

445 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

445 Maintenance Squadron constituted, 24 Jun 1952
Activated in the Reserve, 8 Jul 1952
Redesignated 445 Field Maintenance Squadron, 12 Nov 1954
Inactivated, 25 Sep 1958
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Jan 1977

445 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron constituted, 15 Aug 1958
Activated in the Reserve, 25 Sep 1958
Ordered to Active Service, 28 Oct 1962
Relieved from Active Duty, 28 Nov 1962
Discontinued and inactivated, 11 Feb 1963

445 Field Maintenance Squadron and 445 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron consolidated, 22 Oct 1984. Consolidated organization designated 445 Field Maintenance Squadron.

Redesignated 445 Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 1 Aug 1990
Inactivated, 1 May 1994
Redesignated 445 Maintenance Squadron, 9 Sep 1994

Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Buffalo, NY, 8 Jul 1952
Niagara Falls Muni Aprt, NY, 15 Jun 1955
Dobbins AFB, GA, 16 Nov 1957-11 Feb 1963
Norton AFB, CA, 1 Jan 1977
March AFB, CA, 1 Jul 1993-1 May 1994
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, 1 Oct 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

445 Maintenance Group

COMMANDERS

Lt Col J. T. Elkins
Maj Suzanne Johnson
Lt Col Michael E. Clark
Maj Jay M. Smeltzer
Lt Col Kenneth Bunting
Lt Col Anna M. Schulte

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
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



445 Field Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a blue disc within a circle of five white stars a shield blazoned Gules, a pile reversed or, issuing from base a demiglobe celeste grid lined azure, overall an open book or, pages argent, surmounted by a wrench and a screwdriver saltirewise argent with handle or above, issuing from base a demitorch argent enflamed of the first grasped by a dexter hand argent; all within a narrow yellow border. Attached above the disc a blue scroll bordered yellow inscribed PRIDE KNOWLEDGE SKILL in yellow letters and attached below the disc a blue scroll bordered yellow. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and 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 shield signifies defense. Red and yellow are the colors of the parent organization. The wrench and screwdriver signify the maintenance mission of the organization. The book symbolizes technical knowledge and continued training. The globe indicates the worldwide aspects of the unit's mission. The torch alludes to preparedness and also refers to the unit's motto. The stars denote the branches of the unit.



445 Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a disc Celeste supported by a globe Proper landmasses Or a stylized eagle wings expanded fesswise Sable garnished Gules head and tail feathers of the

like, eyed, beaked and membered of the second grasping in dexter claw a screwdriver and in sinister claw a wrench of the third, enarched in chief six mullets Yellow, all within a diminished bordure of the fourth. Attached above the disc a Gray scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "445TH MAINTENANCE SQ" in Red letters. Attached below the disc a Gray scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "PRIDE KNOWLEDGE SKILL" in Red letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and 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 represents the worldwide airlift mission of the squadron. The eagle's outstretched wings symbolize flight and freedom. The screwdriver and wrench signify the unit's mission. The six stars allude to the host Wing. (Approved, 7 Feb 2001)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

A C-5 was towed into the shiny new 445 Airlift Wing's Multi-Purpose Hangar for the first time Jan. 29, 2008. The new hangar is designed for unscheduled C-5 maintenance including full wash, spot paint capability, non-destructive inspection of components on the aircraft (x-ray), and aircraft jacking. The new hangar is part of a \$65 million construction project to accommodate the entire C-5 including the tail.

More than 30 Airmen from the 445 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 fleet got to and from the area of responsibility by providing en route support at Rota Naval Air Station. In the past, the 445 Airlift Wing provided en route support all over the world for the C-141, 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 445 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 445 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 for transport, she said. The 445 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, 445 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 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.