

23d AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE¹

23d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron activated, 1 Jul 1994
Inactivated, 1 Apr 1997

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

¹ Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Since its activation, the 23d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron has supported several major operations. On 11 Sep 1994, personnel deployed to Haiti, Cuba, and Puerto Rico in support of Operation Uphold Democracy. In preparation for the Operation, the squadron expanded in size by 300 percent, obtaining personnel from Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units, as well as some active duty medical units. Personnel established a first-ever Theater Patient Movement Requirements Center, employed an aeromedical evacuation liaison team on the USNS Comfort (T-AH-20), and safely evacuated patients to destination hospitals.

On 11 Oct 1994, command and control of aeromedical evacuation operations were transferred to Air Reserve Component units, allowing a rapid transition and redeployment of 23 AES assets in support of Operation Vigilant Warrior. Squadron members redeployed in less than 24 hours of their return from Operation Uphold Democracy.

In Jan 1995, the 23 AES deployed personnel in support of Operation United Shield and Operation Safe Passage. During Operation United Shield, squadron members deployed to Mombasa, Kenya to aid in the withdrawal of US and UN forces from Somalia. An additional complement of squadron members were stationed on the USS Belleau Wood (LHA-3) for 40 days to provide a link with USN medical assets.

Also in Jan 1995, an Aeromedical Evacuation Operations Team was deployed to Howard AFB, Panama, for Operation Safe Passage. Over the course of 20 days, deployed personnel coordinated the safe transit of more than 7,400 Cuban migrants on 80 missions.

In Dec 1995, the 23 AES deployed personnel in support of Operation Joint Endeavor. Working jointly with the 86 AES, squadron personnel were responsible for all patient aeromedical evacuation within and out of the contingency area.