

445 AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

445 Organizational Maintenance Squadron constituted, 15 Jul 1976
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Jan 1977
Redesignated 445 Aircraft Generation Squadron, 1 Aug 1990
Inactivated, 1 May 1994
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1994
Redesignated 445 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 1 Oct 2002

STATIONS

Norton AFB, CA, 1 Jan 1977
March AFB, CA, 1 Jul 1993-1 May 1994
Wright Patterson AFB, OH, 1 Oct 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

445 Military Airlift (later, 445 Airlift) Wing, 1 Jan 1977
445 Logistics Group, 1 Aug 1992
445 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1993-1 May 1994
445 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1994
445 Logistics (later, 445 Maintenance) Group, 1 Apr 1995

COMMANDERS

Maj George Palmer

Lt Col Karen M. Gharst

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1985-31 Aug 1987

1 Oct 1999-30 Sep 2001

1 Oct 2002-31 Aug 2004

1 Jan 2008-31 Dec 2009

EMBLEM



Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force activity. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The globe orbited by a flight symbol emitting an arcing contrail suggests the "ready now" capacity of the unit to supply maintenance support anytime, anywhere. The gauntlet, grasping a lightning bolt and two arrows, represents the unit's support to the Wing mission of troop and equipment drops, assault landing and resupply. The helmet with plume symbolizes the courage and professionalism

of each individual in the Squadron. The thirteen stars refer to the thirteen original states and the unit's defense of the freedom they represent. (Approved, 19 Jun 1989)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

More than 30 Airmen from the 445th Maintenance and Aircraft Maintenance Squadrons recently spent 15 days in Spain supporting contingency operations. The Airmen, who were supporting the 725th Maintenance Squadron, helped ensure the Air Force's C-5 Galaxy fleet got to and from the area of responsibility by providing en route support at Rota Naval Air Station. In the past, the 445th Airlift Wing provided en route support all over the world for the C-141 Starlifter, said Senior Master Sgt. Brian Robinette, the propulsion flight chief in the 445 MXS who was also one of the lead superintendents on the trip to Rota NAS.

"We took people from a lot of different [Air Force Specialty Codes] including electricians, engine, supply, aerospace ground equipment and maintenance operations center troops and crew chiefs," said Maj. Suzanne Johnson, commander of the 445th MXS. For the wing's Airmen, the temporary duty assignment to Rota NAS allowed them to see what they train for during every unit training assembly. They put it in practice in support of contingency operations, Sergeant Robinette said.

For Airmen from the 725th MXS, the support from the 445th AW afforded them the chance to take leave and catch up on training and maintenance requirements, things the operations tempo at Rota NAS prevents them from doing, Major Johnson said. The wing's support also allowed the 725th MXS Airmen time to grieve the loss of one of its Airman's children and made it easier for that Airman's family to return to the United States to handle the personal loss.

This year, much of the manpower the maintenance Airmen provided was in support of an intermodal operation, which basically involved swapping out a helicopter unit in theater with new helicopters that arrived at Rota NAS via ship before being loaded onto C-5 Galaxy aircraft for transport, she said. The 445th Maintenance Group agreed to provide the en route support back in April during a "bid" at the en route conference held annually at Scott Air Force Base, Ill. "With these en route supports, the plans and programs office at the group level go to a conference where bases 'buy' the en route operations," Major Johnson said.

"So plans and programs bought the en route support then they brought back the requirements, and we filled the package." Master Sgt. Jeff Conley, 445th Maintenance Operations Flight, programs and resources noncommissioned officer in charge, attended the conference and said the airframe and AFSCs requirements needed vary base-to-base. For example, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, may only have a need for support from C-17 Globemaster III units whereas Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, may take any available airframe. "All cargo units are invited to the conference. We get together with the other C-5 units and discuss the support schedule, keeping in mind the number of requests we can physically support.

We also look at if we want to support any requests as a solo unit or if we want to support with another unit. The units "bid" on what they would like to support if they meet the requirements," Sergeant Conley said. All funding requirements for the program are provided by Air Mobility Command.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.
445 Airlift Wing Historian, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. 20 Oct 2018.