

309th MAINTENANCE WING



MISSION

The 309th Maintenance Wing is a source of maintenance, repair, overhaul and modification for the F-22 Raptor, F-16 Fighting Falcon, A-10 Thunderbolt and C-130 Hercules aircraft, as well as the ICBM Minuteman missile system. The wing possesses a skilled workforce of approximately 8,000 military and civilian employees, and its 294 facilities cover 5.2 million square feet of production and support areas at nine operating locations, including repair organization in the Pacific and in Tucson, Arizona.

Within the 309 MXW are seven major business groups involved with aircraft, commodities, electronics, software and missile maintenance; maintenance support; and aircraft and aerospace assets maintenance, storage and regeneration. Each group has formidable combinations of skilled technicians and strategic commercial relationships to successfully respond to customer needs. The growing industrial capabilities have been sharpened by modernizing facilities, acquiring new equipment and refining competitive processes, and genuine concern for customer needs

LINEAGE

309th Bombardment Group (Medium) established, 28 Jan 1942

Activated, 15 Mar 1942

Disbanded, 1 May 1944

Reconstituted and redesignated 309th Troop Carrier Group, Medium, 16 May 1949

Activated in the Reserve, 26 Jun 1949

Inactivated, 20 Feb 1951

Redesignated 309th Troop Carrier Group, Assault, Fixed Wing, 14 Apr 1955

Activated, 8 Jul 1955

Inactivated, 12 Mar 1957

Redesignated 309th Tactical Airlift Group, 31 Jul 1985

Redesignated 309th Maintenance Wing, 31 Jan 2005
Activated, 24 Feb 2005

STATIONS

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 15 Mar 1942
Jackson AAB, MS, 15 Mar 1942
Key Field, MS, 27 Apr 1942
Columbia AAB, SC, 16 May 1942-1 May 1944
Smyrna (later, Sewart) AFB, TN, 26 Jun 1949-20 Feb 1951
Ardmore AFB, OK, 8 Jul 1955-21 May 1956
Dreux AFB, France, 2 Jun 1956-12 Mar 1957
Hill AFB, UT, 24 Feb 2005

ASSIGNMENTS

Third Air Force, 15 Mar 1942-1 May 1944
Fourteenth Air Force, 26 Jun 1949
Tactical Air Command, 1 Aug 1950-20 Feb 1951
Eighteenth Air Force, 8 Jul 1955
322nd Air Division, 2 Jun 1956
60th Troop Carrier Wing, 8 Aug 1956-12 Mar 1957
Ogden Air Logistics Center, 24 Feb 2005

ATTACHMENTS

314th Troop Carrier Group, 26 Jun 1949-1 Aug 1950
463rd Tactical Airlift Wing, 8 Jul 1955-21 May 1956

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-25, 1942-1944
C-47, 1949-1950
C-82, 1949-1950
C-119, 1949-1950
C-122, 1955
C-123, 1955-1956

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 15 Mar-Jun 1942
Maj Henry G. Silleck, Jun 1942
LTC Flint Garrison Jr, 2 Jun 1942
Col William C. Mills, 26 Jun 1942
Col John L. Nedwed, 3 Aug 1942
LTC Milton E. Lipps, 2 Feb-1 May 1944
Col William C. Bentley, 8 Jul 1955
None (not manned), 14 Nov 1956-12 Mar 1957

HONORS

Service Streamer

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan 2004-31 Dec 2005

EMBLEM

Azure, a terrestrial globe oceans Celeste, land masses of the first, edged and gridlined Argent, entoured by a contrail Gules orbiting bendwise sinister beginning with a mullet Or, fimbriated Sable, and terminating in a flight symbol ascending to sinister of the third, fimbriated of the sixth, all within a diminished bordure Yellow. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "309TH MAINTENANCE WING" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe with the contrail beginning with a star and ending with a flight symbol represents the Wing's desire and ability to repair and maintain products accurately and on time. They then send these products out to where they are needed: on land, in the air or around the globe. This signifies that the work/mission here has an impact around the world and in space. (Approved, 5 Jul 2005)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Trained medium bombardment groups and later trained replacement crews, using B-25 aircraft in both the operational and the replacement training programs.

After activation on 8 Jul 1955, the 309th Troop Carrier Group (Assault, Fixed Wing) received and flew the first Fairchild C-123B aircraft ordered by the USAF. The 309th consisted of approximately 140 officers and 440 airmen, most of whom were from the deactivated 16th Troop Carrier Squadron (July 8, 1955). Operational buildings for the 309th consisted of nine canvas-lumber structures, three for each squadron, located adjacent to the operations building of the 16th TCS. The 309th and its 53 C-123Bs were deployed to Dreux, France, May 15, 1956, introducing the C-123B to Europe.

Trained to airlift troops, equipment, and supplies for assault landings, 1955-1956. Not operational, Nov 1956-Mar 1957.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 23 Nov 2010

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.