

3rd AERIAL PORT SQUADRON



LINEAGE

3d Aerial Port Operations Squadron organized, 16 Mar 1953

Activated, 20 Jun 1953

Redesignated 3rd Aerial Port Squadron

Redesignated 3rd Mobile Aerial Port Squadron

Redesignated 3rd Aerial Port Squadron, 1992

STATIONS

Donaldson AFB, SC

Altus AFB, OK

Lawson AFB, GA

Pope AFB, NC, 26 Sep 1954-15 Jan 1963

Pope AFB, NC, 1 Jul 1964

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Maj Joseph J. Brown

Maj John L. Nightingale, #1965

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Sep 2011-31 Aug 2012

EMBLEM

"JUMPING" Jiminy Cricket became a member of the 3d Aerial Port Squadron at Pope AFB, NC in September 1959 when Brig Gen Clyde Box presented an emblem to Maj Joseph J. Brown, commander of the squadron. Jiminy was drawn by Airman 2d Class Robert W. Dunlap, who won a contest among the members of the squadron. The emblem is a Disney copyright reproduction, but a copyright release was obtained for the unit's use of the emblem design for a mere \$1.00.

Jiminy Cricket uses his umbrella as a parachute to symbolize the role of the combat control section that used to belong to the squadron. In his other hand, he holds a loadmaster's load adjuster to symbolize the mission of the loadmasters. The smile on Jiminy is a reflection of the ongoing high morale of the squadron. Jiminy Cricket's cheerful demeanor reflects the positive spirit and "can-do" attitude of the squadron personnel

MOTTO

AD ASTRA PER ARDUA--To the stars through difficulties

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

In 1952, in order to meet future contingency requirements, TAC organized Aerial Port Operations Squadrons. These newly formed units were to combine all tactical logistical supply under one agency. They were designed as highly mobile, self-sustaining outfits capable of instantaneous worldwide deployment.

On 12 August 1954, the squadron moved from Lawson AFB, Georgia, to Pope AFB, North Carolina. In 1964, the squadron was assigned to the 1st Aerial Port Group, under the Tactical Air Command, until 1974 when it became part of the Military Airlift Command.

In 1992, due to the restructuring of the Air Force, the 3d Mobile Aerial Port Squadron was redesignated the 3d Aerial Port Squadron under the 624th Airlift Support Group, 317th Airlift Wing, Air Mobility Command.

On 8 July 1994, the 624th Airlift Support Group became the 624th Air Mobility Support Group and was placed under the Twenty-First Air Force, Air Mobility Command. On 1 April 1997, the 624th Air Mobility Support Group was deactivated. The 3d APS was then placed under direct command of the 43d Operations Group and reassigned under the 43d Airlift Wing.

The 3d Aerial Port Squadron participated in many Urgent Fury, Golden Pheasant, Just Cause, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Restore Democracy, Uphold Democracy and Joint Guard.

3d Aerial Port Squadron won the Air Mobility Rodeo 98 World Championship in 1998- -Best Aerial Port Team and Best C-130 Engine-Running on load/Off load Team.



Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 4 Sep 2010

Updated: 17 Nov 2013

Published:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit History. 464th Troop Carrier Wing, Pope AFB, NC. 1965.