

## 170 OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON



### MISSION

The 170 Operations Support Squadron is the associate partner to the 55 OSS providing critical home station and deployed mission support to all 55 Wing reconnaissance, command and control and treaty verification missions. A force multiplier, the 170 OSS is seamlessly integrated and responsible for airfield operations, weather, intelligence, operations planning, life support and tactics development.

### LINEAGE

170 Operations Support Squadron

### STATIONS

Offutt AFB, NE

### ASSIGNMENTS

170 Group

### COMMANDERS

LTC Mark White

LTC Tami S. Thompson

### HONORS

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

### **EMBLEM**

On a disc Azure, parted per chevron reversed Gules, an eagle's head couped at the shoulder affronté Sable, crowned Argent, beak and eyes Or, pupil of the second debruised by two lightning bolts descendant from chief Yellow, terminating to center of a globe of the third, gridlined Silver Gray and between ten mullets of the fourth, five in dexter and five in sinister, arcing to base, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "170TH OPS SPT SQ" in Yellow letters. 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 lightning bolts emitting from the globe represent the global electronics warfare and intelligence mission of the unit. Two sets of five stars indicate the importance of the mission and the Squadron's association with the 55th Wing. The bald eagle, our national symbol, is indicative of power and alertness, two key elements of the unit's mission.

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

2007 Nebraska Air National Guard's presence at Offutt Air Force Base is about to receive an organizational boost. In a ceremony tentatively scheduled for July 6, the Air National Guard will activate the new 170<sup>th</sup> Group Headquarters and 238<sup>th</sup> Combat Training Squadron as part of the Nebraska Air National Guard. The units will join the 170th Operations Support Squadron, which has been operating at Offutt AFB as part of the 55th Wing, Air Combat Command's largest wing. The 170<sup>th</sup> OSS was the first Air Guard unit to associate with an active duty ACC wing. According to Col. Rick Evans, commander of the 170th OSS, the activations are part of an Air Force and Air National Guard goal to align Air Guard units directly with active duty Air Force organizations and to better position Air Guard personnel in units compatible with their federal missions. Evans said the activation of two additional units at Offutt AFB speaks volumes about the relationship that has been built between the Nebraska Air Guard and the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing in just a few years. "The 55th Wing is the Air Force's premier integrated wing," said Evans.

"It employs members from all three military components of the Air Force: active duty, Guard and Reserve. In addition, Offutt Air Force Base has a large population of Department of Defense civilian employees and contractors who are part of the daily operations of the base and wing." "The 55th Wing has welcomed the Nebraska Air Guard as a mission partner and the relationship we have with them is solid and beneficial to both parties," Evans said. As part of the activation and reorganization of the Air Guard at Offutt, the 170th OSS will be separated into three units, said Evans.

The 170<sup>th</sup> OSS will remain to organize Air Guard personnel performing such operations support activities as airfield management, flight records, scheduling, current operations and

plans. The 238th CTS will be activated to organize Air Guard personnel who are responsible for providing formal flying training to active duty and Air Guard crew members flying the OC-135, RC-135 and WC-135 aircraft assigned to the 55th Wing. The 170th Group headquarters will be activated to provide the command element for and administrative support to the two Air Guard squadrons and all Air Guard members assigned to Offutt AFB.

Evans said that in order to create the new unit, the Air Force is reactivating the 170th Air Refueling Group formerly of the New Jersey Air Guard and redesignating it as the 170<sup>th</sup> Group assigned to the Nebraska Air Guard. Evans said the activations and reorganization will not result in a change of numbers of Air Guard members assigned to Offutt AFB. "This change is a realignment of our existing personnel at Offutt Air Force Base along functional lines, not a major shift in the Concept of Operations for what we actually do," Evans said. "Instead of being assigned to only one unit, our billets and people will now be split among three units." "The overall mission of the units and their members remains the same: to support the 55th Wing's global treaty verification, command and control, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance." 2007

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USAF Unit Histories  
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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.