

8 AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

8 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Maintains the combat-ready status of 45 F-16CM fighter aircraft in support of the 35th and 80th Fighter Squadrons. Generates over 8,500 annual sorties in support of the 8 Fighter Wing's flying hour program. Employs more than 470 personnel across 10 different disciplines. Implements a maintenance man-hour program to support training/combat missions. Maintains facilities with a budget in excess of \$99 million and maintenance resources over \$1.2 billion.

LINEAGE

8 Organizational Maintenance Squadron constituted, 7 Aug 1962

Activated, 7 Aug 1962

Organized, 8 Sep 1962

Discontinued, 18 Jun 1964

Inactivated, 18 Jun 1964

Activated, 9 Jul 1964

Organized, 25 Jul 1964

Discontinued, 18 Jun 1966

Inactivated, 18 Jun 1966

Activated, 3 Jul 1972

Redesignated 8 Aircraft Generation Squadron, 1 Jun 1977

Inactivated, 3 Feb 1992

Redesignated, 3 Jul 2002

Activated, 5 Aug 2002

STATIONS

Itazuke AB, Japan, 8 Sep 1962 - 18 Jun 1964
George AFB, CA, 25 Jul 1964 - 8 Dec 1965
Ubon AFB, Thailand, 8 Dec 1965 - 18 Jun 1966
Ubon AFB, Thailand, 3 Jul 1972 - 16 Sep 1974
Kunsan AB, South Korea, 16 Sep 1974 - 3 Feb 1992
Kunsan AB, South Korea, 5 Aug 2002

ASSIGNMENTS

8 Tactical Fighter Wing, 8 Sep 1962 - 18 Jun 1964
8 Tactical Fighter Wing, 25 Jul 1964 - 18 Jun 1966
8 Tactical Fighter Wing, 3 Jul 1972 - 3 Feb 1992
8 Maintenance Group, 5 Aug 2002

COMMANDERS

Maj William P. Cummings, 8 Sep 1962
Lt Col Amos B. Leighton, 15 Jul 1963
Inactivated From 18 Jun 1964 To 25 Jul 1964
Capt Wayne E. Jones, 25 Jul 1964
Lt Col David H. Finley, 18 Sep 1964
Lt Col Jerome T. O'toole, Dec 1965
Inactivated From 18 Jun 1966 To 3 Jul 1972
Maj David A. Jacobsen, 3 Jul 1972
Lt Col Alexander C. Bissland, 1 Nov 1972
Maj James W. Frank, 13 May 1973
Maj Robert R. Griffin, 1 Oct 1973
Maj Edwin Stanton, 27 Dec 1973
Maj Keith K. Ritter, 27 Mar 1974
Lt Col Elmer Mallette Jr., 15 May 1974
Captain Mar E. Daniels, 24 Aug 1974
Maj Al M. Smith, 31 Dec 1974
Capt Stephen P. Dorris, 15 May 1975
Maj Gary J. Troy, 16 Feb 1976
Maj Cameron E. Morrison, 14 Sep 1976
Lt Col Joseph B. Verna Jr., 22 Aug 1977
Lt Col William J. Bushman, 30 Jun 1978
Maj James W. Miles, 7 Jan 1979
Lt Col Michael D. Cox, 11 Jul 1979
Unknown, 1980
Unknown, 1981
Lt Col James H. Cushman, Jun 1982

Maj Robert P. Moore, 16 Jun 1983
Lt Col Carl D. Portz, 28 May 1984
Lt Col Bruce Dickinson, 19 May 1985
Lt Col Gordon G. Vining, 26 June 1986
Lt Col Thomas J. Casker, 14 Mar 1986
Maj Dennis B. Parkhurst, Mar 1987
Lt Col George Gaten Jr., 14 Mar 1988
Lt Col Elizabeth M. Harrell, 12 Jan 1989
Maj Glenda R. Flick, Jan 1990
Lt Col Stanley S. Stevens, 7 Jan 1991
Lt Col Robert J. West, 5 Aug 2002
Maj Walter J. Lindsey, 3 Jun 2003
Maj Raymond Platt, 16 Jun 2004
Lt Col William A. Ferro, Jun 2005
Lt Col Bryan Harris, 13 Jun 2006
Maj Jeff Sloan, 8 Jun 2007
Maj Konrad Kote, 6 Jun 2008
Maj Michael Merritt, 6 Mar 2009
Lt Col Gregory Hutson, 1 Jun 2009
Maj Micheal P. Allison, 27 May 2010
Maj Todd Wydra, 16 Jun 2011
Maj Douglas F. Kuhn, 21 Jun 2012
Maj Christopher Cullen, 11 Jul 2013
Maj John West, 23 Jun 2014
Maj Christopher Dunston, 26 Jun 2015
Lt Col David A. Lemery, 24 Jun 2016

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Vietnam Defensive 1965- 1966

Vietnam Air 1966

Vietnam Ceasefire 1972-1973

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device

16 Dec 1965 - 15 May 1966

3 Jul - 20 Oct 1972

28 Jan - 15 Aug 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

12 May 1963 - 21 Mar 1964
1 Jul 1972 - 31 Dec 1973
1 Apr 1977 - 31 Mar 1978
1 May 1980 - 30 Apr 1982
22 Mar 1986 - 1 Apr 1986
1 Jun 1986 - 31 May 1988
1 Jan 1989 - 1 Jun 1990
1 Oct 2003 - 30 Sep 2005
1 Oct 2005 - 30 Sep 2007
1 Nov 2009 - 31 Oct 2011

Republic of Vietnam
1 Apr 1966 - 18 Jun 1966

Gallantry Cross with Palm
3 Jul 1972 - 28 Jan 1973

EMBLEM



MOTTO

Keep 'Em Flyin'
Ready to Strike

OPERATIONS

Airmen assigned to the 8 Maintenance Squadron and 8 Aircraft Maintenance Squadron are tasked to ensure one aircraft is ready to fly, fight and win with a simultaneous double-wing replacement. "Aircraft maintenance doesn't happen in one section; it takes the entire team, day

in and day out,” said Senior Master Sgt. Casey Hall, the 8 AMXS lead production superintendent. “This double-wing change is a perfect example of how different sections in different squadrons all come together to make the mission happen.” This procedure requires crew chiefs and maintainers from aircraft fuels systems, aircraft armament systems and aircraft structural maintenance to work in harmony to ensure the replacement of the wings is done correctly and the aircraft is returned to duty. Tech. Sgt. Rene St. Hilaire, an 8 MXS aircraft fuels system craftsman, has worked on F-16 Fighting Falcons for nine years and has been a part of four double-wing replacement procedures. “For the Airmen here, it is a great training experience,” St. Hilaire said. “The team (members) working on this double-wing replacement have different experience levels with the F-16, and, for some, this is a once in a lifetime experience.”

While single replacements are common, a simultaneous double-wing replacement is rare, and the amount of maintainers with experience doing it is even rarer. “When they told me it was a double-wing replacement on the same jet, it seemed kind of daunting,” said Staff Sgt. Dwight Hunter, an 8 AMXS aircraft armament systems team lead. Considerable planning and preparation have to happen beforehand in order to embark on a project of this magnitude. Senior Airman Samantha Cash, an 8 MXS aircraft fuels system journeyman, was part of the fuels systems team replacing the wings. “You don’t see a double-wing change very often, so while the challenge is exciting, you have to do your research and make sure everyone knows their role and is comfortable in that role,” Cash said. “Cross talk between the different career fields is key to everyone being on the same page and that the steps required are completed so that the procedure can be done timely and correctly.” 2016

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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

Unit History. *8 Aircraft Generation Squadron, Kunsan AB, 84-85 Korea*. 1985