## 376<sup>th</sup> EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON

MISSION
LINEAGE 376 <sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron
STATIONS Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan
ASSIGNMENTS 376 <sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Group
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Service Streamers
Campaign Streamers
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The 376th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron inactivated its radar air traffic control
liaison positions after 10 years of sequencing and separating aircraft at Manas AB, Kyrgyzstan, announced Air Force officials. The inactivation took place Jan. 31 at the Transit Center at
Manas, according to a Feb. 4 release. "This marks the beginning of the drawdown of the EOSS,"

said Lt. Col. Anthony Salvatore, 376th EOSS commander. "There will be some elements that will continue on as the base closes but with operations slowing down, the support function goes away." The radar air traffic control liaisons provided weather and runway information to incoming aircraft. The inactivation is just one part of the entire Transit Center departing Manas, states the release. According to the Kyrgyz government, the lease of the land expires July 11, 2014.

The U.S. Air Force presence in Kyrgyzstan has ended, and a new hub in Romania is up and running. On Jan. 31, the 376th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron air traffic control airmen at Manas Transit Center deactivated, ending 10 years of controlling aircraft at the base, the major hub for Air Force operations into and out of Afghanistan. The base's operations are being replaced by the Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base in eastern Romania. On Feb. 3, a U.S. C-17 marked the first mission from the base, carrying about 300 soldiers to Afghanistan. "We envision this as a temporary facility, but it's vital to the mission," Lt Col. Wayne Maroto, spokesman for the Army's 21st Theater Sustainment Command, said in a news release. "It means a lot to commanders, who need to get troops into theater as safely and efficiently as possible, and it means a lot to soldiers eager to accomplish their mission or get home to their loved ones after a long deployment." The base can accommodate 2,000 transitioning personnel, with a continuous presence of about 360 military members and civilians. The first flight carried members of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) from Fort Campbell, Ky. The C-17 and aircrew are operated by the 780th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron. The Defense Department announced the basing agreement with Romania last year. 2014

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Sources

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