

46 AERIAL PORT SQUADRON



MISSION

The 46 Aerial Port Squadron deploys trained personnel and equipment to provide augmentation or stand-alone port support at aerial ports of embarkation and aerial ports of debarkation or unit move on and unload locations. Responsibilities include cargo and passenger processing, aircraft loading and unloading, joint inspection, mobility load team supervision, engine running on and unload, home station and deployed Air Terminal Operations Center and Contingency Response Element, Tactical Control Unit, Departure Airfield Control Group operations.

LINEAGE

46 Aerial Port Squadron constituted, 29 Jan 1973
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Jul 1973

STATIONS

Dover AFB, DE, 1 Jul 1973

ASSIGNMENTS

Eastern Air Force Reserve Region, 1 Jul 1973
512 Military Airlift Wing (later, 512 Airlift Wing [Associate]), 1 Aug 1973
512 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

Maj C. Huff
Lt Col Richard Saunders

Lt Col Nicholas Brant, Lt Col, Jun 2018
Lt Col David M. Birckhead, Lt Col, 11 Jun 2021

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Award
1 Oct 2004-30 Sep 2005

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

13 Oct-14 Nov 1973
1 Jan 1974-30 Apr 1975
1 May 1975-31 May 1976
1 Jun 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





46 Aerial Port Squadron emblem: An ultramarine azure disc, with a fimbriated or border, a brown American Eagle rendered with an or beak, carries in its or talons, or lines extending to the sable netted brown pallet lined in or. The eagle, with argent head and argent tail, is superimposed over a silver argent bordered vert sphere with ultramarine azure longitude and latitude lines. On the dexter side of the disc is an or lightning bolt and on the sinister side of the disc a vert olive branch. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine azure and or are the Air Force colors. Azure alludes to the sky, the primary theatre of Air Force operations. Or refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The American Bald Eagle, our national bird represents the close association with the active duty Eagle Wing. The netted pallet symbolizes the primary mission of providing airlift support. In the background a sphere with longitude and latitude lines indicates our units global support of the Air Force mission during war, represented by the yellow lightning bolt on the dexter side and during peace, represented by the green olive branch on the sinister side. (Approved, 17 Sep 1987)

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency, U.S. Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.