

# **190<sup>th</sup> CONSOLIDATED AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON**

## **LINEAGE**

## **STATIONS**

Topeka, KS

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **COMMANDERS**

LTC Richard N. Morris

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Several of the Field Maintenance activities will move to building 668 after structural changes and remodeling is completed. Located west of the Combat Support building, the sheet metal, welding, machine shop, non-destructive inspection and aerospace ground equipment sections will move when the project is completed. The approximately \$250,000 job should be completed by the late summer of 1981. The work will be done in three phases, repair of the building, alteration of the interior and remodeling of office areas. The exterior of the building is now being repaired and prepared for painting, with interior work planned for the winter months. Building 668 is the final building planned for occupancy by the 190th in its consolidation plan.

The first group of people taking active duty training at Mildenhall AFB, England, has returned. They brought back with them many good memories, lots of souvenirs and some helpful information for those planning to go on future trips. "The flight overseas was pretty rough. We followed a storm over, even though we went farther North than originally planned," said SSgt John Shirey, CAM Sq. "Once we were in England the weather wasn't too bad. It didn't rain, but it sure was cold." The billeting varied for the people at Mildenhall. For A1C Doris Whitehead, CAM Sq, and the only female on the trip, quarters consisted of a single room in the women's dormitory. The facilities contained a tub and stall showers at each end of the hall, a day room and free washer and dryer. "The thing I would suggest is to leave most of your civilian clothes at home and make more room for souvenirs and things," said Doris. The KC-135 crew chiefs, TSgt Rick Waehsnight, TSgt John Topping and A1C Ron Swibold, stayed in separate building from the TDY barracks. They each had their own room with a T.V., shower facilities and a washer and dryer on each floor. The TDY barracks had two floors, with about 10 rooms on each. The men were two to a room, with showers at each end of the hall and a day room. In fact, with the two rec centers, a dance on alternate Thursdays, the gym, bowling alley, theater, and gift shops, a Guardsman need not even leave the base. "The food in the chow hall and the NCO Club is very good. You can get an excellent steak at the club for only about \$6. Best price in town," Shirey said. Most of the people on this trip went in to London at least one day and had very good reports. The rate of exchange from U.S. dollars and British pound sterling at that time was \$2.22 per pound, that changes almost daily. "They spend pounds like dollars, so be prepared to spend some money. Everything is at least twice what it costs here. Gas cost almost \$3 a gallon," Capt Dale Peterson, 117th AREFS, said. The least amount of money spent was \$200, and that person didn't go into London. The most spent was \$500, including a weekend in London. The hotel rooms in London ranged from \$18 to \$32, in "off season" rates. Tourist season rates in effect from June through August are about double. Food off base was quite expensive. Fish and chips cost \$3 and everything else was higher. "I got a Big Mac and a cup of coffee at Piccadilly Square and it cost exactly one pound (\$2.22)," said SSgt William Hilbert. "I worked my regular job of bench stock there and it was great. Just before I left, a Guardsman from Chicago ANG reported for duty on his second trip over," said Hilbert. It was great. We had a good time, but it is very expensive. It's well worth it all. I'd recommend the trip for anyone who can go," Peterson said.

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#### Sources

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