

Tuskegee Airmen Who Served at Walterboro Army Air Field

Over 500 Tuskegee Airmen are estimated to have served at Walterboro Army Air Field between April 1944 and October 1945. They included every class that graduated from Tuskegee from Class 44-C onwards, along with the men of the **553rd Replacement Training Unit** (Apr 1944 onwards) and the men of the **447th Bombardment Squadron** (Jun 1945 onwards).

Information compiled by Walterboro Historian Elizabeth Laney, February 2021.

Tuskegee Airmen mentioned in Walterboro's "The Press & Standard"

Lt. Richard H. Bell, Class 44-E

"Colored Pilot Was Killed in Crash" *The Press & Standard* 17 Aug 1944

Lt. Charles H. DeBow, 99th Fighter Squadron, WAAF Instructor

"WAAF" *The Press & Standard* 16 Nov 1944

Lt. Cornelius Dennis Dowling, Class 44-I

"Pilot Killed in Crash" *The Press & Standard* 04 Jan 1945

Lt. Willis Edward Moore, Class 44-I

"Plane Crash Killed Pilot" *The Press & Standard* 07 Jun 1945

Lt. Lloyd A. Carter, Class 44-K

"Crash Fatal to Negro Pilot Here" *The Press & Standard* 28 Jun 1945

Lt. F.D. Pendleton (probably Lt. Frederick D. Pendleton), Class 44-J

"Negro Officer Says it Stinks" *The Press & Standard* 19 Jul 1945

Tuskegee Airmen who referenced their service in Walterboro in Memoirs or Articles

Lt. Col. Charles "Chuck" Dryden, 99th Fighter Squadron, WAAF Instructor

A-Train: Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman. University of Alabama Press: Tuscaloosa, AL 1997.

Lt. William M. "Bill" Wheeler, Class 44-C

"Shaking the Jug, Republic's WWII Fighter: The P-47 Thunderbolt." Available Online:
www.cradleofaviation.org/history/aircraft/jug.html

Tuskegee Class 44-F

Tuskegee Class 44-F was the class of Hiram Mann. The entire class is documented at Walterboro Army Air Field through the photographs of Hiram E. Mann and his personal testimony. The class included:

Lt. Richard S. Armistead
Lt. Carl F. Ellis
Lt. Charles A. Hill, Jr.
Lt. Lincoln T. Hudson
Lt. Rupert C. Johnson
Lt. Robert W. Lawrence
Lt. George A. Lynch
Lt. Lewis J. Lynch
Lt. Hiram E. Mann
Lt. James T. Mitchell, Jr.
Lt. Robert J. Murdic
Lt. Wyrain T. Schell
Lt. Leon W. Spears
Lt. Harry T. Stewart, Jr.
Lt. Samuel L. Washington
Lt. Hugh J. White
Lt. Yenwith K. Whitney
Lt. Frank N. Wright
Lt. James W. Wright, Jr.

In addition, **every class that graduated from Tuskegee from class 44-C onwards would have been sent to Walterboro Army Air Field** to receive advanced combat training before being sent overseas.

Every man serving in the 553rd Replacement Training Unit as of May 1944 would have been transferred to Walterboro Army Air Field after incidents at Selfridge Field, MI in May. This would have included Charles DeBow, Spann Watson and Chuck Dryden.

The men of the 447th Bombardment Group were transferred to Walterboro Army Air Field in the summer of 1945. This would have included Lt. Mitch Higgenbotham.