

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

ISBN 0-9672447-9-X

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 99-73366

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Published by:

**Theodore J. Williams
208 Chippewa Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906-2123
USA**

Printed in the United States of America by Purdue University Printing Services.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX V

Orders Sending 380th to Southwest Pacific Area

Authority: *AMM 746112*
By: *ANARA DMC 1215102*

SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A. G. C. S. S. O. P. D.
G. C. I.
..... 8606
Date Initials

OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)

March 30, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY AIR FORCES,
COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY SERVICE FORCES:

Subject: Movement of Air Force Units to
the Southwest Pacific Area.

The Chief of Staff directs:

1. That necessary action be taken to prepare the units listed below for service with the Fifth Air Force (Australia) and to move them to the Port of Embarkation designated by the Commanding General, Army Service Forces at the proper time.

<u>UNITS</u>	<u>RESPONSIBLE AGENCY</u>
1 Bomb Gp (H)	AAF
1 Bomb Gp (M)	AAF

2. Units will move at T/O strength and with T/BA equipment.
3. Flight echelons of the units listed above will be dispatched to destination by air at the earliest practicable date. Ground echelons will be prepared to leave home stations by April 20, 1943. Dispatch of ground echelons to destination will be by water. Simultaneous arrival at destination of flight and ground echelons of these units is not required.
4. Commanding General, Army Service Forces, will:
 - a. Inform those concerned as to designation of the port.
 - b. Furnish transportation for the movement of the ground echelons.
 - c. Make the overseas movement based on priorities to be furnished separately.
5. The above units are not included in the list of units required for overseas service, projected six months into the future.

175

✓ OPD file copy

Authority NMD 740112
y NARA Date 12/5/02

SECRET

OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)
Memo to CGs, AAF & ASF, 3-30-43 - Subj: Command of AF Units to the SWPA.

dated February 27, 1943. These units will be included in the new six months projected list to be published in the near future, under the month of April.

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

J. E. UPSTON
Brigadier General,

Deputy Chief, Theater Group, OPD, G.S.

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

1. This directive implements movement of one Bomb Gp (H) and one Bomb Gp (M) to SWPA ^{and} is in accordance with the approved new deployment of Air Force Units for this Theater.

2. CG, AAF has indicated that the units designated are the 380th Bomb Gp (H) and the 345th Bomb Gp (M); AAF (Captain Talbott - 71790) states that flight echelons of heavy bombardment group are ready to depart now, that flight echelons of medium bombardment group will be ready the latter part of April, that ground echelons of both heavy and medium bomb gps will be ready the latter part of April. AAF (Captain Talbott - 71790) concurs in the readiness date of April 20 for ground echelons; this readiness date assigned in order to take advantage of any additional shipping that might become available late in April. These units are being given highest priority for movement in early May shipping.

cbo

NR 30 43 PM



D-1205 AAF (
ASF Del by hand (Off. Chf. Liaison Brd)
G-3 D-1206
G-4 D-1210
TRAs By Hand

(175)

OUT
OPD WDGS

SECRET

Authority NMD 1740112
by W NARA Date 12/5/02

Combined Routing-Information-Filing For
Operations Division

SECRET

OKL 4

War Department Decimal Classification: OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)
X 320.2 AUS
X 370.5 PTO
X 321.91 52AAF
X 321.19 AAF
X 321.19 ASF
Deleted
me

Subject: Movement of Air Force Units to the Date 3-30-43 Origin *OPD to AAF & Southwest Pacific Area. (Heavy & Medium Bombardment Groups) ASF*

Digest:

Action: Memo to CG, AAF and CG, ASF - directive implementing movement of 1 Bomb Gp (H) and 1 Bomb Gp (M) to SWPA.

Section : SWPA

- African-Middle Eastern
 - Asiatic
 - European
 - Latin American
 - North American
 - Pacific
 - Southwest Pacific *S*
 - Troop Movements *Am*
 - Current
 - Resources & Require.
 - TROOP *RR*
 - Combined Subjects
 - Future Operations
 - Strategy
 -
 -
- Theaters
 - Logistics *RR*
 - Strategy & Policy
 -
 -

Comments:

Recommendation:

Section Chief *WHL* Date 3/20/43
 Group Chief *WHL* Date 30 March

Concurrence:

Executive, OPD *checked & file*

Deputy A. C. of Staff

A. C. of Staff

Dispatch Desk *175*

Dispatch

File *pm*

Action by Lt Col Lothrop
Signed *WHL* *WHL* Date 3-30-43

MAR 30 1943

SECRET

Authority NMD 740112
by AA NARA Date 12/5/02

SECRET

BY AUTHORITY OF A. COOPER S., OPD
GCL

.....5505.....
Date Initials

OPD 370.5 Aus (3-30-43)

March 30, 1943.

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COMMANDING GENERAL, ARMY SERVICE FORCES:

Subject: **Movement of Air Force Units to
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5. The above units are not included in the list of units required for overseas service, projected six months into the future,

✓ OPD File Copy

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