

# 172 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



## MISSION

## LINEAGE

172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron  
Redesignated 172 Maintenance Squadron, 1 Mar 1994

## STATIONS

Charles L. Sullivan ANGB, Jackson, MS

## ASSIGNMENTS

172 Maintenance Group

## COMMANDERS

LTC James F. Hankins  
LTC Sam Hazel

## HONORS

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

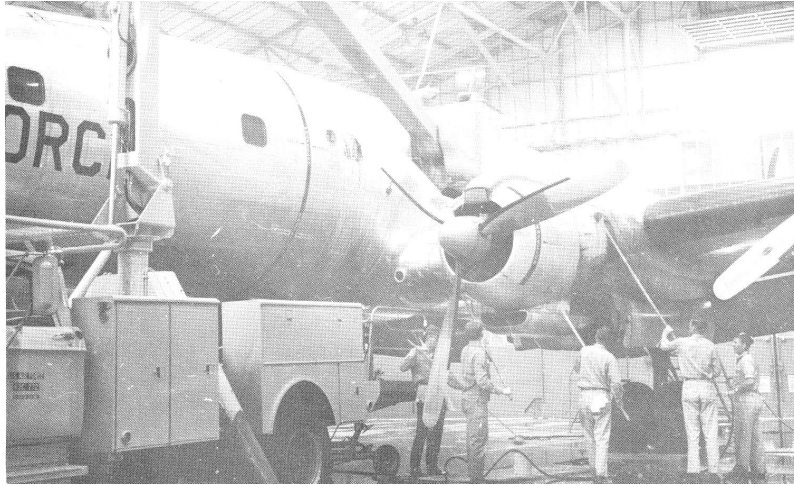
**Decorations**

## EMBLEM

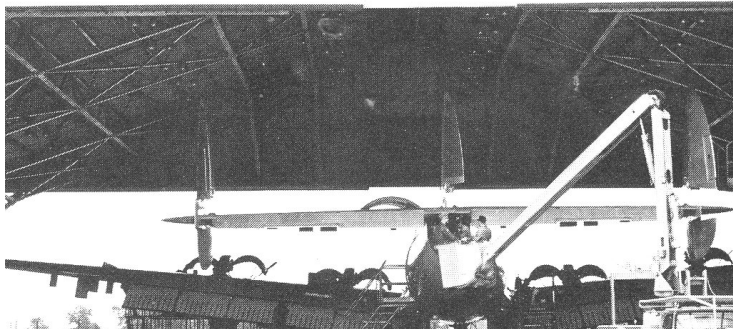
**MOTTO**

**NICKNAME**

**OPERATIONS**



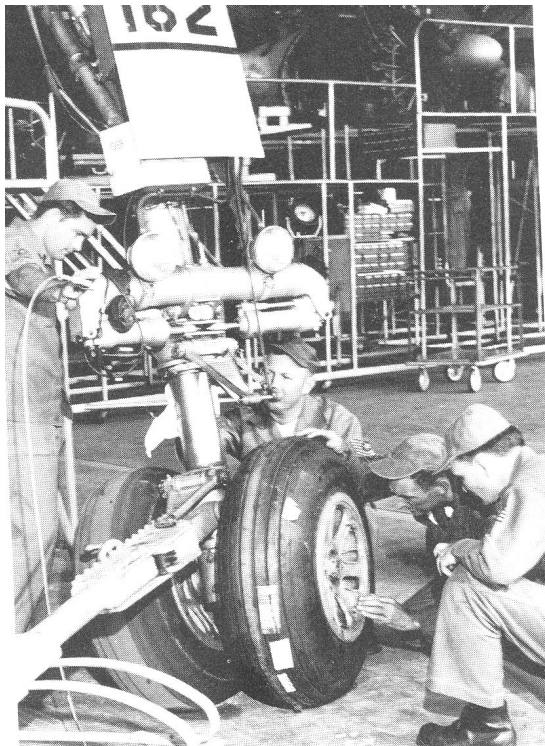
172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers washing a C-121. (MS ANG photo)



172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers working on a C-121. (MS ANG photo)



172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers working on a C-121. (MS ANG photo)



172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron maintainers servicing the nose wheel assembly on C-121. (MS ANG photo)

From 27 August 1990 to 28 Apr 1991, the 172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron launched more than 700 C-141B Star lifters after providing maintenance service; more than 95 percent of those missions were launched on or ahead of schedule. Employing 352 traditional guardsmen and 123 technicians, squadron members worked around-the-clock, three shifts per day, utilizing 50 personnel each shift. "The most amazing thing about the whole operation," noted maintenance control supervisor SMSgt Steve Jessop, "was that none of traditional guardsmen were activated during Desert Storm. They all volunteered." Many

traditional guardsmen took leaves of absence from civilian jobs in order to help fill the maintenance needs. Sergeant Jessop said that during the eight months of the operation, squadron personnel accumulated the equivalent of four years of maintenance experience. Squadron personnel often found themselves servicing as many as eight C-141Bs at a time, while having parking facilities for only seven aircraft. During one peak period Thompson Field had a total of 14 aircraft on the ramp at one time. Providing service to C-141Bs from all over the world, the squadron served a role comparable to far larger and the more extensively equipped facilities such as McGuire AFB, N.J., and Charleston AFB, S.C. Indeed, many C-141 aircrews reportedly preferred coming to Jackson because they knew their aircraft would receive superior service. That service included "home station checks," a form of preventive aircraft maintenance inspection that can be credited with saving countless expensive repairs and possibly even lives. Thompson Field was the only staging base in the eastern United States that routinely provided this service.

Recent changes in command positions for two units were noted, including Maj. Nick Montgomery as the new commander of the 172 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, replacing Lt Col Sam Hazel, who transferred to Scoot AFB as the ANG advisor to the Air Mobility Command/LG, and Capt Floyd Daniels as the new commander of the 172 Security Police Flight, replacing Lt Col Billy Ware, who was named executive support officer/chief of staff. 172 Airlift Group.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
Unit yearbook. *118 Air Transport Wing, 1964-1965*. Delman Printing Co. Charlotte, NC. 1965.