

413th FLIGHT TEST SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

23rd Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942
Redesignated 413th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 22 Apr 1942
Activated, 15 Jul 1942
Redesignated 413th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 20 Aug 1943
Inactivated, 19 Dec 1945
Redesignated 413th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 3 Jul 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 17 Jul 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 413th Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 20 Aug 1958
Activated, 1 Nov 1958
Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jan 1962

6513th Test Squadron designated and activated, 1 Dec 1977

413th Bombardment Squadron, Medium consolidated with 6513th Test Squadron, 1 Oct 1992
Redesignated 413th Test Squadron, 2 Oct 1992
Redesignated 413th Flight Test Squadron, 1 Mar 1994
Inactivated, 6 May 2004
Activated, 25 Feb 2005

STATIONS

Salt Lake City AAB, UT, 15 Jul 1942
Gowen Field, ID, 6 Aug 1942
Walla Walla, WA, 16 Aug 1942
Rapid City AAB, SD, 29 Sep 1942
Pocatello, ID, 1 Nov 1942

Pyote AAB, TX, 3 Jan-16 Apr 1943
Great Saling, England, 12 May 1943
Snetterton Heath, England, 12 Jun 1943-11 Dec 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 17-19 Dec 1945
Keesler Field (later, AFB), MS, 17 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
Dyess AFB, TX, 1 Nov 1958-1 Jan 1962
Edwards AFB, CA, 1 Dec 1977-6 May 2004
Eglin AF Aux Fld #9 (Hurlburt Fld), FL, 25 Feb 2005

ASSIGNMENTS

96th Bombardment Group, 15 Jul 1942-19 Dec 1945
96th Bombardment Group, 17 Jul 1947-27 Jun 1949
96th Bombardment Wing, 1 Nov 1958-1 Jan 1962
Air Force Flight Test Center, 1 Dec 1977
6510th (later, 412th) Test Wing, 1 Mar 1978
412th Operations Group, 1 Oct 1993-6 May 2004
46th Operations Group, 25 Feb 2005

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1942-1945
B-17F
B-17G
Unkn, 1947-1949
B-47, 1958-1961

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 15 Jul-Aug 1942
LTC Stanley I. Hand, by Sep 1942
Maj Joseph W. Turner, 15 May 1944
LTC Herbert O. Schulze, 26 Jul 1944
Cpt Robert S. Maloney Jr., 8 Jan 1945
Maj Richard M. Jerger, 10 Feb 1945
Cpt Ira F. Wilson, 26 Sep 1945
Lt Richard Oakley, 24 Oct
Unkn, Nov-19 Dec 1945
Maj John C. Frazier Jr., 1 Nov 1958
Unkn, 1 Sep 1961-1 Jan 1962
Lt David L. Ferguson, 1 Dec 1977
Maj John H. Casper, 1 Oct 1979
LTC George K. Muellner, 1 Apr 1981
LTC James W. Tilley II, 18 Jul 1982
Maj John A. Taylor Jr., 3 Jul 1984
Maj Robert S. Frank, 28 May 1985
Maj John J. Barnoski, 30 May 1988

Maj Kevin P. Burns, Jul 1991
LTC Thomas C. Horne, 1 Jul 1993
LTC Walter K. Everly, 29 Sep 1995
LTC Harry V. Dutchyshyn, 10 Oct 1996
LTC Arthur F. Huber II, 6 Aug 1998
LTC Stephen J. Niemantsverdriet, 13 Jul 2000
LTC Gerald A. Swift, 8 Jul 2002-6 May 2004
LTC Thomas E. Goodnough, 25 May 2006
LTC Don Grove

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Germany, 17 Aug 1943
Poznan, Poland, 9 Apr 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1959-31 Dec 1960
1 Jan 1979-31 Dec 1980
1 Jan 1983-31 Dec 1984
1 Jan 1997-31 Dec 1998
1 Jan-31 Dec 2005
1 Jan-31 Dec 2006

EMBLEM

Approved, 1 Sep 1942

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 13 May 1943-21 Apr 1945. Earned DUC for a bombing raid on Regensburg, Germany, on 17 Aug 1943. Earned a second DUC for a raid on Poznan, Poland, on 9 Apr 1944.

4 February 1944, B-17F 42-30188, "Temptation", with nose art of a black cat considering dropping a bomb, previously "Kats Sass II", 'MZ S' of the 413th Bomb Squadron, 96th Bomb Group, during takeoff for a Frankfurt mission, suffers runaways on Nos. 1 and 2 propellers. Lt. Joseph Meacham attempts landing at near-by as yet unfinished base, but crash lands at East Shropham, Norfolk, NNW of RAF Snetterton Heath. All eleven crew survive but the aircraft is damaged beyond repair and is written off, fit only for parts salvage.

Planned, provided for, and conducted tests of electronic warfare and avionics systems and equipment, on aircraft assigned to the Air Force Flight Test Center, 1977-2004.

3/2/2012 - With blades spinning and dust flying, the 46th Test Wing's UH-1N Hueys took off from Eglin's main ramp on Feb. 27, to join the 413th Flight Test Squadron's operating location eight miles north at Eglin's Duke Field.

While still under the 46th Test Wing, the helicopters will operate from Duke Field rather than from Eglin to allow the test wing to support a 250 percent increase in helicopter developmental test programs beginning in June. The move will centralize all Air Force helicopter developmental test and evaluation in one squadron, according to Capt. Garrett Knowlan, a flight commander and major architect of the helicopter bed-down.

"The helicopters will integrate with the 413th's HC/MC-130J test operation in an efficiency effort that maximizes use of existing facilities, while making room for increased mission activity on Eglin's main ramp" said Knowlan. "We'll be responsible for DT and E for the recapitalization of HC/MC-130s and for DT and E of all new U.S. Air Force helicopters."

The organization will operate out of a facility originally refurbished for the Combat Search and Rescue-X helicopter program. The 46th Wing Commander, Col. Colin Miller, directed this consolidation at the end of 2011 and sees great potential in this centralization of assets and expertise. "This unit and its mission are critical to the future of special mission C-130s and helicopter operations across the Air Force," said Miller. "This team will conduct warfighter-focused test and evaluation to ensure programs are setup for success from source selection to aircraft fielding and follow-on development."

The newly-focused rotary mission will involve the modernization of TH-1H and UH-1N helicopters, the HH-60G Ops Loss Replacement program, and the acquisition of the new Combat Rescue Helicopter. "The move allows the Test Wing to support two and a half times as many programs with virtually the same size work force by leveraging the ability of test aircrew and engineers to work on multiple programs at the same time," said Miller. As the program progresses, C-130 aircraft will be tested at multiple locations, but most rotary wing aircraft will be stationed at Duke Field during the developmental test and evaluation process. After tests are complete, helicopters will move on to operational units. The new test team at Duke has

their work cut out for them in coming months as they begin work on four new programs simultaneously. "In the current budget environment we have to find smarter ways to test with our limited resources," said Knowlan, "we are excited to start testing a new portfolio of programs from our new home at Duke Field."

Air Force Order of Battle

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit History. *Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base, CA, 50th Anniversary. 1951-2001.*