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Valor Without Arms: A History of the 316th Troop Carrier Group 1942-1945

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(February 2012). The 316th Troop Carrier Group was formed at

Patterson Field, Ohio, in February 1942. By November, the

Group air echelon consisting of Headquarters, 36th, 37th, 44th,

and 45th Squadrons, flew to its first overseas post in Egypt.

There, staff sergeant pilots flew their C-47s in support of the

British 8th Army across North Africa from Egypt to Tunisia,

delivering supplies and pioneering in air evacuation. The

Group, less the 37th Squadron which remained in Egypt,

dropped the 82nd Airborne Division in the invasion of Sicily as

part of the operations HUSKY 1 and 2, on 9-11 July, 1943. In

HUSKY 2, the 316th lost 12 out of the 23 troop carrier command

aircraft that were shot down by friendly fire. In February 1944,

the Group moved to Cottesmore, England, from where it

participated in the invasions of France (Normandy, D-Day),

Holland (MARKET GARDEN), and Germany (VARSAITY). After 30

months of overseas duty, the 316th, one of the first troop

carrier groups to be sent overseas, was one of the...



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