

# Historical Outlines for Certain USAF Engineering Division Organizations

(060507)

## **Administration & Library Section, Administration Office, Equipment Laboratory (15 July 1952)**

Administration & Library Section was originally designated Administrative Unit of Equipment Administration in October 1946. In 1948, the library and technical reference functions were transferred from Plans Unit, Equipment Plans and consolidated with the functions of Administrative Unit. Included in the above transfer was the responsibility for indexing, distributing, and the custodianship of official file copies of all memorandum reports a written by personnel of the Equipment Laboratory. In October 1948, the name of this section was change to Administrative & Library Unit. In November 1951, it was redesignated Administration & Library Unit. In May 1952, units were redesignated as sections.

Effective 2 September 1952, Weapons Components Division and Aeronautics Division were consolidated and redesignated The Directorate of Laboratories. (Ref WADC Notice No. 162, dtd 2 Sep 52.) Equipment Laboratory is now responsible to above Directorate, and organizational code WCLE was assigned to this activity to reflect above change.

The function of Administration and Library Section remain the same as previously reported in Historical Outline dated 15 July 1952. Organizational code WCLEA-1 was assigned to this Section, effective 2 Sep 52. To date, this section has operated under the following organizational codes:

TSEPE-3A  
MCREXE-X1  
MCREXE-A1  
DCEEA-1  
WCEEA-1  
WCLEA-1 (present code)

## **AFEER Office at NACA, AAL, Moffett field, Calif.**

Establishment of Supply Function:

To obtain in an orderly and expeditious manner Air Force Supplies to support AF aircraft assigned to NACA for flight test investigations, a supply function was established on 29 March 1943. The proper account numbers of the Supply Officers are listed below in chronological order.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Account No.</b>
20 Mar 43	None – Accountability Rested with Materiel Command Liaison Officer
27 Sep 44	AF 933 SO
15 Sep 47	AF 1779 APO*
16 Sep 48	AF 2016 SD

\* Established by loan Agreement W33-38-AC-18455 and terminated by Supplement No. 1 Thereto dated 9 Mar 49.

Except for AF 1778 APO account, this office did not receive copies of orders which established other account number.

## **Aircraft Laboratory (1907 – December 1952)**

The Aircraft Laboratory, Aeronautic Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research & Development Command of the Army Air Force grew out of the Aeronautical Division, which was created within the signal Corps on 1 August 1907. The Aeronautical Division was redesignated Aviation Section on 18 July 1914. Under this Section on Airplane Engineering Department was activated on 13 October 1917 and occupied tent at McCook Field on 4 Dec 1917. The Airplane Engineering Division of the Bureau of Aircraft Production of the Air Service was activated on 31

Aug. 1918, under which Chief Experimental Engineering operated. The Aircraft Engineering Div. was redesignated the Technical Div. on 1 Jan. 1919 under which the Airplane Dept. operated. On 13 Mar. 1919 this Division was renamed Engineering Division, Engineering Dept., Airplane Section.

The Air Corps Act of 2 July 1926 changed the Air Service to Air Corps. Materiel Div. under the Air Corps was established at McCook Field, Dayton, Ohio on 15 October 1926. In the spring of 1927 the Materiel Division was moved to Wright Field. The Experimental Engineering Section was reorganized and there was created within it two staffs – the Administrative Staff and the Technical Staff, and eight laboratories (the former units and branches being redesignated laboratories) of which the Aircraft Laboratory was one, by M.D. G.O. No. 3, 11 April 1939. Materiel Division assumed Command status 9 Mar. 1942, and upon verbal orders of the O.O., AAF, was Materiel Center 6 March 1942, Mat. Com. G.O. 16, 6 April 1942. Engineering Division was formed 3 Dec. 1942, Mat. Comm. Notice No. 103, 17 June 1942.

Materiel Command was redesignated Air Technical Service Command 1 Sept. 1944, AAF Hq. O.O. 12, 31 Aug. 1944. Effective 9 March 1946, the ATSC was redesignated the Air Materiel Command, AMC O.O. 27, 13 Mar. 1946. In July, 1946 the Aircraft Laboratory operated under the Aircraft and Physical Requirements Sub-Division, Engineering Div., Air Materiel Command. With the reorganization of the Engineering Div. on 3 Sept 1946, the Aircraft Lab. operated under the Engineering Div. On 22 March 1951, the Air Development Force was established. On 2 April 1951, the Aeronautics Division was activated under Air Research & Development Command, Wright Air Development Center, under which the Aircraft Laboratory now operates, O.O 3, 24 Jan 1951.

Effective 2 September 1952, the Aeronautics Division and the Weapons Components Division were abolished and the Directorate of Laboratories activated in lieu thereof, the symbol of the Directorate being WCL and Aircraft Laboratory being WCLS; Directorate of Laboratories Notice No. 1, dated 2 September 1952.

### **Aircraft Radiation Laboratory**

1. On 20 Jan 42 Aircraft Radio Laboratory established a Radar Unit. Aircraft Radio Laboratory reported directly to QCSIGO, Washington, D.C. On 11 May 42, the Chief Signal Officer of the Army established the Signal Officer of the Army established the Signal Corps Aircraft Signal Service (SCASS), Wright Field, and directed its Director of the Wright Field Signal Corps Procurement District. On 11 Aug 43 SCASS was Signal Corps Aircraft Signal Agency.

2. In accordance with "McNarney Directive", the Signal Corps Aircraft Signal and field installations, including the Aircraft Radio Laboratory created AAF Air Technical Service Command effective 15 Oct 44. Research and Development went to Engineering Division. Engineering Division created a Radio and Radar Section, and the Radar laboratory and Special Project Section became activities under this Section. On 1 Jul 46 Radio and Radar Section was redesignated the Electronic Subdivision. Approximately 5 Sep 46 the Electronic Sub-division merged its Radar Laboratory and Special Projects Laboratory (Section) into the Aircraft Radiation Laboratory.

3. On 9 Mar 46 Air Technical Service Command was redesignated the Air Materiel Command. This change did not denote any change in function.

4. AF Reg 23-8 dated 22 May 1951 established Air Research and Development Command. General Orders No. 22 dated 30 Mar 51 established Hq, Air Development Force. ARDC General Orders No 10 dated 7 Jun 51 redesignated Air Development Force Effective 8 June 51 as Wright Air Development Center. Electronic Sub-division was merged with Armament laboratory, Equipment Laboratory, Equipment Laboratory, and Photographic Laboratory into the Weapons Components Division.

<b>Organization Codes for the Aircraft Radiation Laboratory</b>		
11 Aug 43 – 15 Oct 44	SCASA, Aircraft Radio Laboratory	
	Radar Unit	SPSDE-3
1 Jan 45 – 15 Jun 45	ATSC, Radio and Radar Section	
	RadarLaboratory	TSERR2D
	Special Projects Laboratory	TSERR2C
1 Jul 45 – 31 Dec 45	ATSC, Electronic Subdivision	
	Radar Laboratory	TSERR2D
	Special Projects Laboratory	TSERR2C
1 Jan 46 – 5 Sep 46	ATSC, Electronic Subdivision	
	Radar Laboratory	TSELR
	Special Projects Laboratory	TSELP
5 Sep 46 – 1 Jan 48	AMC, Electronic Subdivision	
	Aircraft Radiation Laboratory	TSELR
1 Jan 48 – 8 Jun 51	AMC, Electronic Subdivision	
	Aircraft Radiation Laboratory	MCEER
8 Jun 51 – 1 Sep 52	WADC, Weapons Components Division	
	Aircraft Radiation Laboratory	WCER
2 Sep 52	WADC, Directorate of Laboratories	
	Aircraft Radiation Laboratory	WCLR

### **Bombardment Missiles Branch**

The Bombardment Missiles Branch, WCOWG, now part of the Weapons Systems Division, Deputy for Operations, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, was established on or about 1 September 1946 as Surface Launched Branch, Guided Missiles Section, Engineering Operation, Air Technical Service Command, symbol TSEON-6; on or about September 1948 was designated Surface Launched Branch, Guided Materiel Command, Symbol MCEEON-4; ON OR ABOUT 1 February 1950 was designated Surface Launched Branch, Guided Missiles Section, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Command, Symbol, WCSGS; on or about August 1952 was designated Bombardment Missiles Section, Guided Missiles Branch, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, Symbol, WCSGS; on or about October 1952 was designated Bombardment Missiles Branch, Weapons Systems Division, Deputy for Operations, Wright Air research and Development Command, Symbol, WCOWG.

### **Cargo and Trainer Branch (22 October 1952)**

The cargo and Trainer Branch was established about 1 Sep 1944 as a part of Engineering Projects, Service Engineering Section, Engineering Division, Air Technical Service Command and in October was given the symbol TSESE-2D. In Nov 1945 it became the Cargo Branch, Aircraft

Projects Section, Engineering Division ATSC symbol TSESA-5. In July 1946 it was changed to Cargo Branch, Aircraft Projects Section, Engineering Operations, ATSC symbol TSEOA-5. In Dec 1947 it became the Cargo Branch, Aircraft and Guided Missiles Section, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command, symbol MCREOA-5. In April 1951 was change to Cargo Branch, Aircraft Section, Weapons Systems Division, Air Development Force, Air Research and Development Command symbol DSCWC. In May 1951 it was change to Cargo Branch, Aircraft Section, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command. In or about September 1952 was designated Cargo and Trainer Branch, Weapons Systems Division, Deputy for Operations, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, symbol WCOWC.

### **Communication and Navigation Laboratory**

The Interference Reduction Section was organized as the Interference Reduction Unit of Techniques Branch, Communication and Navigation Laboratory, in July 1949. Office Symbol was MCREEC-22. The Unit was composed of the Noise Subunit and the Circuitry Subunit. In general, all of the project work was transferred from the Precipitation Static Subunit, Techniques Unit, of Communication Branch, all of which had been conducted under successive project identifications of 66, 742-301-E, E.O. 112-28, Subprojects were established covering research and development in the fields of components, structures, and personnel.

General Order No. 22, dated 30 Mar 1951 established Hq, Air Development Force, which resulted in changing the symbol of the Interference Reduction Unit to DCENT2. Air Research & Development Command General Order No. 10 dated 7 Jun 1951 redesignated Air Development Force effective 8 Jun 1951 as Wright Air Development Center, changing the symbols to WCENT-2. Subsequent WADC administrative changes in July 1952 changed the designation of the Unit to Interference Reduction Section, and of the Subunits to Noise Unit and Circuitry Unit respectively. A WADC reorganization in September 1952 established the Directorate of Laboratories, and the Section symbol was change to WCLNT2, which is presently used.

### **Dynamics Section, Test Branch, Equipment Laboratory - WCEET-3 (June 1952)**

Upon initiation of a vibration program for facilitating the development of accessory equipment to withstand the vibration conditions encountered in the operation of aircraft, a Vibration Unit was established in the Operational Testing Office, Operations, Test Branch on 20 Feb 45.

In 1946, this section became a separate unit of Tests Branch; in Nov 51, it was redesignated Dynamics Unit; and in Apr 52, it became a section, in compliance with WADC Notice no. 87. to date, it has operated under the following organizational codes:

TSEPE-12G

CREEXE-84

DCEET-3

WCEET-3 (presently assigned)

Dynamics Section is responsible for all engineering and evaluation of basic and applied research pertaining to the application of shock and vibration mounting systems for use on equipment for which the Equipment Laboratory is responsible.

### **Electrical Branch, Accessories Section, Equipment Laboratory - WCEEE-6 (20 August 1952)**

In 1942, Accessories Section, responsible for the research and development required in developing electrical accessories to permit their installation in military aircraft, was operating as a Unit of Electrical Branch. In April 1947, the responsibilities for research, development, testing, and standardization of aeronautical and aircraft lighting equipment were combined with the responsibilities of Accessories Unit. As a result of above action, the unit was redesignated

Lighting and Accessories Unit. In March 1951, in order to increase efficiency of operation and to permit more complete coordination of related projects, Lighting Unit and Accessories Unit, respectively. (Units were redesignated as Sections in May 1952).

From 1942 to date, Accessories Section has been assigned the following organization codes:

TSEPL-3F9 (Accessories Unit)  
TSEPE-6H (Accessories Unit)  
TSEPE-6G (Lighting and Accessories Unit)  
MCREXE-24 (Lighting and Accessories Unit)  
MCREEXE-28 (Lighting and Accessories Unit)  
DCEEE-6 (Accessories Unit)  
WCEEE-6 (present organizational code)

### **Electronic Development Division, Rome Air Development Center**

The Electronic Laboratories at Red Bank, N.J., known as Watson Laboratories, was activated from Signal Corps activities of Fort Monmouth, N. J. , 1 February 1945, becoming an air installation under the designation of the 4151st AAF base Unit, Watson laboratories, ATSC: 28 August 1948, 4151st AFBU (Electronic Laboratories) Watson Laboratories, was redesignated 3151st Electronics Station, Watson Laboratories. ANC: 29 November 1950, the first contingent of personnel from Watson Laboratories arrived at Griffiss AFB, Rome, NY on the transfer of the 3151st Electronics Group. Watson Laboratories, AMC, to GAFB; movement effective 0001 hours 15 March 1951; transferred from AMC to ARDC, 4 April 1951 by G.O. 23, Hq AMC; discontinued and absorbed as the Electronics Development Division of the Rome Air Development Center, 12 June 1951 by authority of G.O. # 11, Hq, ARDC, 8 June 1951.

### **Fighter Branch**

The Fighter Branch, WCOWF, now a part of the Weapons Systems Division, Deputy for Operations, Wright Air Development Command, was established on or about 15 September 1944, and given the identification symbol TSEAP-3; on or about 30 October 1944 was designated Fighter Branch, Service Engineering Section, Engineering Division, Air Technical Service Command, symbol, TSESE-2C; on or about 1 November 1945 was designated Fighter Branch, Aircraft Projects Section, Service Engineering Subdivision, Air Technical Service Command, symbol, TSECA-4; on or about July 1946 was designated Fighter Branch, Aircraft Projects Section, Engineering Operations, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command, symbol, MCREOA-4; on or about 1 April 1951 was designated Fighter Branch, Aircraft Section, Weapons Systems Division, Air Development Force, Air Research and Development Command, symbol, DCSWF; on or about 15 May 1951 was designated Fighter Branch, Aircraft Section, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, symbol WCSWF; on or about 2 September 1952 was authorized by WADC Notice 162, the designation of Fighter Aircraft Branch, Weapons Systems Division, Deputy for Operations, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, symbol, WCOWF.

### **Navigation Branch – MCREEG521 (April 1949)**

The Navigation Branch of the Communication and Navigation Laboratory has cognizance of all USAF airborne navigational radio and radar equipment. The Communication and Navigation Laboratory is a part of the Electronic Subdivision. The Electronic Subdivision is a part of the Engineering Division. The Navigation Branch was designated as the Air Navigation Unit of the Aircraft Radio Laboratory (ARL). The Navigation Branch is responsible for certain research, the complete development, and engineering, to the point suitable for quantity production, of all navigation equipment required to implement the overall program of the USAF.

**Office of AF Engineering Field Representative at NACA, Ames Aeronautical Laboratory, Moffett Field, California (27 February 1952)**

Establishment of Office:

War Department Orders (Bur. Auth. No. 105, Dept. Auth. No. 017) issued in Fiscal Year 1942 by Office, Chief of Air Corps, through Secretary of War, was for purpose of establishing the Materiel Division Liaison Office at the NACA, Ames Aeronautical Laboratory, Moffett Field, Calif. Normal functioning of the office began on or about 2 January 1942.

Changes in Office Name in Chronological Order:

The various titles of the liaison officers assigned to this office since its establishment are listed below. No changes in duties were involved.

Year	Name	Basic Organization
1941	Materiel Division Liaison Ofcr.	Materiel Div., Army Air Corps
Apr 42	Materiel center Liaison Ofcr.	Materiel Center, Army Air Corps
Aug 42	Materiel Command Liaison Ofcr.	Materiel Command, Army Air forces
Oct 44	Air Tech. Serv. Command L.O.	ATSC, AFF
Jan 46	ATSC Engineering Field Officer	ATSC,AAF
Jan 48	Air Materiel Command eng. L. O.	AMC, USAF
Sep 48	AMC Engineering Field Officer	AMC, USAF
May 51	Air Dev. Command Eng. F.O.ADC, ARDC, USAF	
Jun 51	AF Engineering Field Rep.	WADC, ARDC, USAF

All redesignations were by organizational notices.

Purpose of Office:

The primary purpose of the office is to perform technical liaison between the Ames Aeronautical Laboratory and the Air Force Organization at Wright-Patterson AF Base responsible for research and development. During the periodic visit to educational and commercial institutions in the San Francisco Bay Area Holding AF R&D contracts. This latter function was taken over on 1 July 1951 by the Los Angeles AF Engineering Field Office, Los Angeles, Calif. (WCOLD)

**Power Plant Laboratory (30 December 1952)**

The Power Plant Section, Engineering Division was organized on 4 Feb 1917 and located at McCook Field. It was redesignated Power Plant Branch, Materiel Division in 1926 and moved to Wright Field in 1927. It was redesignated Power Plant Laboratory, Materiel Division in 1939 and the Power Plant Laboratory was transferred to Engineering Division in 1940. The Laboratory consisted of nine units: Administration, Engine Accessories, Engineering Test, Installations, Property, Research, Service Liaison, Specification & Drafting and New Building Project Unit. In 1943 the Laboratory was reorganized. Twelve branches and twenty units were established. In 1948 three branches were dissolved: Liaison, Property, Supercharger and Ignition. The functions of these branches were integrated with branches the most appropriate, making a total of nine branches. In 1950 the Climatic Test Branch was dissolved and four staff offices were established: Plans, Operations, Administration and Control Data. In 1951 the Nuclear Propulsion Branch was established and Power Plant Laboratory was assigned to the Aeronautics Division of the WADC. During 1952 the units in the branches were redesignated to sections; the Aeronautics Division was redesignated "Directorate of Laboratories" of the WADC, and the Power Plant Laboratory became a part of that organization on 2 September 1952. Effective 14 September 1952 the machine Shop Section in the Shops Branch was transferred to the jurisdiction of the "Directorate

of Support". On 1 October 1952, four sections were dissolved: Security, Safety & Fire Prevention; Reproduction; and Records Disposition in the Administration Office; Program & Analysis in the Operations Office. The functions of these sections were integrated with the most appropriate sections. One staff office was established, R.A.F. Exchange Officer. Because of the reorganization within WADC a segment of personnel was assigned the Power Plant Laboratory to discharge the functions of Quality Control.

The present organizational structure of the Power Plant Laboratory consists of Chief of the Laboratory with his assistants and technical director, five staff offices with thirteen units, nine branches with forty-seven sections. The staff is comprised of Plans Office, Operations Office, Administration Office, Control Data Office and R.A.F. Exchange Officer. The branches are made up of the Shops, Non-Rotating Engine, Fuels & Oil, Engine Accessories, Installations, Rotating Engine, Operations, Specification & Design and the Nuclear Propulsion Branch.

The mission of the Power Plant Laboratory is to develop superior aeronautical power plant materiel including engines, related accessories, installations, equipment, fuels and oil conforming to the U.S. Air Force requirements and capable of standardization for use in national emergency. The development program has two continuing aims, first the development of new engines, and allied accessories to meet the requirements of aircraft and guided missiles development program; second the continued development of components and accessories to enable improvements in the performance, durability and reliability of the engines which are being procured or are in service. The program divides itself into five major fields of endeavor: gas turbine engines, rocket engines, reciprocating engines and general category which includes work applicable to the overall power plant program rather than to any specific type engine. The Nuclear Propulsion Branch handles Nuclear Propulsion Development Projects for military aircraft application.

#### **Propeller Laboratory, Aeronautics Division, WADC (20 February 1952)**

Prior to July 1939, Propeller Unit functioned as a unit of the Aircraft Branch under the jurisdiction of the Experimental Engineering section, Materiel Division. In July 1939, the Propeller Unit was separated from the Aircraft Branch and established as Propeller Laboratory co-equal in rank with all other laboratories of the Experimental Engineering Section. Its offices were moved on 24 December 1942 to a newly completed addition to building 20 and remains there to this date. When the Experimental Engineering Section was reorganized and established as the Engineering Division, Propeller Laboratory passed under its jurisdiction and remained so until the establishment of the organization of the Air Development Force under Air Research and Development Command in March 1951. The Aeronautics Division was organized under the authority of Air Development Force Regulation No. 20-1, Appendix No. 4, dated 2 April 1951. Headquarters Air Research and Development Command General Orders No. 10, dated 7 June 1951, redesignated the Air Development Force, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, the Wright Air Development Center.

The mission of Propeller Laboratory is to conduct research, development, design and tests incident to the continuous improvement of aeronautical propulsion materiel, including propeller systems, rotors and auxiliary equipment in conformity with USAF requirements, and recommended standardization thereof.

Its organization consists of:

Chief

Technical Director

Administration office

Operations and Plans Office

Aerodynamics Branch

Design and Drafting Branch

General Engineering Branch

Project Engineering Branch

Rotary Wing Branch  
Special Projects and Vibration Branch  
Test Branch

### **Rome Air Development Center**

The military installations known as the Rome Air Depot was activated on 13 January 1942 per letter, AG 320.2, MR-M-AAF/A-1, subject, Activation of the Rome Air Depot, to the Commanding General, Air Service Command, dated 22 January 1942.

On 24 March 1942, the installation was redesignated Rome Army Air Depot, per letter, Headquarters, Field Services, Air Service Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, subject, Designation for Army Air Forces Stations

On 13 October 1942, a new designation was placed into effect as Air Depot, Rome Army Air Base, per Memorandum No. W95-22-42, Adjutant General's Office.

On 4 November 1942, the base was renamed Rome Army Air Field, per letter Headquarters, Air Service Command, Patterson Field, Ohio, subject, Assignment of Airdromes and Installations.

Effective 1 February 1943, the name was change to Rome Air Depot Control Area Command, per General Order No. 4, Hq Air Service Command, dated 22 January 1943.

On 17 may 1943, the name became redesignated to Rome Air Service Command, per letter AG 322 (5-15-43) War Department, subject, Redesignation of Certain Army Air Forces Units.

On 14 November 1944, the addition of one work made the name read Rome Air Technical Service Command, per AAF letter 20-58, subject, Redesignation or Air Service Commands.

On 11 July 1946, a redesignation changed the name to Rome Air Materiel Area, per General Order No. 61, Hq air Materiel Command, same date as above.

Effective 25 June 1947, the above designation was dropped leaving only the Rome Air Depot, per General Order No. 22, Hq Middletown Air Materiel Area, Penn., dated 21 July 1947.

On 23 January 1948, the base became known as Rome Air Force Base, per Air Forces General Order No. 2, 13 January 1948.

On 29 January 1948, the base again was redesignated Griffiss Air Force Base (in honor of Lt Colonel Townsend Griffiss) per General Order No. 4, Hq USAF, dated 29 January 1948.

After nearly ten years of constant jurisdiction under Hq Air Materiel Command, the installation was transferred to the Air Research and Development Command on 12 June 1951. On this date, the Rome Air Development Center was superimposed on Griffiss Air Force base making separate organizational structures on the installation.

Sight should not be lost of the fact that the Eastern Defense Command and Air Materiel Command had tenant organizations on the base, both prior to end after the above jurisdiction move. The First Fighter Group, an Eastern Air Defense Command Organization, was the first combat organization to occupy a portion of the base

### **Service Unit, Air Base Support Sub-Branch, Aircraft & Missiles Ground Support Branch (10 April 1952)**

Service Unit was original designated Special Project Unit of Miscellaneous Branch, Equipment Laboratory, and operated under organizational code of TSEFL-3H6. In the beginning of 1946, Ground Equipment Branch was established (one of two branches created upon discontinuance of Miscellaneous Branch) and the unit was redesignated Special Purpose Equipment Unit, TSEPE-9D. Organizational code of MCREXE34 was assigned to this Unit in Jan 48. In Apr 51, Ground Equipment Branch was designated Aircraft & Missiles Ground Support Branch, and Special



Purpose Equipment Unit was renamed Facilities Unit, with organizational code of DCEEF22. This code remained in effect until Jun 41 when its present code of WCEEF22 was assigned. In Aug 51, Facilities Unit was redesignated Services Unit of Air Base Support Sub-branch.

Service Unit is responsible for the research, design, testing, and recommendation for adoption as standard that is involved in the development of a wide variety of ground handling equipment utilized at air bases to service aircraft and missiles, to clear runways of snow, ice and fog, and to protect flying personnel, aircraft and equipment against loss from fire and crashes.

**Special Projects and Mobile Training Section,  
Training Equipment Branch, Equipment Laboratory (25 August 1952)**

The Mobile Training Unit was organized in October 1942 under the command of Major General Jacob Fickel, Hqs 3rd District, AAF Technical Training Command. In July 1943, the first MTU was completed of the P-39 airplane. This unit was assigned to the AAF Western Technical Training Command with headquarters in Denver, Colorado, under the command of major General John Curry.

At the close of hostilities in World War II, The MTU under Western Technical Training Command was transferred to the Equipment Laboratory, Engineering Division, AMC. No personnel accompanied this transfer. With the transfer of MTU responsibilities to the Equipment Laboratory, also included was the responsibility for bring up to date and keeping this equipment up to date, the then existing MTU's consisting of 3ea F-47, 2ea F-51, 12ea B-29, 1ea C-82, 7ea A-26, 2ea B-25, and 1ea F-61. This responsibility was delegated to the Training Equipment Branch, which in turn redelegate the responsibility to the unit known as Special Projects Unit. In October 1946, a separate unit was established and was designated as Mobile Training Unit. In March 1947, Special Projects Unit and mobile Training Unit were combined and designated as Special Projects and Mobile Training Unit.

From October 1946 to date, this section has operated under the following designations and organizational codes:

Mobile Training Unit TSEPE-13L  
Mobile Training Unit TSEPE-13C  
Special Projects & Mobile Training Unit MCREXE-95  
Special Projects & Mobile Training Unit DCEEQ-5  
Special Projects & Mobile Training Unit WEEQ-5

(Units were designated as Section in May 1952)

In view of a request submitted for the separation of Special Projects and Mobile Training Section into two separate sections (approval pending), records being retired on 22 August 1952, are listed from Mobile Training Section.

**Special Projects Unit, Special Projects and Mobile Training Section,  
Training Equipment Branch, Equipment Laboratory - WCLEQ-5 (10 September 1952)**

In 1943, Special Projects operated as a separate unit of Training Equipment Branch, It had as its function the development of prototypes of new training equipment for classroom and individual training of personnel in the use, design, and purpose of the new equipment which included training devices for controlled bombing missiles, flight engineer station for large aircraft, Captivair for new aircraft, new limiter, blind flying equipment, flight strip viewer for troop carrier, and combat intelligence briefers.

Although the responsibilities of the special projects and mobile training groups of Training Equipment Branch are not related, they were originally combined Mar 47 into one unit. This unit was designated as Special Projects and Mobile Training Unit, with Special Projects set up as a subunit. (In May 52, Units and Subunits were redesignated as Sections and Units respectively.)

From 1943 to date, this Unit has operated under the following designations and organizational codes:

Special Projects Unit	TSEPL-3K5
Special Projects Unit	TSEPE-13E
Special Devices Unit	TSEPE-13E
Special Projects and Mobile Training Unit	TSEPE-13C
Special Projects and Mobile Training Unit	MCREXE-95
Special Projects and Mobile Training Unit	DEEQ-5
Special Projects and Mobile Training Section	WEEQ-5
Special Projects and Mobile Training Section	WCLEQ-5

Note: Organizational code WCLEQ-5 assigned 2 Sep 52. Equipment Laboratory is now directly responsible to Directorate of Laboratories. (Aeronautics Division and Weapons Components Division consolidated and redesignated Directorate of Laboratories.)

### **Special Weapons Branch, Development Operations Division Deputy for Operations (22 October 1952)**

The Special Weapons branch, now a part of the Development Operations Division, deputy for Operations, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, was established on or about January 1946 and given the symbol TSEA6, Engineering Division, Coordinating Office, Atomic Energy Commission. On or about January 1948, office was designated MCRREOA 7, Engineering Division, Coordinating Office, Atomic Energy Commission. On or about April 1949 office was designated MCREOY, Special Weapons Sections, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command. On or about April 1950, Office was designated NCRREO3, Assistant for Special Weapons, Operations Office, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command. On or about May 1951, Office was designated DCSS, Special Weapons Section, Weapons Systems Division, Air Development Force, Air Research and Development Command. On or about June 1951 was designated WCSS, Special Weapons Sections, Weapons System Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air research and Development Command. On or about 3 April 1952, was designated Special Weapons branch, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, WCSS. On or about 13 June 1952, was designated Special Weapons Branch, Development operations Division, deputy for Operations, Wright Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, WCOES.

### **Special Weapons Branch, Weapons Systems Division**

The Special Weapons Branch, WCSS, now a part of the Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, was established on or about January 1946 and given the symbol TSEOA7, Engineering Division, Coordinating Office, Atomic Energy Commission. On or about April 1949 office was designated MCREOY, Special Weapons Section, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command. On or about April 1950, Office was designated MCREO3, Assistant for Special Weapons, Operations Office, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command. On or about May 1951, office was designated DCSS, Special Weapons Section, Weapons Systems Division, Air Development Force, Air Research and Development Command. On or about June 1951 was designated WCSS, Special Weapons Section, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command. On or about 3 April 1952, was designated Special Weapons Branch, Weapons Systems Division, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, WCSS.

### **Specification Branch, Engineering Standards Division**

In 1918 the Air Corp organized the Specification Unit for the purpose of controlling specifications concerning Air Corp Materiel. This Unit was in the Dayton Saving & Trust Building in Dayton, Ohio. In 1919 the Specification Unit was transferred to McCook Field where it remained until 1927 when it was transferred to Building 16, Wright Field. In 1940, upon completion of the construction

of Building 11A, specifications Unit moved to its present location. The duties of this organization has remained the same since the start of unit in 1918. In 1951 Specifications Branch was redesignated as Specifications Section, and composed of seven Branches, which are: Propulsion & Armament Branch, Electrical & Electronics Branch, Instrument & Photographic branch, Status of Equipment Branch (See Procurement Requirements Branch), Aircraft & Materials Branch, Standards Branch and Nonaeronautical Equipment Branch. Due to the nature of the work the records of this organization are consolidated and are made up of the following specifications: Federal, National Military Establishment, Air Force Navy, US Air Force, US Army, Navy, Signal Corps, USAF Bulletins, ANA Bulletins and other departmental specifications.

In accordance with WADC Regulation 20-2 dated May 1952, Specifications Section was redesignated Specification Branch (Branches changed to Sections), Engineering Standards Division.

**Structural Accessory Unit, Weapons Support Section,  
Ground Support Branch, Equipment Laboratory (25 September 1952)**

Effective 2 September 1952, Weapons Components Division and Aeronautics Division were consolidated and redesignated Directorate of laboratories. (Ref WADC Notice No. 162, dtd 2 Sep 52.) Equipment Laboratory is a component of the above Directorate. Organizational code WCLE was assigned to the activity to reflect above change.

In 1943 the functions which are now assigned to Structural Accessory Unit were the responsibility of Maintenance Equipment Unit of Miscellaneous Branch, Equipment Laboratory. In early 1946, Miscellaneous Branch was abolished and maintenance Equipment Unit was transferred to newly created Ground Equipment Branch. In Apr 51 Ground Equipment Branch was redesignated Aircraft and Missiles Ground Support Branch. At this time Maintenance Equipment Unit was discontinued, and four new units were established; one of which is the present Structural Accessory Unit. This Unit is directly responsible to Weapons Support Section; one of three Sections of Ground Support Branch. (Aircraft and Missiles Ground Support Branch was redesignated Ground Support Branch in May 1952.)

From 1943 to present date, Structural Accessory Unit was operated under the following organizational codes:

TSEPL-3H9  
TSEPE-9F  
MCREEXE32  
DCEEF13  
WEEF13  
WCLEF13

Structural Accessory Unit is responsible for the research, design, development and standardization of structural maintenance equipment ( air transportation cradles, aircraft power plant build-up trucks, oleo strut and wheel handling dollies, aircraft engine and nacelle handling slings, aircraft towing bars, propeller handling equipment.)

**Technical Photographic Service Branch, Materiel Division**

Still Photographic and Motion Picture Branches were the first components of this organization. Personnel were brought to McCook Field from Washington prior to 1921 to organize the still Photographic Branch. In 1920 the Motion Picture Branch was established. These branches were then considered to be a part of Tech. Data Section.

The Engineering Division assumed responsibility for photographic activities of materiel Center during 1942. Transfer of funds, functions, personnel, equipment, etc. of the Tech. Data Laboratory, Engineering Division to T-2 was accomplished 10 September 1945. The Photographic Division was set up basically as a service organization, designed to provide photography to record engineering test data for technique or reference. The division assumed

responsibility for all AAF photographic reproduction and for the AAF Central Film Library when those functions were transferred to Wright Field. The division operated with four (4) sections; Still Photographic, Motion Picture, special Photographic and Visual Aids. A report submitted by the Assistant Chief of the Air Staff, Intelligence, recommended the transfer of the Photographic Division, because a survey of the work-load of the division disclosed that more than 50% of the division's work was done in behalf of the research and development components. It was transferred 25 January 1948, and was redesignated the Technical Photographic Service Section.

On 1 July 1949 this organization was again transferred from Engineering Division. The AMC Photographic Service Center was assigned as a separate Staff Office to the Commanding Officer, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base with the mission to provide photographic assistance to Research and Development Exempted Stations; for elements of Headquarters, USAP including the operation of the USAF Central Motion Picture Film Depository.

On 29 March 1951 representatives of the AMC Photographic Service Center, together with representatives from WPAFB Comptroller's Office, ARDC, AMC Budget and Fiscal Office, AMC adjutant General's Office and MAC Comptroller's Department met in conference to discuss the assignment of certain function of the AMC Photographic Service Center to ARDC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base and Headquarters AMC. On 17 May 1951 the organization was transferred to Air Development Force, Air Research and Development Command and redesignated the Technical Photographic Service Section assigned to the Materiel Division. The organization, at this time, consisted of three (3) branches; Still Photographic, Motion Picture and Photographic Instrumentation. 1 December 1951 another branch was added; Supply and equipment. The name Still Photographic has since been change to still Photographic.

#### **Transportation, Materials & Cargo Handling Unit, Air Base Support Section, Ground Support Branch (16 June 1952)**

Transportation, Materials & Cargo Handling Unit was organized in Apr 51 as a unit of Air Base Support Section (change from Sub-Branch to Section – May 52) of Ground Support Branch (formerly Aircraft and Missiles Ground Support Branch) of the Equipment Laboratory. It has operated under the following organizational codes:

DEEF-24

WEEF-24 (presently assigned)

The above unit is responsible for the research and development of aircraft special purpose equipment in the following categories: aircraft towing tractors, special purpose vans and trailers, and air cargo handling equipment.

#### **HISTORICAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Certain functions of ATSC were placed under AMC, 19 November 1945, from which functions were extracted on 22 March 1951 and placed under Air Development Command and redesignated ADF, 2 April 1951. ADF was redesignated WADC, 7 June 1951. Central Files Branch, Laboratory Area, MCAGXF, Records Section, Adjutant General's Office, AMC, and was reestablished as Central Records Branch, Records Management Division., Air Adjutant General's Office, WADC, by 15 November 1951.