

512th EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

LINEAGE

512th Field Maintenance Squadron
512th Equipment Maintenance Squadron

STATIONS

Dover AFB, DE, 1 Jul 1976

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Dover Group Reorganizes for New C-17 Mission The 512th Maintenance Group at Dover Air Force Base, Del., is reorganizing to accommodate the C-17 Globemaster III mission and align itself with a structure similar to the rest of the Air Force. A ceremony Feb. 4 marked the end of a

30-year run of Dover's sole C-5 mission and the beginning of a new era as the base prepares for the arrival this summer of its first C-17. Eventually, Dover will receive a total of 13 C-17s. Previously, the 512th MXG consisted of an aircraft maintenance squadron, equipment maintenance squadron, component maintenance squadron and maintenance operations flight. The group works side by side with its active-duty counterpart, the 436th MXG, to maintain the C-5. The reorganization inactivated the 512th CMS, redesignated the 512th EMS as the 512th Maintenance Squadron and activated the 712th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, which will assume the C-17 maintenance mission. The component maintenance squadron people and mission transferred to the newly named 512th MXS. Half of the people from the 512th AMXS, which fixes and repairs C-5s, were reassigned to the 712th. The active-duty's 436th MXG inactivated its component maintenance squadron and merged it into its maintenance squadron in June 2005. It will stand up a C-17 maintenance squadron, the 736th AMXS, this spring. "Each aircraft in our U.S. Air Force's inventory requires highly skilled and disciplined men and women to fly them, to maintain them and to provide a wide variety of critical support to accomplish the mission," said Col. Willie W. Cooper II, 512th MXG commander. The ceremony was a bittersweet moment for at least one maintainer. Senior Master Sgt. Donald Kimball, a C-5 mechanic and flight chief with the 512th AMXS, was one of 85 people who transferred from the C-5 maintenance unit to the newly activated 712th AMXS. "The C-17 is the future of the Air Force, but all I know is the C-5," said Sergeant Kimball, who has been working on the C-5 since 1978. "It's an exciting change for the base. For the Airmen who get to work on them (the C-17s), it's going to broaden their careers, and they'll gain some valuable knowledge." Staff Sgt. Kevin Flowers, a C-5 mechanic for eight years, recently completed a six week C-17 technical school at Charleston AFB, S.C. He said he's enthusiastic about the new mission. "I like change and look forward to it," Sergeant Flowers said. "There's a lot of new stuff to learn, and to be able to work on the C-17 and be part of a new squadron is a great opportunity." 2007

Air Force Order of Battle

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