

## 56 MAINTENANCE GROUP



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

56 Maintenance and Supply Group established, 28 Jul 1947  
Organized, 15 Aug 1947  
Discontinued, 1 Aug 1948

56 Maintenance and Supply Group established, 14 Jun 1948  
Activated, 1 Aug 1948  
Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952  
Disestablished, 27 Sep 1984  
Reestablished and redesignated 56 Logistics Group, 28 Oct 1991  
Activated, 1 Nov 1991  
Inactivated, 4 Jan 1994  
Activated, 1 Apr 1994

56 Maintenance and Supply Group and 56 Logistics Group consolidated, 19 Sep 1995.  
Consolidated unit designated 56 Logistics Group.

Redesignated 56 Maintenance Group, 27 Sep 2002

### STATIONS

Selfridge Field (later, AFB), Michigan, 15 Aug 1947-6 Feb 1952  
MacDill AFB, Florida, 1 Nov 1991-4 Jan 1994  
Luke AFB, Arizona, 1 Apr 1994

### ASSIGNMENTS

56 Fighter Wing, 15 Aug 1947-1 Aug 1948

56 Fighter (later 56 Fighter-Interceptor) Wing, 1 Aug 1948-6 Feb 1952  
56 Fighter Wing, 1 Nov 1991-4 Jan 1994  
56 Fighter Wing, 1 Apr 1994

## **COMMANDERS**

Lt Col David K. Lyster, Jr., 31 Aug 1947  
Lt Col Paul E. Hoeper, 20 Apr 1948-Unknown  
Maj Francis M. Baker, 30 Jun 1949  
Maj Morris Farber, 30 Nov 1949  
Lt Col Robert F. Baldwin, 1 Dec 1949  
Lt Col Roger W. Taylor, 31 Mar 1950  
Lt Col Morris Farber, 31 May 1950  
Lt Col Ernest J. White, Jr., 23 Aug 1950  
Col Matt G. Carpenter, May 1951-Unknown  
Col Clarence T. Lowry, 1 Nov 1991  
Col William E. Rupright, Aug 1992-4 Jan 1994  
Col Elizabeth A. Harrell, 1 Apr 1994  
Col John D. Ladieu, 17 October 1994  
Lt Col Jeffery C. Davis, 1 October 1995  
Col Hugh C. Robinson, 15 Dec 1995  
Col Ron Lee, 29 May 1998  
Col Francis M. Bruno, 25 Apr 2000  
Col Arthur B. Cameron Iii, 19 Oct 2001  
Col John P. Harris, 2 Jul 2003  
Lt Col Geoffery S. Parkhurst, 22 May 2006  
Col Algene Fryer, 6 Jul 2006  
Col Geoffery S. Parkhurst, 29 Aug 2008  
Col Deborah J. Liddick, 23 Jul 2010  
Col Victor H. Mora, 10 Jul 2012

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996  
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998  
1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 2000  
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003  
1 Jun [Jul] 2003-30 Jun 2005

1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006  
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007  
1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008  
1 Jul 2008-30 Jun 2009  
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010  
1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011  
1 Jul 2011-30 Jun 2012  
1 Jul 2012-30 Jun 2013  
1 Jul 2013-30 Jun 2014  
1 Jul 2014-30 Jun 2015  
1 Jul 2015-30 Jun 2016

### **EMBLEM**

Tenné, a chevron Azure fimbriated Or, charged with two lightning bolts conjoined chevronwise of the third, all within diminished bordure of the like. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "56 MAINTENANCE GROUP" 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 emblem is symbolic of the Wing. The heraldic chevron represents support and signifies the Wing's support of the Nation's quest for peace. The lightning bolt represents the speed and aggressiveness with which the unit performs. The specific colors represent the Air Corps and commemorate the service of the 56 Fighter Group, whose honors and history the Wing inherits. (Approved, 19 Apr 1967) Approved on 16 May 2013.

### **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

The 56 Maintenance Group provides aircraft maintenance on more than 180 F-16s for the Air Force's only active duty F-16 training wing. The 56 Maintenance Group generates more than 36,000 sorties compiling 39,000 flight hours per year, which plays a pivotal role in conducting the safe and efficient training for more than 350 pilots every year. As the largest maintenance group in the Air Force, the 56 Maintenance Group consists of 3,230 members operating on an annual budget of \$161 million to maintain the F-16s and engines-assets, which are valued at more than \$5 billion. The 56 Maintenance Group also directly contributes to Luke's second mission: training more than 3,000 maintenance technicians and 1,000 Mission Ready F-16 crew chiefs each year.

Repairs have been made to 30 of the 32 F-16Ds assigned to Luke AFB, Ariz., that were among the 82 overall two-seaters grounded in Aug after structural cracks were discovered along the canopy sill longeron between the front and rear pilot seats, according to a Dec. 24 base release. "The remaining two aircraft are currently awaiting engineering assessments with repair completion expected by early Jan." Luke's first Fighting Falcon returned to flight in Nov. Depot maintenance crews have been working 12-hour days, six days a week to repair the longeron cracks, which Col. Rick Ainsworth, 56 Maintenance Group commander, called "one of the most challenging F-16 fleet issues we've seen in years." The Air Force grounded the fleet in Aug after cracks were found in one

aircraft during a routine post-flight check. After an immediate action inspection of all 157 D models, 75 were found to have no cracks and were restored to flight status. "The grounding of the F-16D has had a big effect on the pilot training mission," said MSgt. Thomas Hartley, the 309th Aircraft Maintenance Group section chief. SMSgt. Ronald Tann, the 56 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron assistant superintendent, said the F-16Ds are "vital to the success of our mission to train and develop combat-ready pilots." 2015

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.