

512 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

The 512 Maintenance Squadron mission is to assure expeditionary readiness of assigned specialists and administrative personnel to lead or support Reserve and active duty strategic airlift wings' missions in direct response to major command or gaining MAJCOM taskings. The unit also provides highly skilled on and off equipment maintenance specialists for C-5B/M and C-17A aircraft, munitions support and support equipment. They also produce maintenance capability and support the 512 Airlift Wing flying hours.

LINEAGE

512 Maintenance Squadron, Troop Carrier, Medium constituted, 4 Aug 1949

Activated in the Reserve, 2 Sep 1949

Redesignated 512 Maintenance Squadron, 10 Mar 1950

Ordered to Active Service, 15 Mar 1951

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1951

Activated in the Reserve, 14 Jun 1952

Redesignated 512 Field Maintenance Squadron, 12 Nov 1954

Inactivated, 14 Apr 1959

512 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron constituted, 5 Dec 1958

Activated in the Reserve, 14 Apr 1959

Ordered to Active Service, 28 Oct 1962

Relieved from Active Duty, 28 Nov 1962

Discontinued and inactivated, 11 Feb 1963

512 Field Maintenance Squadron activated in the Reserve, 1 Jul 1976

512 Field Maintenance Squadron and 512 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron
Consolidated, 22 Oct 1984

Consolidated unit redesignated 512 Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 1 Aug 1990
Redesignated 512 Maintenance Squadron, 1 Jan 2007

STATIONS

Reading Muni Aprt, PA, 2 Sep 1949
New Castle County Aprt, DE, 1 May 1950-1 Apr 1951
New Castle County Aprt, DE, 14 Jun 1952
NAS Willow Grove, PA, 20 Jul 1958-11 Feb 1963
Dover AFB, DE, 1 Jul 1976

ASSIGNMENTS

512 Maintenance and Supply Group, 2 Sep 1949-1 Apr 1951
512 Maintenance and Supply Group, 14 Jun 1952
512 Troop Carrier Wing, 14 Apr 1959-11 Feb 1963
512 Military Airlift (later, 512 Airlift) Wing, 1 Jul 1976
512 Logistics (later, 512 Maintenance) Group, 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

Maj J. Huffman
Lt Col Thomas Kerr
Maj Ross Agee, 13 Sept 2018

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Award
1 Oct 2004-30 Sep 2005

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1976-31 May 1978
1 Jun 1978-31 May 1979
1 Jan 1988-30 Jun 1989
1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1995
1 Sep 1996-31 Aug 1998
1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004

1 Oct 2008-30 Sep 2010

EMBLEM



512 Field Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a blue disc edged with a narrow yellow border, an arc of four white five pointed stars above a yellow eagle with wings displayed fesswise garnished white and detailed blue, grasping in its claws a gray wrench and screwdriver saltirewise, the handle of the screwdriver yellow. Attached above the disc a blank white scroll edged blue. Attached below the disc a white scroll edged blue and inscribed "STRENGTH IN RESERVE" in blue letters. (Approved, 1 Aug 1978)



512 Equipment Maintenance Squadron emblem



512 Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a disc Azure, an eagle Or, wings displayed, its head and chest Argent, clutching in its talons a wrench and screwdriver Silver Gray; above the eagle in chief four mullets enarched of the third, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disk, a Silver Gray scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "STRENGTH IN RESERVE" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disk, a Silver Gray scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "512 MAINTENANCE SQ" in Yellow 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 five points of the stars represent life, liberty, peace, justice and freedom. The eagle signifies great strength, power and balance. The wrench and screwdriver held by the eagle's talons represent the tools used to accomplish the mission. Like eagles, which travel alone, the unit members are often called upon to support special missions as the only maintainers on the mission team. At other times, the unit is called upon to deploy in multi-person teams to support special operations anywhere in the world. Moving at lightning speed, these maintainers enable unit leaders the

aircraft capability advantage over adversaries and help ensure mission success. (Approved, 10 Feb 2009)

MOTTO

STRENGTH IN RESERVE

OPERATIONS

Dover Group Reorganizes for New C-17 Mission The 512 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 512 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 512 CMS, redesignated the 512 EMS as the 512 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 512 MXS. Half of the people from the 512 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, 512 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 512 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

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 16 Jun 2020

Updated: 15 Dec 2023

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.