

## **3246 TEST WING**



### **MISSION**

The 3246 Test Wing provides single-point management for ground and air testing and evaluation of conventional and electronic warfare systems and for direct support facilities and capabilities of the division. Equipped with over 40 modern aircraft, many of them especially modified, the test wing utilizes highly instrumented land ranges and test facilities throughout the 724 square-mile Eglin reservation and manages the 86,500 square miles of water ranges in the Gulf of Mexico comprising the Southeast Test and Training Area.

Among its facilities, the wing operates the McKinley Climatic Laboratory for testing military hardware in environments ranging from minus 65 degrees through plus 165 degrees Fahrenheit with winds, dust, clouds, icing, rain, or snow to simulate all natural phenomena. The wing's subordinate 6585th Test Group at Holloman AFB, New Mexico, operates the Air Force's high-speed test track, radar target scatter facility and the central inertial guidance test facility.

### **LINEAGE**

3246 Test Wing

### **STATIONS**

Eglin AFB, FL, 1 Jul 1970

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **COMMANDERS**

### **HONORS**

Service Streamers

## Campaign Streamers

## Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

## Decorations

### EMBLEM



Azure, a gryphon or grasping a torch of the like enflamed gules and of the second, all within a diminished bordure of the last. Significance: The main feature of the emblem is the Golden Gryphon, a fabulous animal--portraying the principles of outstanding leadership and excellence of personnel in their assigned tasks. It has the wings, forefeet, and head of an eagle, with visible erect ears; the body, hind legs, and tail of a lion. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The eagle is emblematic of firm courage, patience, and noble mind. The lion is an emblem of strength and valor. The torch and flame are symbolic of knowledge and light. The blue and yellow are the colors of the 3246th Test Wing. The blue signifies the viable milieu of the testing horizon. The yellow, gleaming against a dark blue background, signifies scientific and technological advancements through the medium of qualitatively superior testing. Approved, 14 July 1971.

### MOTTO

### OPERATIONS

The 3246th TESTW of the Air Force Systems Command was activated at Eglin on July 1, 1970 at Eglin AFB, under Armament Development and Test Center.

3246th TESTW inactivated and was replaced by the 46th Test Wing on October 1, 1992

---

USAF Unit Histories  
Created: 27 Aug 2011  
Updated:

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