

166 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

MISSION

The 166 MXS provides trained maintenance specialists for the C-130. The squadron is comprised of the Field Maintenance Branch and the Component Repair Branch. They inspect and repair aircraft system components, including avionics, hydraulics and electro-environmental systems, field inspect/repair fuel systems, perform local fabrication and manufacturing, and perform painting and corrosion control of aircraft parts. In addition, an isochronal inspection team ensures aircraft serviceability and safety by performing in-depth annual inspections of aircraft. The squadron provides all munitions and aerospace ground equipment support to the wing.

LINEAGE

166 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron activated 7 Apr 1962
Redesignated 166 Maintenance Squadron, 1 Mar 1994

STATIONS

New Castle ANGB, DE

ASSIGNMENTS

166 Maintenance Group

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

On 7 Apr 1962, the 142nd Tactical Fighter Squadron was redesignated the 142nd Air Transport Squadron and its aircraft changed from F-86s to C-97s. On that date, the 166th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron was officially born. Unofficially though, a lot of the old timers will tell you CAMS has been around since the birth of the Delaware Air National Guard. After all, not even the F-47N flew without help from the maintainers. Since 1962, the squadron's manning authorization grew from a paltry "few" to the 182 strong today, the largest squadron in the 166th Tactical Airlift Group. December 1978 Panama in '78 On 9 Dec 1978, 26 members of the CAMS will be deployed to Panama. This marks the first deployment to a foreign country by members of the 166 CAMS.

December 1978 The deployment on 9 Dec through 23 Dec to Howard AB, Panama in support of Volant Oak was the first time the maintenance team has deployed outside the United States. Officials said the maintenance team supported the mission in an outstanding professional manner. "Our maintenance people worked with other maintenance people from the 133 TAW which included Minneapolis and Rhode Island. The missions consisted of one-day, three-day, and five-day cross countries down range into South America."

In January 1991 the Headquarters 166th Tactical Airlift Group, 166th Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, and the 142nd Tactical Airlift Squadron were activated involving over 275 Air Guard members. Shortly thereafter, members of the 166th Tactical Clinic were also called upon, bringing the total Air Guard involvement to over 350. All eight of the C-130s were deployed with the Air Guard to the Persian Gulf.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit yearbook. *166 Tactical Airlift Group, Delaware Air National Guard, 40th Anniversary, 1946-1986.*
Unit yearbook. *166 Airlift Wing, Delaware Air National Guard, 50th Anniversary, 1946-1996.*