

692 RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)



MISSION

LINEAGE

692 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron
Redesignated 692 Radar Squadron (SAGE)

STATIONS

Baudette AFS, MN

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Cpt Northrup, Aug 1958
Cpt Sobonya, Apr 1959
LTC Lindbergh, Aug 1961
Maj Moros, Feb 1963
LTC McDade, Nov 1963
Maj McElroy, Nov 1965
Maj Tevebaugh, Dec 1967
LTC Thayer, Dec 1967
LTC Adcock, Jul 1970
LTC Norman, Jun 1972
LTC Skur, Jul 1972
Cpt Trackenberg, Apr 1974
Cpt Manning, Jun 1975
Cpt Zelenski, Jul 1977

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

| | | | |
|------|------------------|--|-----------------|
| 692 | Baudette AFS, MN | FPS-3; FPS-24; FPS-6(2); FPS-90; FPS-26A | FPS-24; FPS-26A |
| 1959 | 01-Jul-79 | BUIC-III | |

History of Baudette AFS, MN

In 1959 the 692nd AC&W Squadron began operating an AN/FPS-3 and a pair of AN/FPS-6 height-finder radars at this site. In 1962 this SAGE radar site received an AN/FPS-24 search radar, replacing the AN/FPS-3. During the following year, an AN/FPS-26A height-finder radar was installed, replacing one AN/FPS-6, and the other AN/FPS-6 height-finder radar was upgraded to an AN/FPS-90. The AN/FPS-90 height-finder radar was retired in late 1971. In 1979 the site came under TAC jurisdiction, and the 692nd Radar Squadron (SAGE) was deactivated 1 July 1979.

by Bill Boulineau

In 1957, Foley Brothers Construction from St. Paul, MN began building the Baudette AFS site. The first commander and his personnel arrived at the site on August 8, 1958. The first commander was Captain Northrup. He was followed by twelve regular and two temporary commanders

during the period 1959-1979. The last commander was Major Zelenski who terminated the official operation on July 1, 1979. The last military personnel departed the site on June 1, 1980. A listing of all commanders and their tour of command is listed on the last page of this history.

Many changes took place at the site during its operational years. It began with the AN/FPS-3, 6, and 90 Radar towers and two Gap Filler sites located approximately 75 miles to the east and west. Later the AN/FPS 24 & 26 towers were added and Baudette AFS was one of the 31 radar sites within the 30th Air Division (SAGE), Headquarters at Madison, WI. It and the other radar sites formed a watchful line across the northern tier of the United States. In addition to the radar towers, there were the Radio receiver and transmitter sites located a short distance from the main site. As time marched on, so did progress and with progress came the deletion of the old. The manual radars and gap fillers were eliminated. The BUIC III system was added in 1968 and with it came the personnel to operate it. Baudette was now able to perform the functions of a NORAD direction center if needed. Its ability was tested many times during one of the exercises, with more than 60 aircraft being controlled from here.

In 1970 Canadian and U. S. Army personnel were assigned to Baudette AFS. Colonel Hockney of the Canadian Forces was named the NORAD Center Commander. At this point, the number of personnel assigned here reached its maximum. There were approximately 285 military and 40 civilians assigned. The housing was critical and at this time for families. The unit added a trailer court on site and another which began at the now KOA campgrounds. An off site trailer court containing 33 government owned trailers was located in East Baudette. In addition, many houses and apartments were leased for families as far away as Warroad and Birchdale. Twenty-seven 3 bedroom homes were built in 1960 by the Air Force on the south edge of Baudette.

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692nd Radar Sq (SAGE): activated 8 Aug 58 at Snelling AFS, MN, assigned to 31st AD; moved to Baudette AFS, MN about Oct 58; transferred to 37th AD 1 Jan 59; transferred to 30th AD 1 Apr 59; transferred to Duluth ADS 1 Jul 59; redesignated from ACW Sq to 692 Radar Sq (SAGE) 15 Dec 59; transferred to 29th AD 1 Apr 66; reassigned to 23rd AD 19 Nov 69.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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