

“TUSKEGEE EXPERIENCE”

According to researcher/historian and DOTA Theopolis W. Johnson the following information relates to the “Tuskegee Experience”:

“That is....anyone man or woman, military or civilian, black or white

The last class (Class 46C) graduated with 8 SE graduates and 5 TE graduates on June 28, 1946.

- 2,483 persons were pilot trainees at Moton Field and Tuskegee Army Air Field (AAF), located in Tuskegee, AL, from July 19, 1941 until June 28, 1946.
- 996 pilots graduated from Tuskegee AAF.
- Tuskegee AAF closed August 20, 1946.
- Of the graduates, 52 pilots deployed overseas (Europe) for combat duty.
- 84 Tuskegee Airmen were killed overseas during WWII.
- 80 pilots lost their lives in combat, training, flying and non flying accidents.
- 68 pilots were identified as either KIA or MIA
- 12 pilots were killed overseas in training accidents or non combat related incidents
- 30

1267missions and 6381combatsorties with the 12th Air Force
(June, 1943 to May, 1944)

311missionsand9152combat sorties with the 15th Air Force
(June, 1944 to May, 1945)
[179 of the 311 missions were for escort duty]

Total Missions:1578

Total Combat Sorties:5,533

Total Aerial Kills: 112

The Tuskegee Airmen received the following combat
awards:

Presidential Unit Citation (3)

Legion of Merit[COL BenjaminO. Davis, Jr.]

Silver Star[COL BenjaminO. Davis, Jr.]

Soldier Medal [CAPT Woodrow W. Crocke(4)]

Distinguished Flying Cross (96

Purple Heart (8)

Bronze Star (25

Air Medal (1031) [265 Air Medals and 766 Clusters]

Red Star of Yugoslavia[1st LT William W. Green, Jr.]

**Correct count pending*

Partial list of Tuskegee Experience locations:

Atterbury AAF
Chanute AAF
Douglas AAF
Eglin AAF
Ellington AAF
Midland AAF
Selfridge AAF
Sturgis AAF
Moton Field

Freeman AAF
Godman AAF
Hondo AAF
Lockbourne AAF
Maxwell AAF
Tomah AAF
Waltham AAF
Dale Mabry AAF
Tuskegee AAF

The 332nd Fighter Wing ceased operations on July 1, 1949 (after President Harry Truman signed Executive Order #9981 on July 26, 1948, which desegregated the U.S. Armed Forces) at Lockbourne AFB, Columbus, OH and was deactivated, officially ending the "Tuskegee Experience."

NOTES:

1. The name "Tuskegee Airmen" came into existence on May 15, 1955 with the publication of "The Tuskegee Airmen: The Story of the Negro in the U.S. Air Force"

3. Despite contrary reports, the Tuskegee Army did lose several U.S. bombers to enemy fire while escorting the bombers. But it should be noted that they did have one of the best records of not losing bombers, a unique achievement when compared to other American fighter units that escorted bombers. The then known "Red Tails" were in high demand for escort service by U.S. bomber 61 Tf 18

http://www.tuskegeeairmen.org/Tuskegee_Airmen_Congression.php

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For more history informat