

618 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

618 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

618 ACW 618 ACW Hanshin, JP SCR-270; TPS-1B; CPS-5

618th AC&W Squadron, which had been activated at Rizal in the Philippines, was transferred to Fifth Air Force in Japan. It set up its headquarters at Kashikawa, near Osaka, Honshu, in April 1947. It took over a radar site, formerly operated by Australian forces, on the beach near Matsue. In effect, the 618th assumed responsibility for the area of Honshu that had formerly been assigned to Commonwealth Forces.

In June 1949 the 618th moved its HQ to Miho AB. After two more moves, finally on 1 October 1951 the 618th moved its HQ to Itazuke, thus consolidating the group and its three squadron headquarters at Itazuke AB, just outside Fukuoka, Kyushu. The 610th had moved its HQ to Itazuke earlier that year. The 612th remained the SJRG's "orphan child". By the time the 527th arrived at Itazuke, the group history notes that the 612th was "non-operational on Kyushu" because of a shortage of personnel. Histories in 1947 report that the 612th had moved in HQ to Itami AB, but shortly after that, moved back to Itazuke. On 30 June 1948, the 612th was inactivated.

By July 1950, transfers from the 610th and 618th to units in Korea occurred daily, often with just a few hours notice. The situation became so acute that three DF stations had to be closed temporarily. The motor pools at Itazuke, Saitozaki and Miho and were cannibalized for vehicles that were sent to units in Korea. Several SJRG officers who were qualified in single-engine aircraft were reassigned to duty in Korea, flying T-6s and T-5s as artillery spotters and airborne controllers.

On 10 November 1952, the 610th, 618th and 850th ceased to exist on paper, with 527th HQ assuming direct command of all detachments. Personnel of the 850th were assigned to 527th HQ and a headquarters detachment was formed in its place. This arrangement lasted until October 1954, when the 610th and 618th, but not the 850th, were reconstituted as squadrons with approximately the same "mix" of detachments as before. Essentially, the 610th was the "southern" squadron, the 618th had the "northern" group of sites.

618th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Located: 1 August 1946, Fort William McKinley, Luzon Is. P.I.

Located: 1946, Tagaytay Ridge

Note: January 1947, Squadron will be manned with an authorized strength of 35 Officers, two warrant officers and three hundred ninety eight enlisted men. The composition of the Squadron was to be furnished under separate cover.

Notes: Reduced to zero (0) strength 25 March 1947

Notes: As per AG 322 Date Unknown. With the reduction of AAF units in the Philippines they will be redeployed to remain in Philippines, status: manned.

Located: 1948, Honshu, Japan (Hanshin)

Relocated: June 1949, Miho Air Base, Japan

Subordinate to: 1950, 527th Aircraft Control and Warning Group, 8th Fighter-Bomber Wing, Fifth Air Force

Personnel: July 1950, 38 Officers and 407 Enlisted

Personnel: August 1950, 38 Officers, 398 Enlisted

Subordinate to: December 1950, 587th Aircraft Control and Warning Group, 6160th Air Base Wing, 314th Air Division.

Relocated: January 1951, Kokura, Kyushu, Japan

Commanders:

(?) - 21 June 1948, Lt. Colonel Edward C Habberstad

21 June 1948 - (?), Lt. colonel Mullen

2 June 1950, Major Joseph E. Conklin

6 June 1950, Lt. Colonel Edger B. Gravette

29 July 1950, Major Joseph E. Conklin

3 September 1950, Captain G.F. Pennington

9 September 1950, Major Joseph E. Conklin

Equipment: AN/CPS-1; 1950, AN/TPS-1B; July 1950, AN/CPS-5, AN/CPS-6, AN/CPX-2

Detachment 1

Deactivated: July 1950, throughout the month of July had been deactivating. Large portion of the equipment located at the detachment was shipped to Detachment 19, 610th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron.

Detachment 1C

Located: October 1950, Rokko-San, Japan

Detachment 3

1950

Detachment 5

Relocated: July 1950, on an island between Korea and Kyushu, Japan

Detachment 7/Site 7

Located: Prior to outbreak of hostilities in Korea, Miho, Japan

Equipment: 1950, AN/TPS-10

Call sign: 1950, Hilltop

Commanders:

August 1950, 1st Lt. W.G. Bunge

Deactivated: 5 September 1950; personnel and equipment were to be moved to Mi-shima, Japan, designated as Site 17.

Relocation: 25 October 1950, move of Site 7 (Miho) to Site 17 (Mishima) commenced this date.

Relocated: December 1950, From Detachment 9 Susa, Japan to the newly designated

Detachment 7, situated 5 miles North of Miho on Takao-yama.

Call sign: December 1950, Mike Homer

Equipment: August 1950, AN/CPS-1, Serial No. 35, AN/CPX-1 Serial No. 120; December 1950, AN/MPS-5

Detachment 9/Site 9

Located: Prior to outbreak of hostilities in Korea, Susa, Japan 34° 37' North 131° 37' East

Mission: January 1950, Early Warning Station, VHF/DF Station

Call sign: 1950, Ginger Zebra, Zipper

Deactivated: 19 December 1950, personnel and equipment moved to Detachment 21.

Site 9 Upper

Discontinued: 23 October 1950

Detachment 10

1950

Detachment 17/Site 17

Note: First part of September 1950, was taken up by the preparing of equipment and material for move to Site 17.

Note: Early Warning site/Ground Controlled Intercept

Located: June 1950, Mi-Shima, Japan

Note: June 1950, was originally Site 7 prior to relocation.

Note: 4 September 1950 Established

Note: Fully operational 3 December 1950 at 2130 hours.

Equipment:

1950, AN/CPS-1 (AN/MPS-5)

1950, AN/CPX-1 IFF Set

Detachment 19/Site 19

Note: June 1950, see Site 5

Equipment: June 1950, AN/CPS-5

Detachment 19A

December 1950

Detachment 21/Site 21

Relocated: 13 November, Tautsu on the island of Tsu-shima, Japan

Equipment: AN/TPS-1B

Flight A

Notes: Authorized as an "RB" team, based at Tagaytay Ridge.

Mission: To operate for training purposes, radio and radar equipment to train radar operators, radio mechanics and controllers.

Site 1

Located: 1950, Hanshin, Japan

Note: 1949, Site was placed on standby status and required to maintain equipment only. It was to be able to begin operations as a Tactical Control Center within twenty-four hours.

Deactivated: 16 October 1950, equipment returned to Headquarters.
Equipment: June 1950, AN/CPS-5
Commanders:
October 1950, 1st Lt. ?G. Runge

Site 1C
October 1950

Site 3
Call sign: November 1950, Moonshine
Equipment: 1950, AN/CPS-1

Site 3A
Located: October 1950, Seburi-yama

Site 5
Located: Prior to outbreak of hostilities in Korea, Kyoga Misaki
Relocated: 28 June 1950, Uni-shima, Japan
Redesignated: June 1950, Site 19
Departed: 3 July 1950, Fukomaka by LST
Arrived: 5 July 1950, Umi Shi__(?), Japan, unloaded 6 July 1950 due to bad weather.
Note: above move to set up an Early Warning and DF station.
Equipment:
December 1948, Direction Finding Equipment
June 1950, AN/CPS-5

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