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KW6-43-41  
July 1953  
Vol. II

(Supplement)

**CLASSIFIED  
SUPPLEMENTS  
TO  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING  
HISTORY  
FOR  
JULY 1953**

**DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB  
TUCSON, ARIZONA**

**MICROFILMED**

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

**EXHIBIT**

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By Authority of COMDR  
36<sup>th</sup> Air Division  
Date 3 Sep 53 Initials white

HISTORY OF  
43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
AND  
SPECIAL WEAPONS SECTION  
JULY 1953

(Classified Supplement to 43d Bombardment Wing History for July 1953)

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(43d Bombardment Wing, 36th Air Division, 15th Air Force, Strategic Air Command)

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SECURITY INFORMATION

EXHIBIT 17.  
~~RESTRICTED DATA~~  
~~ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1946~~

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43D AVIATION SQUADRON

The 43d Aviation Squadron was concerned mainly with Operational Storage Tests during the month of July 1953. Monitoring of the Mark 5 weapons stored in the desert continued. Four Mark 8 weapons were received on 23 July; two were assembled by the squadron, and all four were stored in the desert for 30 days. Four Mark 5 weapons were received, assembled, and stored in the desert on 25 and 26 July. The first Final Assembly Test was made on 28 July, and will be made every 72 hours for the 30 days.

Construction was started on the assembly building on 17 July and an emergency alarm was installed in this building on 22 July.

Command

The 43d Aviation Squadron is manned in accordance with Table of Organization No. 1-1963, 1 December 1952.<sup>1/</sup> Personnel authorizations total 12 officers, 3 warrant officers and 33 airmen. At the beginning of July 1953, squadron strength was 11 officers, one warrant officer and 31 airmen.

Three officers were gained during this period and two officers and one warrant officer were lost to the squadron. Three airmen were gained during the month.<sup>2/</sup> At the end of July, squadron strength was 11 officers and 34 airmen.

Major Bob L Forkner, who took command of the squadron 8 June 1953, maintained a policy of positive leadership.<sup>3/</sup> A training program was planned to utilize personnel to the greatest extent possible. Physical training was offered three hours a week

<sup>1/</sup> Ltr Dept of the AF, 322 (AFOMO 267th) 15 Jan 53, "Reorganization of the 1st and other Avn Fld Dep Sq and certain other USAF units.

<sup>2/</sup> Gains and Losses for Jul 53. Exhibit 1.

<sup>3/</sup> Picture and biographical sketch of Major Forkner Exhibit 2.

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

as usual, and the men were encouraged to participate in sports and hobbies. A panel of judges to select airmen to award the Squadron Outstanding Airman Award was appointed under the provisions of SAC Reg 34-15.<sup>4/</sup>

A letter of commendation was received on the 15th of July from Colonel John S. Hardy, 36th Air Division Commander, in recognition for the 8 months continuous perfect record for Leadership and Morale Effectiveness of this organization. A Plaque<sup>5/</sup> was awarded the squadron for display for the month of June.

#### Operations and Training

The squadron has two sources for replacement of technical personnel; namely, the training schools at Sandia Base, and overseas returnees. Since one of the functions of the squadron is to train overseas replacements, this arrangement is very satisfactory. The experience of officers and airmen who have been in the Field Depot Squadrons can be used to strengthen the training program.

When Captain Andrews became weapons supervisor, it was found that some phases of training had been neglected. For example, packaging and storage of weapons and spares had never been stressed, and these are important in overseas units. Therefore, this type of training<sup>6/</sup> was included in the six months projected training schedule. Captain Andrews has also had experience as safety officer. Safety is of great importance in handling highly explosive weapons, batteries, and other equipment

- <sup>4/</sup> Personnel Action Memorandum #19, 43d Avn Sq. Exhibit 3.  
<sup>5/</sup> Ltr from Col Hardy to Comdr 43d Avn Sq, COMDR 201.2, "Commendation" 15 Jul 53. Exhibit 4.  
<sup>6/</sup> Six months projected Training Schedule, 43d AVN SQ. Exhibit 5.

used in this organization, and his knowledge and experience are of great value to the squadron. Other officers and airmen have and will contribute their knowledge and skill also.

Construction was started 17 July on an addition to the assembly building. The purpose was to provide a separate battery processing room and more office space. It was expected that this construction would be completed in 45 days. During construction, it was necessary to declassify the electrical assembly bay to admit civilian workers.

An alarm system was installed on 22 July. It has actuators in two main wings of the building and one near the personnel access door. The klaxon is mounted on the outside of the building and can be heard through out the restricted area.

Continuous training operations for 12 hour periods were conducted on the Mark 5 weapon on 2, 9, and 16 July. During these operations the assembly division was split into 2 six-hour shifts.

Commitments on this type of weapon were met, and the operations considered successful. In addition to the Mark 5 training, the assembly team for the Mark 8 weapon trained for a total of 32 hours during the first half of July. Monitoring of weapons already in storage was continued.

Four Mark 8 weapons arrived on 23 July for Operational Storage Test (Desert Phase) processing. Two weapons (8-23 and 8-24) were assembled under uncontrolled weather conditions. The temperature for the period of this operation was 89 degrees F and humidity varied from 52 percent to 60 percent. Humidity was higher than normal for this area because of local thunderstorm activity. Weapons number 8-21 and 8-22 were assembled at Sandia Base prior to shipment and were inspected on arrival. All

5  
four weapons were stored in the desert to remain for a 30 day period.

A control team from Kirtland Air Force Base representing the Air Proving Ground Command and technical representatives from Sandia Corp were present.

Plans were made to install fuzes in weapons 8-23 and 8-24 10 days prior to firing, and propellant 48 hours prior to firing. 43d Aviation Squadron Operations Order 1-53 was complied with through the end of July.

Four Mark 5 weapons arrived on 25 July, and complete assembly was performed.

Batteries were processed and charged for weapons 5-17 and 5-18 during the assembly operation. The electrical section used a makeshift operating line because of construction on the building. The operation was conducted under uncontrolled weather conditions. The temperature varied from 85 degrees to 93 degrees F, and humidity varied from 48 to 62 percent. The heat and humidity had a noticeable effect on personnel.

A power failure during the operation caused a one hour delay, and it was noted during cartridge tests with the T-38 that the power needed to start the inverters was overloading one nobatron. However, it was possible to complete the tests, and on 28 July the maintenance section paralleled two nobatrons in accordance with T/O 82A-25A-68, 1 May 1953.

The control team from Kirtland AFB and technical representatives from Sandia Corp were again present. There was also a team from Sandia Corp making time and motion studies.

7/ Operations Order 1-53, 29 Jun 53. Exhibit 6.

6

All four Mark 5 weapons were stored in the desert to remain for a 30 day period. Weapons 5-17 and 5-18 had batteries installed, and weapon 5-17 had Final Assembly Tests performed every 72 hours. These tests were to continue for 30 days. All four Mark 5 weapons were to be painted with fluorescent orange paint in accordance with T/O 82A-05-53 within the 30 day period. Three weapons were painted before the end of July. 43d Aviation Squadron Operations Order 2-53 was complied with through the end of July. 8/

Maintenance and Supply

Quarterly clothing inspection was held on 23 July. The few shortages found are being filled by the individuals concerned.

Action taken to dispose of items excess to the Unit Allowance List was completed in July.

The supply section was inspected by Major Hiller from wing headquarters on 2 July, with Major Forkner present. The results were very good, with only two minor discrepancies noted. These discrepancies were corrected within one week after receipt of the inspection report. Parts bins were relocated and relabeled to expedite handling of parts.

Responsibility for the Monthly Modernization Report was 9/ transferred from the supply section to the maintenance section. Prior to the June report (accomplished in July), this organization had erred in accomplishing this report. We had been reporting

8/ Operations Order 2-53, 43d Avn Sq, 7 Jul 53, Exhibit 7.  
9/ T/O 82A-01E-51.

7

only modernization that had been completed, whereas the report should have contained both modernization completed and that held in suspense. It also should include the reason it is not completed and if possible an estimated date of completion. This report is now being prepared by Lt Archie Hays Jr, Maintenance and Galibration Officer, and includes all the necessary information. The maintenance section also accomplishes modernization for the 43d and 303d Bomb Wings, and furnishes them information necessary for their modernization reports. The maintenance and calibration team was appointed on 8 July 1953.<sup>10/</sup>

#### SPECIAL WEAPONS SECTION

The history of the Special Weapons Section for this period, like the 43d Aviation Squadron History, deals primarily with desert testing of certain weapons. Although this section is not in fact, a part of the 43d Aviation Squadron, the activities of the two organizations are very similar in nature. For this reason the history of the Special Weapons Section is added as a paragraph to the history of the 43d Aviation Squadron.

#### Mission

The mission of this section has not changed from previous months, except for the training of Bombardiers instead of weaponeers.

#### Personnel

There were no losses in personnel during the month, and one officer instructor was gained during this period. Captain Albert L. Thompson, (b) (6), was assigned to this section from the 43d <sup>10/</sup> Personnel Action Memorandum, 43d Avn Sq. Exhibit 8.



Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron, effective 1 July 1953.<sup>11/</sup> Captain Thompson completed the Weaponeer Course at Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico in July 1949. He has taken part in three Suitability Tests, two in Alaska and one at this station. For the last two years, he has been assigned as Special Weapons Officer in the 43d Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron. He is considered well qualified in the atomic weapons field and is an asset to this section.

Operations

Four Mark 8 weapons, 8-21, 8-22, 8-23 and 8-24, were transferred by C-124 type aircraft from Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, on 23 July 1953 for the Desert Environmental Phase of the Mark 8 Suitability Test.<sup>12/</sup> Two weapons, 8-21 and 8-22, were assembled at Manzano Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, under controlled environmental conditions. Weapons 8-23 and 8-24 were assembled under uncontrolled environmental conditions upon arrival at Davis-Monthan AFB by the 43d Aviation Squadron.<sup>13/</sup> All weapons will be placed in desert storage for 30 days. Upon completion of storage period, weapons 8-21 and 8-24 will be static fired at storage area. Weapons 8-22 and 8-23 will be flown on a simulated strike mission by two B-50 type aircraft from the 93d Bombardment Wing, Medium, Castle Air Force Base, Merced, California. All weapons will be returned to Manzano Base on completion of project. Four Mark 5 weapons, 5-13, 5-14, 5-17, and 5-18 were transported by C-124 type aircraft from Kirtland AFB to this station

<sup>11/</sup> 15AFL 35-3, "Utilization of Atomic Special Weapons Officers," 7 Apr 53, in 43d Special Weapons Section Files.  
<sup>12/</sup> 15AF Operations Order 117-53, 17 Jul 53; and Appendix 3 Annex A to Air Proving Ground Command Mission Plan #1, 23 Apr 53, in 43d Bomb Wg Classified Files.  
<sup>13/</sup> See Operations and Training, page 5 of this supplement.

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on 25 July 1953. The weapons were for the Environmental Phase of the Mark 5 Operational Suitability Test, which incorporates the evaluation of ambient temperatures and humidity effect on the weapon proper, associated components, loading and handling equipment.<sup>14/</sup> The weapons were placed in desert storage at Davis-Monthan AFB for a period of 30 days under uncontrolled environmental conditions. On completion of storage period, this wing will provide a B-50 aircraft and crew to fly weapons 5-17 and 5-18. One aircraft and crew will be provided for each weapon. Weapon 5-17 will be released on Eglin Target PBR #36. Weapon 5-18 will be returned to Kirtland AFB on completion of simulated strike mission. The 57th Air Division, Fairchild Air Force Base, Fairchild, Washington will provide one B-36 type aircraft and crew to fly weapons 5-13 and 5-14. Weapon 5-13 will be released, and 5-14 will be returned to Kirtland AFB.

The 43d Bomb Wing provided one B-50 aircraft at Site Hotel, 3083d Aviation Depot Squadron, Travis Air Force Base, California, on 26 July 1953 for use by their respective loading teams in order to maintain loading Proficiency.<sup>15/</sup> No difficulties were encountered during this loading practice.<sup>16/</sup>

<sup>14/</sup> 15AF Operations Order 120-53, 8 Aug 53; and annex D to Air Proving Ground Command Mission Plan #1, 23 Apr 53, in 43d Bomb Wg Classified Files.

<sup>15/</sup> TWX, Hq 15AF, to Comdr 36th ADiv, DOOP R-6143, 8 Jul 53, in Hq 43d Bomb Wg Classified Files.

<sup>16/</sup> Information for the chapter on 43d Avn Sq and Special Weapons Sections was furnished by the respective Historical Sections of each orgn unless otherwise documented.

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~~~ATOMIC ENERGY ACT OF 1946~~

APPENDIX

- Exhibit 1           Gaines and Losses for July 1953
- Exhibit 2           Picture and biography of Major Bob L. Forkner,  
Commander, 43d Aviation Squadron.
- Exhibit 3           Personnel Action Memorandum Number 19, 43d  
Aviation Squadron, 13 July 1953.
- Exhibit 4           Letter from Commander, 36th Air Division, to  
Commander, 43d Aviation Squadron, COMDR 201.2,  
"Commendation," 15 July 1953.
- Exhibit 5           Six Months Projected Training Schedule for 43d  
Aviation Squadron.
- Exhibit 6           Squadron Operations Order Number 1-53, 43d  
Aviation Squadron, 29 June 1953.
- Exhibit 7           Squadron Operations Order Number 2-53, 43d  
Aviation Squadron, 7 July 1953.
- Exhibit 8           Personnel Action Memorandum Number 18, 43d  
Aviation Squadron, 8 July 1953.

## EXHIBIT I

## PERSONNEL

## GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 1953

## GAINS:

2 July 1st Lt David L Duncan assigned from Sandia Base New Mexico, and was appointed mechanical supervisor.

13 July Captain Rolland L Ratz was assigned from overseas through Ft Mason, California, and was appointed assistant weapons supervisor.

15 July 1st Lt Robert M Flaharty was assigned from Sandia Base, New Mexico. His AFSC (duty) is 8511, and was appointed nuclear supervisor.

24 July SSgt Milton L Hitchcock and A/2C Ronald L Tickle were assigned from other squadrons on the base.

25 July SSgt Donald G Andrews returned from OCS at Lackland AFB.

## LOSSES:

6 July WO Kenneth R Teasley was reassigned to Camp Stoneman, California for overseas.

8 July 1st Lt James L Breese was released from extended active duty.

16 July 1st Lt Clarence M Heasty was released from extended active duty.

27 July 1st Lt Louis A Hodges was released from extended active duty.

EXHIBIT I



Exhibit II

EXHIBIT II  
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Major Forkner is a career minded officer with an appropriate

(b) (6)



In June 1939, Major Forkner was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Field Artillery Reserve, ORC. In July 1942, during the dark days of the war for the Allies, he was called to active duty in the Army Air Corps. He served as Mess Officer at Danel Field, Georgia, as Training Officer at Plant Park, Tampa, Florida, and then went overseas to serve with the 41st Air Service Group, 12th Air Force, in S-4. During this tour in Italy he was awarded the European, Africa & Middle East Ribbon and Battle Star for the North Appennines Campaign.

After serving in the Air Transport Command, Natal, Brazil, as Base Mess Officer, he was separated in April 1946, and returned to General Motors, again as Maintenance Supervisor.

In 1948, he was recalled to active duty, and served as Air Installations officer at Connally AFB, Texas. He completed the Air Installations Special Staff Officer Course at Wright Patterson AFB in March 1949, and then was chosen to attend the Atomic Energy Course at Keesler AFB. After completing the supervisors electrical course at Sandia Base, New Mexico, he was assigned to the 3d Aviation Field Depot Squadron in November 1950, upon its activation, as Operations Officer.

The 3d AFDS finished training at Sandia Base and deployed by surface to Guam in May 1951. Major Forkner served as Operations officer for the 3d until April 1953, when he rotated to Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona.

He took command of the 43d Aviation Squadron 8 June 1953.

EXHIBIT 2

EXHIBIT III  
 43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
 43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
 Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
 Tucson, Arizona

PERSONNEL ACTIONS MEMORANDUM

13 July 1953

NUMBER

19

The following Offs and Amn this orgn are designated IACD a "Panel of Judges to select airman to be awarded the Squadron Outstanding Airman award," under provisions of SAC Reg 34-16, 23 Dec 52. The Panel will meet at the direction of the chairman.

MAJOR BOB L. FORNER  
 CAPT WARREN W. GOLDEN  
 1LT RALPH W. GARDNER  
 MSGT EDWIN H. BRADY  
 MSGT SILVIO LUPO

(b) (6)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

CHARLES W. RHODES  
 Major, USAF  
 Personnel Officer

/s/ Charles W. Rhodes  
 CHARLES W. RHODES

DISTRIBUTION:

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 3 43 B W Adj  
 1 Ea Pers 201 File

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

*Ralph W. Gardner*  
 RALPH W. GARDNER  
 1st Lt, USAF  
 Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz  
 20 Aug 53

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EXHIBIT 3

**EXHIBIT III**  
**43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM**  
**43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM**  
**Davis-Monthan Air Force Base**  
**Tucson, Arizona**

PERSONNEL ACTIONS MEMORANDUM

13 July 1953

NUMBER

19

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 CAPT WARREN W GOLDEN  
 1LT RALPH W GARDNER  
 MSGT EDWIN H BRADY  
 MSGT SILVIO LUPO

(b) (6)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

CHARLES W RHODES  
 Major, USAF  
 Personnel Officer

/s/ Charles W Rhodes  
 /s/ CHARLES W RHODES

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*Ralph W Gardner*  
 RALPH W GARDNER  
 1st Lt, USAF  
 Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz  
 20 Aug 53

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EXHIBIT 3



**EXHIBIT IV**  
**SIX MONTHS PROJECTED TRAINING SCHEDULE**  
**43d AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM**

**JULY 1953**

1. Four training continuous operations.
2. Mk 9 Section training.
3. Mk 5 Section training.
4. Mk 5 and Mk 6 storage training.
5. One hour of I & E weekly.
6. One character guidance lecture.
7. Supervisors course for payroll in ground safety.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Finance course for payroll clerk.
10. Drivers school for personnel without license.
11. Mobility exercise.
12. Three hours of physical training weekly.
13. Loading and ring-out training for JEW 13's.
14. One ground safety lecture.

**AUGUST 1953**

1. Four training continuous operations.
2. Mk 5 section training.
3. M5 cross training.
4. Mk 6 cross training.
5. Mk 5 and Mk 6 storage training.
6. One hour of I & E weekly.
7. One character guidance lecture.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Three hours of physical training weekly.
10. ABC school for Squadron ABC officer and NCOs.
11. Salvage training.
12. Maintenance and calibration training.
13. Utilities and portable building erection training.
14. Weapon handling.
15. 46 career field training.
16. Heavy equipment operator training.

**SEPTEMBER 1953**

1. Four training continuous operations.
2. Mk 5 section training.
3. Mk 5 cross training.
4. Mk 6 cross training.
5. Mk 5 and Mk 6 storage training.
6. One hour of I & E weekly.
7. One character guidance lecture.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Three hours of physical training weekly.

*EXHIBIT 5*

## SEPTEMBER 1953 (Contd)

10. Twelve hour ABC school for all personnel.
11. Medical proficiency training.
12. Ground Safety lecture.
13. JEM 13 refresher training.
14. Mobility exercise.
15. Drivers school for personnel without license.

## OCTOBER 1953

1. Four training continuous operations.
2. Mk 5 section training.
3. Mk 5 cross training.
4. Mk 6 cross training.
5. Mk 5 and Mk 6 storage training.
6. One hour of I & E weekly.
7. One character guidance lecture.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Three hours of physical training weekly.
10. Small arms familiarisation and firing.
11. One hour lecture on military law and justice.
12. Salvage training.
13. Maintenance and calibration training.
14. Utilities and portable building
15. 46 career field training.
16. Heavy equipment operation training.

## NOVEMBER 1953

1. Four training continuous operations.
2. Mk 5 section training.
3. Mk 5 cross training.
4. Mk 6 cross training.
5. Mk 5 and 6 storage training.
6. One hour of I & E weekly.
7. One character guidance lecture.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Three hours of physical training weekly.
10. Survival training.
11. Personal affairs lecture.
12. Ground Safety lecture.
13. JEM 13 refresher training.
14. Mobility exercise.
15. Weapons handling.

## DECEMBER 1953

1. Four training continuous operations
  2. Mk 5 section training.
  3. Mk 5 cross training.
- 5

## DECEMBER 1953 (Contd)

4. Mk 6 cross training.
5. Mk 5 and Mk 6 storage training.
6. One hour of I & E weekly.
7. One character guidance lecture.
8. Two security lectures.
9. Three hours of physical training weekly.
10. 46 career field training.
11. Drivers school for personnel without license.

## EXHIBIT V

43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
Davis Monthan Air Force Base  
Tucson, Arizona

SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

29 June 1953

NUMBER 1-53

CHART & MAP REFERENCES: Not Required.TASK ORGANIZATION: 43d Aviation Squadron, Bombardment, Medium  
Major Bob L Forkner1. GENERAL SITUATION:

The AFGC will conduct the Desert Environmental Phase of the Mk 8 OST. Four weapons will be placed in storage at DMAPB for approximately 30 days. The 43d Aviation Squadron will assemble two weapons and monitor all four weapons while in storage.

2. MISSION:

See AFGC Ops Plan 8-52, appendix No 3, Annex "A".

3. TASKS FOR THE 43D AVIATION SQUADRON:

## a. B Day - 3

- (1) Notify FC/AFSMP, info 15AF, name of supply courier to receipt for weapons and supply account number.

## b. B Day - 1

- (1) Provide two M-1 dollies modified for Mk 8 with Security covers for loading into C-124 aircraft.

## c. B Day (23Jul53), C, D, F, G, &amp; H Day.

- (1) Alert Salvage Crew security troops and provide for stand by aircraft during ferry of weapons from Kirtland AFB to Davis-Monthan AFB.
- (2) Assist in unloading of weapons and component parts from cargo aircraft and receipt for them from Base Supply.
- (3) Perform pre-storage inspection of weapons 8-21 and 8-22 and transport them to the storage site.
- (4) Assemble weapon 8-23 and 8-24, less fuzes and propellant, under uncontrolled conditions and transport them to the storage site.

EXHIBIT 6

SQ OPS NO 1-53

29 June 1953

- (5) Monitor weapon 8-21 thru 8-24 for 30 days while in storage and maintain Weapon Environmental History Books.
- (6) Provide photographs of the weapons and assembly procedures as required.
- (7) Monitor and inspect the storage area daily, placing emphasis on security and conditions of weapons.

4. ANNEXES:

- a. See Annex A for Salvage Crew.
- b. See Annex B for Assembly Crew.
- c. See Annex C for procedures in maintaining Weapon Environmental Histories.

3 Incls  
1. Annex A  
2. Annex B  
3. Annex C (Omitted)

BOB I. FORNER  
Major, USAF  
Commander

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43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
Tucson, Arizona

ANNEX "A"

29 June 1953

SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

NUMBER 1-53

1. SALVAGE CREW:

- a. Captain JOHN T MURPHY JR  
2nd Lt ARCHIE HAYS JR  
M/Sgt Silvio Iupo  
S/Sgt Lefe E Butler  
S/Sgt Thomas V Starritt Jr  
A/1C Arnold A Jensen  
A/1C Robert K Picmondon  
A/2C Joseph Morreale

2. The above personnel will be alerted at 1600z, 23 July 53 for possible salvage operation and will remain on alert until C-124 aircraft lands at Davis-Monthan AFB on flight from Kirtland AFB.

3. Uniforms and equipment will be determined by the OIC of the Salvage Crew.

43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
Tucson, Arizona

ANNEX "B"

29 June 1953

## SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

NUMBER 1-53

1. The following personnel are assigned duties as indicated during the assembly phase of the Mk 8 OST.

a. Assembly Crew: To be governed by current technical orders on Mk 8 Assembly and instructions given by APGC project officers.

Captain JOHN T MURPHY JR  
2nd Lt ARCHIE HAYS JR  
M/Sgt Silvio Lupo  
S/Sgt Lafe E Butler  
S/Sgt Thomas V Starritt Jr  
A/1C Arnold A Jensen  
A/1C Robert K Plomondon  
A/2C Joseph Morreals

b. Inventory Crew: Will assist O9D supply and squadron supply in inventory of weapon components upon receipt.

1st Lt Donald E Kinney  
A/2C Charles R Jellison  
A/2C Walter R Gartner Jr

c. Alert Drivers: Will pickup one (1) Carryall and one (1) pickup truck at the Base Motor Pool daily and report to the Operations Officer for instructions:

1st Lt Louis A Hodges  
A/1C Billy Mabry  
A/2C Donald J Kesterson  
A/3C Arthur W Williams

d. Security and escorts for VIP will be on alert to detect unauthorized personnel in the area and will direct VIP's to the officer in charge of each operation:

1st Lt Louis A Hodges  
M/Sgt Edwin H Brady  
A/2C James V Patterson  
A/3C Marshall W Bergman

SQ OPS ORDER 1-53 ANNEX "B"

29 June 1953

e. Storage Crew: Will assist O9D supply personnel in transporting weapons to storage area, spotting weapons in place and erecting temporary shelters.

S/Sgt Lonnie C Inttrel  
S/Sgt Ray S Nixon  
S/Sgt James C Prestridge  
A/2C Gaylord W Clark  
A/2C John J Mezzanotte



## EXHIBIT VI

43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
Tucson, Arizona

SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

7 July 1953

NUMBER 2-53

CHART & MAP REFERENCES: Not RequiredTASK ORGANIZATION: 43d Aviation Squadron, Bombardment, Medium  
Major Bob L. Forkner1. GENERAL SITUATION:

The AFGC will conduct the Desert Environmental Phase of the Mk 5 OST. Four weapons will be placed in storage at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base for approximately 30 days. The 43d Aviation Squadron will assemble the four weapons and monitor them while in storage. Weapon designations are: 5-13, 5-14, 5-17, and 5-18.

2. MISSION:

See AFGC Ops Plan 5-52, Mission Plan No 1 to Annex D.

3. TASKS FOR THE 43D AVIATION SQUADRON:

## a. B-Day 1500Z 24 Jul 53 (0800)

- (1) Provide courier to receipt for Weapon Environmental History Book at Kirtland AFB, N Mex.
- (2) Make preliminary arrangements to receipt for weapons at Davis-Monthan AFB, Ariz.

## b. C-Day 1930Z 24 July 53 (1230)

- (1) Alert salvage crew, security guards, and provide for standby aircraft during ferry flight from Kirtland AFB to Davis-Monthan AFB.
- (2) Assist in unloading of weapons and component parts from cargo aircraft and receipt from them from Base Supply.
- (3) Provide a cleared photographer to photograph any malfunctions that may occur.

## c. D-Day 24 and 25 July 53

- (1) All personnel involved in assembly will be briefed on standard safety practices and procedures to be followed

EXHIBIT 7

SQ OPS ORDER NO 2-53

7 Jul 53

on assembly of weapons containing high explosives and detonators.

- (2) Assemble all four weapons under uncontrolled assembly conditions in accordance with established SOP's and directions of APGC monitors.
- (3) Perform pre-storage inspection on weapons and associated equipment.

d. D-Day 2130Z 25 July 53 (1430)

- (1) Place weapons 5-13 and 5-14 in storage in H-46 containers under uncontrolled environmental conditions for 30 days.
- (2) Place weapons 5-17 and 5-18 in uncontrolled desert storage for 30 days, on H-46 roadable trailer without protective containers.
  - (a) A special functional check will be performed at intervals of 72 hours during entire storage period on weapon 5-17 as outlined in Annex D.
  - (b) Functional checks will be performed on 5-18 only if 5-17 fails check.

4. ANNEXES:

- a. See Annex "A" for Salvage Crew.
- b. See Annex "B" for Assembly Crews.
- c. See Annex "C" for procedures in maintaining Weapon Environmental Histories.
- d. See Annex "D" for procedures in conducting 72 hour functional check.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

4 Incls

1. Annex "A"
2. Annex "B"
3. Annex "C" (Omitted)
4. Annex "D" (Omitted)

CHARLES W RHODES  
Major, USAF  
Executive

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43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
Tucson, Arizona

ANNEX "A"

7 July 1953

SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

NUMBER 2-53

1. SALVAGE CREW:

- a. 1Lt Archie Hays Jr, (b) (6)  
M/Sgt Silvio Lupo, (b) (6)  
S/Sgt Lefe E Butler, (b) (6)  
S/Sgt Thomas V Starritt, Jr, (b) (6)

b. The above personnel will be alerted at 1500Z, 24 July 1953 for possible salvage operation and will remain on alert until cargo aircraft lands at Davis-Monthan AFB on flight from Kirtland AFB.

c. Uniforms and equipment will be determined by the OIC, Salvage Crew.

43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
 43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
 Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
 Tucson, Arizona

ANNEX "B"

7 July 1953

## SQUADRON OPERATIONS ORDER

NUMBER 2-53

1. The following personnel are assigned to shifts as indicated for assembly of the four Mk 5 weapons, actual times will be determined by the Weapons Supervisor:

## SHIFT "A"

Captain John T Murphy Jr  
 A/2C James V Patterson  
 1st Lt Ralph W Gardner  
 2nd Lt Archie Hays Jr  
 S/Sgt Thomas V Starritt  
 A/2C Gaylord W Clark  
 S/Sgt Lemmie C Luttrell  
 A/1C Robert K Flomendon  
 1st Lt David L Duncan  
 S/Sgt Lafe E Butler  
 M/Sgt Silvio Inpo  
 S/Sgt Earl L Wamsley  
 A/2C Joseph Morreale  
 A/3C Arthur W Williams

## SHIFT "B"

Captain Wesley F Andrews  
 S/Sgt Ray S Nixon  
 1st Lt Donald E Kinney  
 A/1C Billy Mabry Jr  
 A/2C Charles R Jellison  
 A/2C John J Mezanotte  
 1st Lt Louis A Hodges  
 S/Sgt James C Prestridge  
 A/2C Donald J Kesterson  
 A/3C Marshall W Bergman

2. The following personnel are designated alert drivers and will pick up vehicles at the Base Motor Pool, 0730, 22 Jul 1953, and report to the Weapons Supervisor for duty:

A/1C Arnold A Jensen  
 A/2C Walter R Gartner

EXHIBIT VII  
 43D AVIATION SQUADRON, BOMBARDMENT, MEDIUM  
 43D BOMBARDMENT WING, MEDIUM  
 Davis-Monthan Air Force Base  
 Tucson, Arizona

PERSONNEL ACTIONS MEMORANDUM

8 July 1953

NUMBER 18

EXTRACT

\* \* \*  
 4. The following personnel this orgn are designated members of the  
 "Maintenance and Calibration Team;" IAOD:

2D LT ARCHIE HAYS JR  
 MSgt Silvio Lupo  
 SSgt James C Prestridge  
 SSgt Thomas V Starritt Jr  
 A/IC Arnold A Jensen  
 A/IC Billy Mabry Jr  
 A/IC Robert K Plomondon  
 A/IC Edward A Seferian

(b) (6)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL:

CHARLES W RHODES  
 Major, USAF  
 Personnel Officer

/s/ Charles W Rhodes  
 CHARLES W RHODES  
 Major, USAF  
 Personnel Officer

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*Ralph W Gardner*  
 RALPH W GARDNER  
 1st Lt, USAF  
 Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz  
 20 Aug 53

EXHIBIT 8