

14th BOMBARDMENT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON, VH

LINEAGE

14th Bombardment Maintenance Squadron, VH

STATIONS

Calcutta, India

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

14th Bombardment Maintenance Squadron, VH supported the 793rd Bombardment Squadron, VH. Performed B-29 maintenance in China-Burma-India and Pacific operations. Later absorbed by 793rd Bombardment Squadron, VH.

As of May 1, 1944, the total squadron strength was 374 Enlisted Men and 19 Officers. The Squadron was pretty well set up for quarters. Slit trenches were dug in case of air attack. The unit had its own mess hall; the 793rd Bombardment Squadron ate with the 14th. The food was fairly good considering conditions. Scarcity of ice sometimes made it impossible to have cold water and other beverages at mess.

The personnel on the line were kept busy, and found it necessary to put in 12 to 16 hours a day at times. Most of the work here was done between sundown and sunrise for two reasons: First, because the planes were always available and second, because it was cool enough then to work. The extreme heat made it impossible to work efficiently during the day. Toward the end of the month there was some rain, which caused the temperature to drop considerably. These were said to be “pre-monsoon” rains. There was some diarrhea this month, especially among the Officers. No definite conclusion was drawn as to why this sickness was present only among the Officers. Because of the high temperatures, the work schedule was arranged so as to have a siesta from 1130 to 1430.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.