air Force bases in Nebraska. Also included are histories of 83 Army Air Forces Tech. Training Command Detachment and a history of the Government Aircraft plant, Glenn L. Martin Co. in Omaha Nebraska.

This microfilm was created from the record copy of unit histories and related historical material of the USAF stored in the archives branch of Albert F. Simpson Historical Research Center, United States Air Force, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

The microfilm was purchased from the United States Air Force Historical Research Center at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama in September 1989 by the research department of the Historical Society in connection with their World War II research project. The material on the rolls has been de-classified by the air force but certain copyright restriction may apply.

DESCRIPTION

SERIES ONE GOVERNMENT AIRCRAFT PLANT #1, OMAHA NE, 1947-1948

Roll #1 Frames #4 thru #1272

A2125 Oklahoma City Air Material, 1943-1950
frames 403-408: 832d AF Specialized Depot Organizational Charts
frame 409: Organizational Chart, Tumpane Co. Inc.
frames 410-416: Govt. Aircraft Plant #1, Omaha, 1949-1950
frames 417-427: Govt. Aircraft Plant #3, Tulsa
frames 428-743: OCAMA, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma
frames 744-750: Air Force Reserve Orders #50-#61 April 27, 1950 - May 12, 1950, TAFB, OK
frames 751-767: Station List & Roster of officers, TAFB, OK
frames 768-816: Tinker AFB, Oklahoma
frames 817-855: Minutes, Conference on USAF Program
frames 947-951: Orders and corres. re Omaha Plant, May 1958
frame 962: Air depot control area station histories-Nebr
frames 969-970: Service squadrons-NE, 1950
frames 974-975: Sub depots-Nebraska
frame 1002: OCASA Activities List by Stations--Nebraska
NOTE: This plant was formerly the main assembly building of the Glenn L. Martin-Nebraska Bomber Plant, 10 miles south of Omaha. Air Defense Command assumed command of Fort Crook in 1946 and merged with Offutt Air Force Base. The aircraft plant was reactivated in Oct. 1946 and production started in March, 1947.

frames 1381-1405: Installment #2, August 29, 1947
frames 1410-1414: Installment #3 - Squadron "L", 4136th Army Air Force Base Unit, Jan. 1947 - March 1947
frames 1413-1414: Chrono. list of important dates
frames 1422-1426: Installment #5 - ibid, July 1947 - Sept. 1947
frames 1425-1426: Chrono. list of important dates
frames 1440: Installment #6 - ibid, Oct 1947 - Dec. 1947
frames 1443: Chrono. list of important dates
frames 1467: Installment #7, ibid, Jan. - March 1948
frames 1472: Chrono. list of important dates
frames 1502: Installment #8, ibid, Apr. - June 1948
frames 1507-1510: Chrono. list of important dates
frames 1523-1524: Biography, Col. Albert Brown Pitts (1889-
frames 1582: Installment #9, HQ 2980 Stanley Plant
frames 1583-1588: Chrono list of important dates
frames 1660: Installment #10, HQ 2980, Oct - Dec. 1948
frames 1663-1665: Chrono list of important dates
frames 1694-2048: Squadron M, 4136th AAF Base Unit,
frames 2049-end: Pacific Overseas Air Tech. Service Command
NOTE: This training detachment was activated February 18, 1943, to provide advance training on B-26 airplanes for apprentice crew chiefs, enabling them to utilize and increase their specialized knowledge of this craft. Accomodations for housing the detachment were made at Fort Crook, Nebraska, about 3/4 of a mile from the Martin plant.
NOTE: The 537th Service Squadron was activated at the Alliance Army Air Base, May 10, 1943. Until June 7, 1943, those assigned to the 537th were attached to the resident 325th Service Squadron at Alliance.

frames 004-540: Narrative Histories, Mar. 1944 - May 1945
frame #541: History of 816th AAF Base Unit, Alliance June - August 1945
frame #544: History of the Air Base, 1942-1945
frame #680: Section Historical Reports - 816th AAF Base Unit, August-Sept 1945
frames 736-867: Monthly Historical Reports - Engineer February 1944 - June 1946
frames 868-916: Medical Historical Report, July - Nov. 1945
frames 917-1067: Monthly Historical Reports, July 1945 - April 1946
film
SERIES THREE ALLIANCE ARMY AIR BASE (cont)

Roll #4 cont.
Frames #1068 thru #1176
Alliance Air, newspaper, 1943

Frames #1177 thru #1636
Aloe Army Air Field, Victoria, Texas, 1942-1944

film
SERIES FOUR BRUNING (NEBRASKA) ARMY AIR BASE, 1942-1948

Roll #5
B2066
Frames #004 thru #823
History of the Brownsville Army Air Field, Texas, Sept 1940 - April 1945

Frames #824 thru end of reel
History of the Bruning Army Air Base, Nebraska, October 1942 - December 1944

frame #0824: Unit History, Bruning AAF, Mar - Aug. 1943
frame #0840: Unit Histories, Oct. 1942 - Nov. 1943
frame #0893: Biography, Lt. John Tassock
frame #0910: Biography, Lt. Adolph Olsen
frame #1043: Monthly Historical Reports, September 1943.
frame #1074: Monthly Historical Reports, October 1943
frame #1142: Histories, Military, Oct. 1943 - Dec. 1944
frame #1178: Unit Histories, November 1943
frame #1226: Unit Histories, December 1943
frame #1251: Unit Histories, January 1944
frame #1278: Unit Histories, February 1944
frame #1308: Unit Histories, March 1944
frames 1336-1336, illegible
frames 1346-1353 BAAF newspaper, March 11, 1944
frame #1362: Unit Histories, April 1944
frames 1419-1440: Newspaper Biographies
  Capt. Ray Risedan; Lt. Donald K. Wilson; Capt. J. B. Alexander; Lt. Wm. L. Quade; Capt. Henry Tatnall; Maj. Russell S. Isiminger; Capt.
  Lawrence Orlov; Capt. David Graham; Robert W. Leisenring; Maj. Clifton W. Cole; M/Sgt William French; Pvt. John G. Trapp; Sgt. Robert W. Witt
frame #1441: Unit Histories, May 1944
frames 1459-1471: Biographies
  Maj. Burton W. Woodard; Lt. Glen E. Hart;
  Capt. Richard Sauve; Lt. Lowell C. Sund; Sgt.
  Paul J. Smith; Sgt. Donald Brown
frames 1479-1705: Unit Histories, June 1944 - Dec. 1944
frames 1706-1715, illegible
NOTE: The Fairmont Army Air Field, Geneva, Nebraska, was activated December 7, 1941, and opened November 19, 1942, with the arrival of a quartermaster detachment from Topeka, Kansas, sent to receive quartermaster supplies for both the Fairmont and Bruning Air fields. The first office was set up on the base November 25, 1942. Major Ellis B. Eno was assigned the base's first commander but was immediately reassigned to a base in Washington state and Fairmont did not get a commander until January of 1943 when Major John Jordan arrived from Topeka. The 356th Air Base Squadron helped to establish the base. A 350-bed hospital, one of the largest in the Second Air Force was completed on the base July 15, 1943. This base functioned at first as a satellite base for Topeka but later became the home of the 511th Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron, which was designated on March 30, 1944 as the 241st Base Unit, Squadron C. The 51st thru 54th Airdrome Squadron arrived on the base in March, 1943 and the 10th Heavy Bomb Processing Group was activated at the Fairmont base. A Sub-Depot was established in March of 1943 with civilian staff. The B-24 Standardization School operated on the base in August-September 1943. The first detachment to arrive for tactical training was the 451st Bomb Group, the last to do training at the base was the 489th Bombardment Group in August of 1945. The base was put on temporary inactive status October 31, 1945. Patients from the hospital were transferred to Lincoln and Grand Island.
NOTE: Reel contains narrative history reports for
the period November, 1942 thru March, 1944.

frame #0584: Begins background history of base to March 1943.
frame #0595: Field Progress Reports, Requisitions, Tally
Sheets, contracts, etc., December 1942
frames 0667-0669: List of personnel occupying base, 1943
frames 0667-1108: Reports on staff and personnel, Fairmont,
December 1942 - August 1943
frames 1109-1110: American Red Cross Activities
frames 1111-1125: Press coverage; Biographical Sketches
frames 1980-1996: Press coverage; Biographical Sketches
frames 2004-2020: Newspaper Biographical Sketches
frames 2078-2094: Newspaper Biographical Sketches
frames 2102-2114: Newspaper Biographical Sketches
frames 2233-2261: Newspaper Biographical Sketches

Roll #8
Complete Reel
Fairmont Army Air Field, April 1944 - March 1945

NOTE: Much of this roll is illegible

Biographical Sketches
frame #0041: PFC Paul Nadknic
frame #0044: M/Sgt George Sanches
frame #0049: Pvt Daniel G. Hall
frame #0055: Pvt Vernon Greenlaw
frame #0064: PFC Louis J. "Wimpy" Gardner
frame #0280: PFC Benjamin Silver
frame #0289: Ernest F. McEwen; Edward J. Stokoski;
Bernard Jurosek
frame #0298: Maj. S. Norman Van Meter
frame #0300: Chaplain Jack Dalton
frame #0301: PFC Jerome Schroeder
frame #0304: T/G. Everts
frame #0306: Col. George A. Blakey
frame #0308: Lt. Col. Thomas J. Classen
frame #0309: Sgt. Robert A. Kavelman
frame #0485: T/Sgt James E. Rodriguez
frame #0491: David Jones
frame #0497: Sgt Harrie Guhl
frames 504-505: PFC Harold Hall
frames 512-513: PFC Marion J. Rogers
frames 504-509: PFC John L. Lee
frames 512-513: PFC Norman Wright, Jr.
Roll #8 cont.

frames 625-626:  Cpt. Lester Goodman
                 Pvt. Joseph Capik
frames 652-653:  Cpl Quinn Valentine
                 Pvt Arthur Dramby
frame #0829:    Lt. James P. McGovern
frame #0845:    Sgt Jerry Dubello
frame #0853:    PFC Howard C. Hargrove
frame #0861:    S/Sgt Michael J. Prindl
frame #1844:    PFC Al Ross
frame #1980:    Lt. Col. David G. Jackson
frame #1987:    Pvt James Smith
frame #1989:    Sgt Oscar Weldon
                 Sgt Jergens
frame #1996:    S/Sgt Clarence W. Garwood
frame #2004:    Lt. Col. William I. Marsalis
frame #2005:    1st Sgt Gilbert R. McKee
frame #2008:    PFC Stephen S. Singel
frame #2014:    Lt. Col. Douglas C. Polhamus
frame #2020:    Pvt Aaron Goorigan
frame #2078:    PFC Oliver P. Baise
frame #2083:    Maj. Louis N. Farnsworth
frame #2089:    PFC August R. Caputo, Jr.
frame #2094:    Lt. Col. David W. Hassmer
frame #2102:    Maj. Thomas H. Crouch
frame #2110:    Maj. Edgar C. Lakey
frame #2114:    Sgt Allen Jensen
frame #2233:    Brig. Gen. Uzal Girad ENT
frame #2235:    PFC Thomas N. Monroe
frame #2253:    PFC Fred N. Weldon
frame #2259:    Chaplain Ambrose C. Switzer
frame #2261:    Cpl William S. Zaeppel

Roll #9  Frames #004 thru #0745
B2187  Fairmont Army Air Field, April - Oct., 1945
frames 222-335; 483-530; 544-560; 735 illegible or hard to read

Frames #0746 thru #0764
History of Falconfield Army Air Base, Mesa, Arizona, January - February 1945

Frames #0765-#1140
History of Farmingdale Army Air Field, Long Island, NY, October 1942 - March 1945
NOTE: The first military personnel arrived at this south-central Nebraska Army Air Field in December of 1942 to establish the base. Harvard, about 21 miles southwest of Hastings, Nebraska, was to function as a satellite airdrome of the Kearney Army Air Field. It began operation on December 12, 1942. A 10-bed infirmary was the first to open on March 1, 1943, and on March 15th, the Post Exchange began operating. Satellite status of the field terminated on April 1, 1943 and it began a 24-hr program of training B-24 and B-17 crews for ETO and the Pacific theater. The three detachments at the base in April were the 521st Base Headquarters and Air Base Squadron; the 129th Guard Squadron; and the 432d Army Air Force Band. The 505th Bombardment group arrived in March 1944 for training. Later, while the 467th Bombardment Group and the 375th Air Service Bomb Group were in training at the base in 1945, the base was put on inactive status, on October 26th.

Reel contains narrative history reports by months for the period which the base was in operation, 1943-1945.

frames 1072-1319: Maintenance Manual for B-29s
frame #1630: ibid, December 1944 - January 1945
frames 1667-1684: Roster of Personnel, 1945
frames 1685-end: ibid, December 21, 1945
frames 1910-1941: ibid, January 1945
Roll #10 cont.
NOTE: frames 531-538, 1324-1338, 1409-1438, 1466-1470 are illegible or difficult to read.

Biographies
frame 1512: Brig. Gen. Robert F. Travis
frame 1516: Pvt D. W. Jacox
frame 1521: 1st Sgt Ozona Lewis
frame 1522: 1st Lt. Joseph Honeycutt
frame 1529: S/Sgt John W. Calhoun
          Lt. Francis L. Pozniak
frame 1537: Pvt Paul Hatgill
frame 1543: Lt. Col. Hugh P. Avent
frame 1545: T/Sgt Paul Stein
          John & Harry Klabo (brothers)
frame 1634: M/Sgt Fred J. Fischer
frame 1688: T/Sgt Mason A. Lang
frame 1910: Sgt Abraham I. Tucker
frames 1912-1913: Sgt Dana G. Stetser
frame 1914: Miss Merle Hughey
frames 1916-1917: Sgt Joe Medovitch
frames 1920-1921: Sgt Edwin Johnson
frame 1927: Cpl. Sidney Venetianer
frame 1930: 1st Sgt Harry Karmer
frames 1932-1933: Sgt Truman Swingle
frame 1938: M/Sgt Fred J. Fischer

Roll #11
Frames #004 thru #1700
B2270 Harvard Army Air Field, Nebraska,
       February 1945 - December 1945

NOTE: This reel contains narrative histories & substantiating data for the Harvard field in monthly installments.

frames 0561-0588: ibid, April 1945
frames 0769-0800: ibid, May 1945
frames 0535-0542: ibid, November 1945
frame #1685 : ibid, December 1945

Biographical Sketches
frames 0285-0286: M/Sgt Walter Rippentop
          S/Sgt Fred P. Henningson
frame 0294: S/Sgt Francis N. Ridge
frame 0307: 2d Lt Orville H. Zabel
frames 0353-0354: Joseph T. MacAvoy
Roll #11 cont.

frames 0573-0574: 1st Lt James F. MacArthur
John Lyle Burd
frames 0585-0586: Milton A. Meyer
Frederick Hendricks Archer
frames 0773-0774: Capt John H. Kressler
frames 0781-0782: Cpl. Herbert D. Goodwin
frames 0789-0790: Sgt Orvel T. Maynard
frames 0797-0798: PFC John J. Kett
frames 1536, 1541: Lt. Col. Russell M. Peters
frames 1537-1538: Asst. Personnel Sgt Maj. Homer Peterson
frames 1685-1686: Col. William Lewis
frames 1697-1698: T/Sgt John L. Phillips

NOTE: frames 355-387; 621-628; 866-938; 1164-1197; 1200-1208; 1275-1316; 1359-1404; and 1580-1584 may be illegible or difficult to read.

frames #1703 thru end of reel
History of Hattiesburg Army Air Field, Missouri
December 1941 - November 1944

Roll #12
Frames #004 thru #1108
Jackson Army Air Base, Mississippi,
July 1944 - March 1949

Frames #1109 thru #1297
Jacksonville Army Air Field, Florida,
February 1941 - December 1946

Frames #1298 thru #1467
Jones Army Air Field, Bonham Texas,
May thru October 1944

Frames #1468 - end of reel
History of Kearney Army Air Base, Nebraska,
September 1942 - April 1944

NOTE: Construction of the Kearney Air field was approved September 5, 1942, and an area office established September 10th. The establishment of this field destroyed the newly dedicated Kearney Municipal Airport. Meals were served for the first time in the
Officers' Mess Hall on October 7th. The construction phase was essentially ended November 30, when Major Vernon B. Trevellyan arrived as commanding officer. All construction was completed by the deadline of December 15, 1942. Command of the Air field passed from the Second Air Force to the Continental Air Forces, July 18, 1945, and the Base Unit was renumbered from the 271st Army Air Force Base Unit to the 485th Army Air Force Base Unit. Command of the base was again transferred to the 15th Air Force in April of 1946, and the base unit changed to the 236th AAFBU and operated at "reduced operations." This film ends with the monthly narrative report for September 1946 (reel 14).

Biographical Sketches

frame #1709: Capt. Lyman G. Young
Lt. Edwin P. Doty

frame #2151: Lt. Harold M. Scherr

Roll #13 Frames #0004 thru #1945
B2286 Kearney Army Air Base, Nebraska,
May 1944 thru April 1945

Roll #14 Frames #0004 thru #1151
B2287 Kearney Army Air Base, Nebraska,
May 1945 thru September 1946
NOTE: No reports, Sept 1945 - Mar. 1946

frame #1034: Biography, Commander Col. Von R. Shore
Frames #1154 thru end of reel
History of AAF Technical Training Command,
Keesler Field, Mississippi, June 1941 - Dec. 1942
Frames #1637 thru #2001

film
SERIES EIGHT LINCOLN AIR BASE, 1941-1945

Roll #15 Frames #4 - #0405
B2336 Liberal, Kansas Army Air Field, 1945,
History of the 2525 TH AAF Base Unit Pilot School Specialized 4 Engine, January 1 thru February 28, 1945
Frames 0406 - 0647, Mar. 1 - Apr. 30, 1945
Frames 0650 - 0902, May 1 - June 30, 1945
Frames 0905 - 1142, July 1 - Sept 30, 1945
NOTE: The Lincoln Air Base was completed August 29, 1942, at a cost of approximately $18,000,000. It was built to accommodate 16,480 troops and 300 officers. The base was established as a technical school to train enlisted men of the Army Air Forces in the inspection and maintenance of fighter airplanes, engines, and accessories. The base was activated May 18, 1942, as a unit of the Army Air Forces Technical Training Command. Its parent station was Chanute Field, Illinois. Lincoln Air Base was located 4 and 1/2 miles northwest of Lincoln, Nebraska. An Airplane Mechanic School began classes there on July 6, 1942. The first commander of the base was Col. Early E. W. Duncan (biog. fr. 1165-1167) and the director of training was Col. Alfred T. Johnson (biog. fr. 1168-69). Peak enrollment at the mechanical school (10,239) was in November of 1942 and steadily decreased to only 4,841 in September of 1943. Officers and enlisted men on base increased from its initial population of 435 to 17,569 by July of 1943. The base was dedicated October 4, 1942. In 1944 it occupied about 2,750 acres of land.

Established & Organized - Frame #1199+
Medical Department - Frame #1211+
Special Service - Frame #1216+
General Mess - Frame #1227+
Base Exchange - Frame #1232+
Classification - Frame #1234+
Air Inspectors Office - Frame #1242+
War Bonds & Govt. Insurance - Frame #1247+

NOTE: Frames 879-894, 954-972, 1299-1304, 1348-1350, 1364-1367 illegible or difficult to read
SERIES NINE  McCOOK, NEBRASKA ARMY AIR FIELD, 1943-1945

Roll #18  McCook, Nebraska Army Air Field, 1944
B2405  April 1944 thru August 1944
NOTE: Most of this reel is illegible or difficult to read

Roll #19  McCook, Nebraska Army Air Field, 1944-1945
B2406  September 1944 thru June 1945
NOTE: Frames 007-032, 078-150, 156-164, 310-359, 361-365, 833-856, 1073-1102, 1398-1423, 1471-1545, 1648-1652, 1702-1725 are illegible or difficult to read.

Roll #20  McCook, Nebraska Army Air Field, 1944-1945
B2407  October 1944 thru September 1945
Frames #4 thru #494
NOTE: Frames 323-336, 346-364, 384-420 are difficult to read.

Frames #495 - #1410
Merced, Calif. Army Air Field
July 1941 - December 1943

Roll #21  McClellan, California Army Air Field, 1944-1945,
B2404  Frames #4 thru #310
October 1944 - July 1945

McCook, Nebraska Army Air Field, 1943-1944
Frames #311 - #1542
April 1943 thru March 1944

SERIES TEN  OFFUTT ARMY AIR BASE, OMAHA NEBRASKA, 1947-1952

Roll #22  Newport, Arkansas Army Air Field, 1942-1944
B2439  Frames #4 - #372
December 1942 - April 1944

Norfolk, Virginia Army Air Field, 1942-1945
Frames #373 - #817
October 1942 - March 1945

Oakland, California Army Air Field, 1944
Frames #839 - #877
April - July 1944
Roll #22 cont.

Offutt Field, Omaha, Nebraska Army Air Base
Frames #878 - #1542
January 1947 - October 1949
NOTE: Frames 1058-1059, 1063-1065, 1074-1079, 1353-1358 are hard to read

Roll #23 Offutt Army Air Base, Omaha, Nebraska, 1949-1950
E2440 Frames #4 - #385
November 1949 - April 1950

Okmulgee, Oklahoma Army Air Field, 1944
Frames #386 - #402
July thru December 1944

Olmsted, Penn. Army Air Field, 1943-1947
Frames #403 - #868
January 1943 - March 1947

Ontario, Canada Army Air Field, 1942-1944
Frames #869 - #1750
May 1942 - May 1944

Roll #24 Norton Air Force Base, San Bernadino, California
M2317 Frames #589 - #1016
May 1953 - June 1954

Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, 1950,
Frames #1017 - #1250
July 1950 - December 1950

Roll #25 Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, 1951-1952
M2318 January 1951 - June 1952
NOTE: Most of reel is illegible or difficult to read.

Roll #26 Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska, 1952-1953
M2319 July 1952 - July 1953
film
SERIES ELEVEN SCOTTSBLUFF ARMY AIR FIELD, 1942-1943

Roll #27 Scottsbluff, Nebr. Army Air Field, 1942-1943
B2529 Frame #4 - #1249
Scott Field Army Air Base, Ill.
September 1943 - October 1947

Frame #1250 - #1517
Scottsbluff Army Air Field, 1942-1943
December 1943 - August 1943

Roll #28 Scottsbluff and Scribner, Nebraska
B2530 Frame #4 - #196
Scottsbluff Army Air Field cont.
January 1943 - January 1944

film
SERIES TWELVE SCRIBNER ARMY AIR BASE, 1944-1945

Roll #28 Frame #197 - #320
B2530 Scribner, Nebr Army Air Base, 1944-1945
February 1944 - June 1945

Frames #321 - #1515
Sedalia Army Air Field, Warrensburg, MO
August 1942 - September 1944

END OF INVENTORY
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