

## 403 AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

403 Medical Group constituted, 10 May 1949  
Activated in the Reserve, 27 Jun 1949  
Ordered to Active Service, 1 Apr 1951  
Relieved from Active Duty and inactivated, 1 Jan 1953  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Jan 1953  
Redesignated 403 Tactical Hospital, 18 May 1954  
Ordered to Active Service, 28 Oct 1962  
Relieved from Active Duty, 28 Nov 1962  
Discontinued and inactivated, 11 Feb 1963  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Mar 1977  
Inactivated, 1 Nov 1983  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Nov 1983  
Redesignated 403 Medical Squadron, 1 Nov 1990  
Redesignated 403 Aeromedical Staging Squadron, 1 Oct 1994

#### STATIONS

Portland Aprt (later, Intl Aprt), OR, 27 Jun 1949-29 Mar 1952  
Ashiya AB, Japan, 14 Apr 1952 -1 Jan 1953  
Portland Intl Aprt, OR, 1 Jan 1953  
Selfridge AFB, MI, 16 Nov 1957-11 Feb 1963  
Selfridge ANGB, MI, 1 Mar 1977-1 Nov 1983  
Keesler AFB, MS, 1 Nov 1983

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

403 Troop Carrier Wing, Medium, 27 Jun 1949 - 1 Jan 1953

403 Troop Carrier Wing, Medium, 1 Jan 1953

403 Air Base Group, 28 Oct 1962-11 Feb 1963

403 Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Mar 1977-1 Nov 1983

403 Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance (later, 403 Tactical Airlift; 403 Airlift) Wing, 1 Nov 1983

403 Medical Group, 1 Aug 1992

403 Wing, 1 Oct 1997

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Benton Busbee, 1 Feb 1997

Col Terrell Hebert, 2 Mar 2002

Col Maria Pons, 11 Jan 2004

Col (Dr.) Guy W. Favaloro

Lt Col Barbara A. Persons

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

Korean Service

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

Jul 1977 -31 Dec 1978

1 Jul 1984-30 Jun 1986

1 May 1992-30 Apr 1994

1 May 1994-30 Apr 1996

1 May 1996-31 Aug 1997

1 Jan 2004-31 Dec 2005

1 Oct 2008-30 Sep 2010

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

14 Apr 1952-1 Jan 1953

## **EMBLEM**



On a disc Azure below three mullets enarched in chief Argent, in dexter a Rod of Aesculapius Proper entwined by two serpents, heads endorsed of the second eyed Sable and in sinister a cross-couped Gules fimbriated of the third bearing a vol Or, all within a diminished border Black. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "403D AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQ" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "NONE LEFT DESOLATE" in Black 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 red cross represents the international provision of life-saving services and care to the sick, injured and wounded. The Air Force wings signify to unit's ability to deploy immediately to support aeromedical evacuation of sick and injured. The Rod of Aesculapius, with two entwined snakes, signifies the unit's commitment to the Hippocratic Oath. The white stars allude to the Air Force core values of integrity, service and excellence. (Approved, 4 May 2001)

A red cross, outlined black is recognized on emblems worldwide for standing for health and dental care and for life-saving services and care through humane and fair treatment of all sick, injured and wounded. Air Force yellow wings centered on the cross Nightingale's angels of mercy - symbolize the ability to deploy anywhere at anytime to support the aeromedical evacuation of sick, injured and wounded. A dual Caduceus represents the commitment to the Hippocratic Oath to service health and dental needs of all under our care. Three white stars atop the design represent the Air Force core values of integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do. They also symbolize to unit members the principles of faith (faith in our own individual deity, our country our leaders and our mission), our courage (to face adversaries and perform our mission), strength (to ensure tenacity and persistence in the performance of the mission regardless of cost). All elements reflect the unit motto: NONE LEFT DESOLATE. THREE STARS: The stars represent the Air Force Core Values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, and Excellence In All We Do. The stars also stand for the unit personnel's three cohesive basic characteristics of faith, courage and strength. Faith: In our own individual

deity, our country, our leaders, and our mission. Courage: To face the adversities and perform our mission. Strength: To ensure tenacity and persistence in the performance of our mission regardless the cost. They also represent the constellations and our worldwide commitment day or night. It also represents a modification of part of our nation's heritage: one if by land, two if by sea, three if by air. DUAL CADUCEUS: Representing the health, dental and all associated fields in providing life-saving treatment and services to all sick, injured and wounded who come under our care; our Hippocratic Oath. RED CROSS: For International recognition of our standing as a health and dental care U" type unit, and by providing compassion and life-saving services and treatment through humane and fair treatment of all sick, injured and wounded. WINGS: A part of our mission to be deployed anywhere at anytime for any reason to support the aeromedical evacuation of the sick, injured and wounded. The wings of angels are white. Angels representing the "Nightingale's" angels of mercy in providing for the sick, injured and wounded. COLORS: Blue, Red, White BLUE: The standard color of the United States Air Force. To perform our mission in the "wild blue yonder" at all cost. The color also represents the sky, which depicts the "Can-Do" attitude of unit personnel in that "the sky is the limit." RED: International indication of health and dental care and humane treatment with compassion. For the blood of our forefathers and our fellow countrymen in keeping our great nation free. WHITE: For the neutral aspects of our mission to treat all sick, injured and wounded regardless of their status, nationality, race, sex or religious beliefs. It also represents the purity of our intent to provide such care and treatment to the best of our abilities and should be allowed to do so unhindered under the auspice of the Geneva Convention.

## **MOTTO**

NONE LEFT DESOLATE

## **OPERATIONS**

Our Mission: Although the unit medical mission may vary, the main thrust is constant: providing quality life saving medical care, treatment and services to the sick, injured and wounded. In providing for the patient, we strive to encompass the whole person on the physical, mental and spiritual (or life-essence) level. In performing our mission, we will never leave a patient behind, alone, deserted, or abandoned regardless of the sacrifices. This is our strength. The Patient's Psychic. Many sick, injured or wounded patients experience sorrowfulness through or as if through separation from a loved one, especially when the prognosis is uncertain or grim. Providing warmth, comfort, compassion, and especially hope, however slight, is essential to the patient's recovery and can often spark or enhance the will to survive. This is our courage. The Spiritual or Life-Essence. We are trained and prepared to perform our mission under a variety of conditions in wartime, and often in peacetime, under some austere conditions. During these times we tend to conduct our life in accordance to many factors and outside influences. It is all too often when the patient realizes the inevitable sense of the ultimate sacrifice in defending our country may be eminent, the patient may seek comfort deep within. For that, perhaps we can provide a little joy and insight when the patient sees our emblem and motto. The motto is also based, in part, on Psalm 34, verse 22: "The Lord redeemeth the soul of his servants; and none of them that trust in him shall be

desolate.” This is our faith.

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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.