Return to Capt. Hill EAFB

FUTURE RELEASE PLEASE NOTE DATE

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION
Washington 25, D. C.

HOLD FOR RELEASE
UNTIL 7 P.M. (EST)
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1949

NO. 548-49

RE 6700 Ext. 3201-3202

TWO U. S. AIR FORCE BASES RENAMED

Two U. S. Air Force bases in the United States have been renamed in honor of two Air Force officers who lost their lives in service.

Muroc, California, Air Force Base has been redesignated Edwards AFB in honor of Captain Glenn W. Edwards; and the former Shreveport, Louisiana, Quartermaster Depot has been renamed Slack Air Force Depot for Major J. Stewart Slack, Jr.

Captain Glenn W. Edwards was born in Lincoln, California and enlisted in the Army on July 15, 1941. Commissioned as a pilot in February 1942, he was a light bomber pilot, flying the twin-engine Douglas A-20 during the war. Captain Edwards flew 50 combat missions in the European Theater and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with three Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Air Medal with five Oak Leaf Clusters. Captain Edwards was fatally injured in the crash of an experimental YB-49 Flying Wing airplane June 5, 1948 while a test pilot for the Flight Test Division of the Air Force Air Materiel Command.

Major J. Stewart Slack, Jr., graduated from Louisiana State University in 1940 and entered the Air Force. At his death Major Slack was piloting the lead Boeing B-29 Superfortress in a bomber formation on a raid over Japan. His airplane was attacked by a large force of enemy fighter airplanes just before it reportedly dived into the sea. No evidence of parachutes or debris was ever found. Major Slack was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross in recognition of two specific previous raids over the island of Formosa and over Singapore..

END