

WE WENT TO WAR

Part X: Why We Were There

*The Background of Our Service,
Why We Were in the Southwest Pacific Area:
A Review*

380th Bomb Group - World War II



Theodore J. Williams

Barbara J. Gotham

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX III

Initial Order to Send the 380th Bomb Group to England for Duty with the Eighth Air Force

Authority WD 740112
By AS NARA Date 12/6/02

SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A.C. OF S. OPD

24 Mar 43
Date

[Signature]
Initials

OPD 370.5/OT (3/24/43)

OPD
EOD
6391

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL:

Subject: Movement Orders, Shipment No. 2618.

The Chief of Staff directs:

I. That instructions be issued the

Commandant Army Air Forces School of Applied Tactics,
C G, Second Air Force,
C G, Third Air Force,
C G, Western Defense Command,
C G, Eastern Defense Command,
C G, Air Service Command,
C G, New York Port of Embarkation,
C G, Boston Port of Embarkation,
C G, New York Air Service Port Area Command, Newark, N.J.,
Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces,
Chiefs of all Supply Services

by the most expeditious confidential means of communication available substantially as follows:

1. It is desired that you take without delay the action for which you are responsible to prepare for foreign service and to move the units listed below and equipment accompanying them to the New York Port of Embarkation and to move other equipment and supplies to the New York Port of Embarkation, the Boston Port of Embarkation or New York Air Service Port Area Command (Newark Intransit Depot), (for further movement by water transportation) as directed by the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation.

Unit	Code Designation (Shipment No)	Station	Agency to Issue Movement Orders	Strength			T/O
				Off	WO	EM	
351st Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Echelon) (Shipments 2618-F, G, H, I, J) Hq	2618-A	Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho (AAB, Pueblo, Colo. (Temp)	CG, Second Air Force	66	1109	1-112 (7-1-42) C-1(8-15-42) C-2(9-21-42) C-3(1-25-43)	

RETURN TO O. P. D. SHOWING ACTION

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Authority AND 740112
 By AB NARA Date 12/6/02

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Unit	Code Designation (Shipment No)	Station	Agency to Issue Movement Orders	Strength Off WO Civ EM	T/O
508th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-B	Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho (AAB, Pueblo, Colo. (Temp)	C G, Second Air Force		1-117 (7-1-42) C-1(8-8-42) C-2(1-25-43)
509th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-C	"	"		"
510th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-D	"	"		"
511th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-E	"	"		"
379th Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Ech) (Shipments 2618,P, R,S,T,V) And less Adv. Det. Hq	2618-K	Geiger Field, Spokane, Wash. (Temp. AAB, Sioux City, Ia.)	"	62 7 *1 1133 (162)(1) (215)	
				(4)	1-112,(7-1-42) C-1 (8-15-42) C-2(9-21-42) C-3(1-25-43)
524th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-L	"	"		1-117(7-1-42) C-1 (8-8-42) C-2(1-25-43)
525th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-M	"	"		"
526th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-N	"	"		"
527th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-O	"	"		"
380th Bomb Gp (H) (less Flight Ech) (Shipments 2618-PP, GG,HH,II,JJ) And Less Adv. Det. Hq	2618-AA	Davis-Monthan Field, Tucson, Ariz. (Temp. Lowry Field, Denver, Colo.)	"	58 1 1136 (166) (212)	
				(4)	1-112(7-1-42) C-1(8-15-42) C-2(9-21-42) C-3(1-25-43)
528th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-BB	"	"		1-117(7-1-42) C-1 (8-8-42) C-2 (1-25-43)
529th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-CC	"	"		"
530th Bomb Sq (H)	2618-DD	"	"		"
531st Bomb Sq (H)	2618-EE	"	"		"

211
1444

5P
153
1136
288
544
38
258

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Authority RND 740112
 By NARA Date 12/6/02

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Unit	Code Designation (Shipment No)	Station	Agency to Issue Movement Orders	Strength Off WO	EM	T/O
52nd Fighter Control Sq	2618-KK	AAB, Orlando, Fla.	Commandant, AAF School of Applied Tactics	24	282	**1-47 (12-11-42)
Hq & Hq Sq, 20th Bomb Wg	2618-LL	MacBill, Fla.	CG, Third Air Force	45	1 126	1-110-1 (11-21-42)
1108th MP Co, (Avn)	2618-MM	Robins Fld., Warner Robins, Ga.	CG, Air Service Command	4	100	19-217 (5-1-42)
1109th MP Co, (Avn)	2618-NN	"	"	4	100	"
1110th MP Co, (Avn)	2618-OO	"	"	4	100	"
1060th MP Co, (Avn)	2618-SS	Daniel Fld., Augusta, Ga.	"	4	100	"
1061st MP Co, (Avn)	2618-TT	"	"	4	100	"
1062nd MP Co, (Avn)	2618-VV	"	"	4	100	"
1063rd MP Co, (Avn)	2618-WW	"	"	4	100	"
1064th MP Co, (Avn)	2618-YY	Robins Field, Warner Robins, Ga.	"	4	100	"
806th Cml Co Air Opns (L)	2618-AAA	Hunter Field, Savannah, Ga.	"	4	130	3-457(7-1-42) C-1 (2-2-43)
869th Cml Co Air Opns (M&H)	2618-BBB	AAB, Reno, Nev.	"	4	130	"
879th Cml Co Air Opns (M&H)	2618-CCC	Herbert Smart AF, Macon, Ga.	"	4	130	"
850th Engr Avn Bn	2618-DDD	Hammer Field, Fresno, Calif.	CG, Fourth Air Force	31	776	5-415(4-1-42) C-1(7-31-42) C-2(8-1-42) C-3(9-25-42)
851st Engr Avn Bn	2618-EEE	Geiger Fld, Spokane, Wash.	CG, Second Air Force	31	776	"
862nd Engr Avn Bn	2618-FFF	AAB, Richmond, Va.	CG, First AF	31	776	"
55th Depot Supply Sq	2618-GGG	Patterson Fld., Ohio	CG Air Service Command	8	129	Manning Table***

* Male Red Cross Worker. Total Air Movement
 ** Plus 3 D/F Teams -Col.20 Total Water Movement
 3 Radio Ready Team -Col.22
 *** Manning Table being prepared by CG, AAF(Director, Base Services)
 GRAND TOTAL

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2. a. Detailed instructions concerning the preparation of each unit in this movement order, as well as for the movement itself, are to be found in the following publications. It is highly essential that the provisions of these publications be thoroughly understood and implicitly followed by all concerned:

(1) AG 370.5 (1-16-43) February 1, 1943, subject: "Preparation for Overseas Movement" (POM).

(2) AG 370.5 (2-6-43) February 1, 1943, subject: "Additional Preparation for Overseas Movement for AAF Units" (AIR-POM).

(3) Letter, Headquarters Army Air Forces, file AAF 370.5, March 18, 1943, subject: "Instructions Applicable to the Preparation of Overseas Movement Orders".

b. Exceptions to, and modifications of, the above publications applicable to this particular movement are as follows:

(1) Reference paragraph 5**b**(4) (POM), add the following:

"Shoulder patches removed from uniforms prior to embarkation will be turned in to thit supply officer for safe-keeping."

(2) Reference paragraph 6**c**(6) (POM)

Vaccinate against typhus fever.

3. This is a PERMANENT change of station.

4. Movement to the Port will be made by motor and/or rail.
See W. D. Circular 193, June 16, 1942.

5. (TAG: Please insert paragraph or reference re mail address).

6. Direct communication is authorized.

7. Report to the Commanding General, Army Air Forces (AFROM), Washington, D. C., by telephone, TWX, or telegraph (NOT radio) time and date of departure of units from home stations. Use Code Designation (Shipment Number and Letter) - NOT unit designation (Example: "2618-A departed rail/motor 12 April 0900 Z" signed Smith).

8. Instructions on Clothing, Equipment, Supplies & Ammunition.
(TAG: Please insert par. 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 from Tab B).

13. The Commanding General of the New York Port of Embarkation will furnish the Commanding General, Army Air Forces, (Director of Personnel) with a roster of personnel by organization as of date of embarkation for foreign service.

14. Costs of movements to include advance detachments will be charged to (TAG: Please insert appropriate paragraph).

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II. That you inform the

- C G, European Theater of Opns., London,
- C G, New York Port of Embarkation,
- C G, Boston Port of Embarkation,
- Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces,
- Chief, Opns. & Plan. Sec., Censorship Br., G-2,
- Chief, Logistics Co., Opns Div., W.D.G.S.

only, and by separate secret communication as follows:

1. The destination of Shipment 2618 is UNITED KINGDOM, for assignment to the European Theater of Operations.
2. Code designation (Example: 2618-A) will be used in lieu of destination and/or designation of units.
3. The Commanding General, European Theater of Operations, will report to this office when Shipment 2618 has been completed to his command. This is of the utmost importance.
4. The Chief of Transportation, Army Service Forces, will make the necessary transportation available for Shipment 2618 and coordinate with all concerned.
5. The Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation, and/or Commanding General, Boston Port of Embarkation will take all necessary action to move Shipment 2618 to overseas destination.

III. That you inform the Station Commanders concerned; the Director, Army Postal Service (2 copies); the Commanding General, New York Port of Embarkation; and the Destination Commander only and by secret communication of the A. P. O. number and Postmaster address to be used for personnel of units listed in this order in compliance with paragraph 5, Section I.

IV. That the following be informed of Sections of this directive indicated below:

	<u>S E C T I O N S</u>		
	<u>I</u>	<u>II</u>	<u>III</u>
Chief of Transportation, A. S. F.	X	X	
C G, Army Air Forces	X		
C G, Army Service Forces	X		
C G, Eastern Defense Command	X		
C G, Western Defense Command	X		
C G, Air Service Command	X		
Commandant Army Air Force School of Applied Tactics	X		
C G, First Air Force			

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Authority ND 740112
 By KB NARA Date 12/6/02

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	SECTIONS		
	I	II	III
C G, Second Air Force	X		
C G, Fourth Air Force	X		
C G, Third Service Command	X		
C G, Fourth Service Command	X		
C G, Fifth Service Command	X		
C G, Seventh Service Command	X		
C G, Ninth Service Command	X		
C G, Third Air Force	X		
C G, New York Air Service Port Area Command	X		
C G, Boston Port of Embarkation	X	X	
C G, New York Port of Embarkation	X	X	X
C G, European Theater of Operations, (NOT to be shown in distribution)	X	X	X
Chief, Statistics Branch, W.D.G.S.	X		
Construction Div., Office Chief of Engrs.	X		
Chiefs of all Supply Services	X		
All Divs. & Directorates of the Air Staff	X		
Chief, Logistics Gp., Opns. Div., W.D.G.S.	X	X	
All Divisions of the War Dept. General Staff	X		
The Inspector General	X		
G-2, (CIC, MIS)	X		
Director, Army Postal Service	X		X
Furnish copy to each station commander listed in Par. 1 marked "For Information Only"	X		X
Chief, Opns. & Plan. Sec., Censorship Br., G-2	X	X	

MAR 24 '43 PM



THOS. T. HANDY,
Major General,
Assistant Chief of Staff.

4 A. G. O.
MAR 21 1943
RECORDED

~~IN~~ out cc
OPD WDGs

H. I. HODES,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief, Troop Movements Section.

Inclosures:

- Tab A
- Tab B

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Tab A contains information furnished by the C G, Army Air Forces
 Tab B contains information submitted by the C G, Army Service Forces
 Directive based on OPD 370.5 Great Britain (3/15/43) dated March, 15,
 1943, Subject: Movement of Units to the United Kingdom.

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Authority ND 740112
By 43 NARA Date 12/6/02

- ACTION TAKEN: I Mimeo. ltr., 3-25-43, to CG, Eastern & Western Defense Commands; First, Second, Third & Fourth Air Forces; Air Service Command; NYPE; New York Air Service Port Area Command, Newark, N.J: CO BPE Commandant, AAF School of Applied Tactics; C/I & Cs/SS, ASF. MIR/ejj/klh 2B-939.
- II Ditto ltr., 3-26-43, to CG, European Theater of Oper: NYPOE: CO, Boston Port of Embarkation; C/Transp, ASF.
- III Ditto ltr., 3-26-43, to CG, NYPOE; European Theater of Operations; Station Commanders concerned; Director, Army Postal Service, AGO.
- IV Distribution, 3-26-43. MEB/Map - 2B-939.