

# 445 AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQUADRON



## **MISSION**

## **LINEAGE**

445 Aeromedical Staging Squadron constituted, 9 Sep 1994  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1994

## **STATIONS**

Wright Patterson AFB, OH, 1 Oct 1994

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

445 Medical Group, 1 Oct 1994  
445 Airlift Wing, 1 Apr 1997

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Akram Sadaka  
Col Oba Vincent  
Col Robert J. Wells

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

## Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

### Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Oct 1999-30 Sep 2001

1 Jan 2008-31 Dec 2009

### EMBLEM



Azure, a cross couped Gules charged in chief on its per pale arm with a likeness of the Wright-Flyer Sable garnished Gray and surmounted at fess point with a bald eagle head Proper; all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached above the disc a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed" 445TH AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQ" in Yellow letters. Attached

below the disc a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed HEAL AND DEFEND in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and 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 bald eagle represents the strength and determination of the unit in completing the Air Force mission. The red cross stands for the abilities, willingness and desire of unit members to provide medical care. The Wright-Flyer signifies worldwide mobility and unit readiness. (Approved, 12 Nov 1998)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 445th Aeromedical Staging Squadron was selected as the Air Force Reserve Command 2008 Outstanding Aeromedical Staging Squadron (250 and 150 bed) Aug. 13. The unit was noted for providing 20 percent of the total Emergency Medical Technician training in the Air Force Reserve for 2008, representing 65 units from the Air Force, Army, Navy and the Department of Defense. The 445 ASTS pioneered unique training affiliations with other federal agencies and civilian healthcare facilities to promote better training opportunities and environments. A one-of-a-kind training accord with the National Park Service allowed 40 EMT basic members to train with and support Emergency Medical Services in the Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Canyon.

EMTs from the unit worked more than 1,700 hours and provided the National Park Service with 1,485 on-call hours during annual tours. In addition to providing training for its members and other reserve members, the ASTS deployed approximately 40 members to support Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom in Iraq, Afghanistan, Suriname, Germany and various locations throughout the United State 2009 So what is an aeromedical staging squadron and what do we do? I get asked that question all the time and I have to admit, before I joined the squadron some 13 years ago I had no idea myself. There are two major components that make up the ASTS, patient staging and critical patient care. The patient staging function is the largest component in the unit and is comprised primarily of physicians, nurses, medical technicians, administrative personnel and medical support services (pharmacy, biomedical equipment, nutritional services, supply and others).

Our primary function is to man a contingency aeromedical staging facility. These facilities are located at major air hubs near medical facilities and support the movement of patients from the AOR (area of responsibility) home. We are large enough that we can man up to a 250 bed facility and house patients for up to 24 hours or longer if needed. We load and unload patients from aircraft and make sure that not only they receive the best medical care but also ensure that they have their belongings, medicine and food for their travels across the world. Our second major function is to develop and train critical care air transport teams.

These small teams are comprised of a critical care physician, nurse and respiratory therapist and will accompany a critical patient right from the intensive care unit in the medical center to the plane and stay with them throughout transport. These functions are key to the nation's ability to safely bring our wounded warriors home from the AOR. But we are only one component that makes up this vital air-bridge from war to home. We work very closely with our sister medical unit, the aeromedical evacuation squadron (provides the care in the air and

travels with the aircraft) to complete the aeromedical evacuation system. Basically, we at the ASTS provide the linkage between the ground and the air to support patient transport. The 445 ASTS is one of the largest ASTSes in the Air Force, and we constantly provide volunteer personnel to staff the CASFs in Iraq, Afghanistan and Germany.

It's a fulfilling mission, so if you know any medical personnel looking to serve our nation, please send them our way. 2010

2010 Twenty-two reservists from the 445th Aeromedical Staging and Aerospace Medicine Squadrons traveled to Champerico, Guatemala, for a humanitarian medical mission as part of the 2010 Guatemala Medical Readiness Training Exercise July 9-24. The U. S. Southern Command sponsored MEDRETE allowed the reservists to join other military members in providing free medical care to those living in poor, rural areas. Medical care included dental, optometry, general medicine, and pediatrics.

More than 8,000 local residents were seen in an 11-day period. Master Sgt. Chirron Hayslett, 445th ASTS, said the wing also supported the mission with basic pharmacology needs. "All teams that were part of this humanitarian mission thought it was a success. The medics were a combination of Air Force Reserve Command personnel from five units," said Sergeant Hayslett, who helped coordinate the wing's involvement. Not only did the MEDRETE help the local population, the exercise also provided the Airmen with deployment training and the opportunity to work with other Air Force and sister service medical units.

The wing's participation in the MEDRETE took several months of planning and preparation. Originally the group was slated to go to Ecuador but the tasking was changed to Guatemala. Lt. Col. Brenda Ames, 445th ASTS, chief nurse executive, served as the increment commander for the trip. "When we found out that we were going to participate in a MEDRETE, we started going over the long list of training requirements we were given that everyone going has to accomplish before they can deploy.

And it's not just our requirements but SOUTHCOM requirements too," Colonel Ames said. Besides training requirements, the tasking required various duties that ASTS could not support alone. "We were given a set list of people who have to go and ASTS does not have some of the individuals listed so we decided to share the trip with AMDS. AMDS was able to provide most of the physicians and an optometrist," Colonel Ames said. Sergeant Hayslett said the wing also supported the mission with basic pharmacology needs. Before leaving on the mission, ASTS touched base with the Embassy and host nation in order to secure the appropriate medications and equipment that they needed to bring. "We had to ask our host nation what type of cases we would be seeing and what kind of illnesses and medical issues we would be facing when we got there so we could be prepared to treat them," Colonel Ames said.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

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