

## 616th AC&W SQD. (USAFE)

### History

The 616 was at Fort Shafter Kahuku, Hawaii from July 1946-December 1948 when it was deactivated.

The 123rd AC&W Sqdn. left Donaldson AFS Greenville, S.C. in October 1952 for Germany in November 1952 they arrived at Flandern Haserne in Ulm Germany. Call sign Joplin.

November 1953 the 616th Fort Shafter, Hawaii was reactivated to Flandern Kaserne Ulm, Germany. The 123rd returned to Blue Ash ANG station, Ohio.

Flandern Kaserne became the home of the 616th AC&W Sqdn. Southern sector CRC. Our radar was at Turkheim about 22 miles from Ulm. At first we traveled to the site by deuce and a half. Later we went by German tour buses. We had 4 detachments.

DET.1-WELS, AUSTRIA (pulled back in 1955 and became)  
DET.1-FREISING (CRP)  
DET.2-REGENSBURG (RP)  
DET.4-LANDSHUT (RP)  
DER.6-PFORZHEIM (ALT.CRC)

COMMANDING OFFICERS FROM 1953-19??  
1953-1955 LT.COL ZED BARNES  
1955-1958 LT.COL GEORGE ARMSTRONG  
1958-19?? LT.COL. EDWIN MURRILL

Our radars at Turkheim were the MPS-11 and the MPS-14 with the TPS-1D and TPS-10D as backup. Also on site were FM radio, teletype and cryptographic sections.

The 616th started training the Germans in 1958 for a takeover of our site.

October 1958 the 616th moved across town to the Boelcke Kaserne until 1962 when it moved to Wasserkuppe. I have no history of the Wasserkuppe.

The Germans took over Flandern Kaserne and Turkheim 10 September 1959.

The 616th was at Wasserkuppe from 1962 to 1978. The Germans took control of Wasserkuppe in December 1978. The 616th was deactivated 1 January 1979.

I have many stories of my time at the 616th but this was just a history as I understand it.

By DAVID PARKER