

28th AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



LINEAGE

28th Periodic Maintenance Squadron
28th Organizational Maintenance Squadron
28th Aircraft Maintenance squadron

STATIONS

Rapid City AFB, SD, later Ellsworth AFB, SD, 16 Jun 1952

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Col Robert E. Murray, #1959
LTC Daniel J. Coonan, Jr, #1959

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a disc divided per pale, Sable and Azure, a dexter gauntlet assurgent from a cloud formation in base all Proper, grasping two arrows in saltire heads and shafts to dexter Or, flighted Gules, in chief a skeleton key fesswise wards to dexter Yellow, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Black scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "MAHPIYA AKICITA" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Black scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "28 AMXS" in Yellow letters.

EMBLEM 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 fist, representing the Squadron's roots in the Strategic Command, thrusting the two arrows above the clouds signifying bomb squadrons. The background divided blue and black denotes readiness to employ air power day or night. The gold key, a traditional symbol, represents the Squadron being the key to combat power. The motto "Mahpiya Akicita" (Sioux Indian words for "sky soldiers") denotes the Squadron's warrior culture.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Project M-5, Initial Aircraft Spares Support, was almost complete as of 31 July. Flyaway kits were 95 per cent complete and other areas within this category were between 95 per cent and 98 per cent complete. The establishment of maintenance facilities were generally adequate, but certain items of equipment were still hampering the completion of armament and electronics maintenance facilities. The training of KC-135 maintenance personnel was considered satisfactory. The Field Training Detachment (FTD) was conducting classes in KC-135 familiarization and systems. Technical representatives were conducting classes on specific items of equipment.

Several recommendations were made as a result of this mission. As in previous missions, it was recommended that the Chief of Maintenance at the overseas base be furnished with training aids and schematics of major components and systems of B-52 aircraft. These aids and plans would be invaluable for interim training of ground crew personnel between "Alarm Bell" flights. It was also recommended that all future "Alarm Bell" flights continue to include two chiefs for adequate supervision of ground crew maintenance training. The final recommendation was for an increase in the programmed fuel load for recovery flights to 200,000 pounds.

In addition to the benefits of planning and training, each crew and squadron were to be scored under criteria similar to that used during SAC Bombing-Navigation competitions. Further, the 28th OMS would grade their ground crews on aircraft preparation and effectiveness during the mission. Suitable awards were planned for top rated individuals, crews, and squadrons.

The 28th OMS selected two top ground crews on the basis of aircraft preparation and effectiveness during the exercise. Both crews were assigned to Section C of the maintenance sections. The crew headed by TSGT McClane prepared aircraft 676, flown by Major Raymer, and TSgt Ball's crew worked on aircraft 684 which was flown by Cpt McFadden.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources