

414 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

414 Consolidated Aircraft Maintenance Squadron constituted, 17 Jun 1957
Activated, 8 Sep 1957
Inactivated, 31 Dec 1969
Redesignated 414 Maintenance Squadron, 22 Jun 2010
Activated, 15 Jul 2010

STATIONS

Oxnard AFB, CA, 8 Sep 1957-31 Dec 1969
Seymour Johnson AFB, NC, 15 Jul 2010

ASSIGNMENTS

414 Fighter Group, 8 Sep 1957-31 Dec 1969
414 Fighter Group, 15 Jul 2010

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1966-30 Jun 1968

EMBLEM

On a disc per bend sinister Or and Azure, in base in saltire a wrench bendwise Argent, detailed Silver Gray, fimbriated of the second, and a lightning bolt bend sinisterwise Gules, fimbriated of the third, overall a sword erect blade of the last, detailed of the fourth, fimbriated of the second, hilt, grip, and pommel of the fifth, detailed of the third, all within a narrow border Blue. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "414 MXS" in Blue letters. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "ALWAYS READY" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The background is representative of the unit's night and day, 24-hour operations capability. The lightning bolt and wrench symbolize electronics and organization and field maintenance. The sword represents armament. The emblem bears the national colors to indicate the patriotism of this squadron's personnel.

Approved on 29 Sep 1961

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The Air Force Reserve Command's 414th Fighter Group may have only a handful of assigned personnel now, but about 340 people will fall under the group, the 307th Fighter Squadron or the 414th Maintenance Squadron, by September 2011.

"We currently have 21 people and are actively hiring aircrews, intelligence (people) and maintainers for our organization," said Lt. Col. Kevin Fesler, 307th FS Det. 3 commander and 4th Operations Group deputy commander. "All of the full-time personnel are stationed at Seymour Johnson. The part-time traditional reservists live within driving distance of the base to fulfill their drill period requirements."

The role of the new group is to help Seymour Johnson produce more qualified F-15E aircrews.

"The total force integration initiative was directed by the chief of staff of the Air Force and the secretary of the Air Force memo in 2007 to utilize AFRC aircrews to produce more F-15E aircrew graduates," Colonel Fesler said. "The success of the initial TFI plan was realized, and the 4th FW requested a Phase II expansion, which includes maintenance and intelligence personnel, with a plus-up of instructor aircrews also. All of these personnel will functionally integrate with the 4th FW and be leveraged to produce more world-class F-15E graduates."

The AFRC maintainers arriving to the new units are fully qualified with five-, seven- and nine-skill levels. They will work hand-in-hand with the base's active-duty Airmen.

"The 4th MXG will have operational direction over the maintenance personnel, which means they will decide their day-to-day duties," Colonel Fesler said. "The Air Force Reserve Command and Air Combat Command signed memorandums of agreement and understanding regarding the utilization of the personnel to maximize their experience within the 4th FW. The 414th FG will

maintain administrative control for reporting, etc." Many of the Airmen had prior active-duty Air Force experience before transferring to the Reserves. Senior Airman Bobby Kerr, a 307th FS crew chief, is one of the first reservists assigned to the unit. "I had no learning curve coming here," he said. "I worked on the F-15 for four years at Langley (Air Force Base, Va.) before joining the Reserve." 2010

Maintenance Association Rising: Air Force officials activated the newly formed 414th Maintenance Squadron in a ceremony at Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C. The unit is one of two Air Force Reserve Command squadrons that will partner with the active duty 4th Fighter Wing at Seymour Johnson and the 20th Fighter Wing at Shaw AFB, S.C., to maintain those units' F-15Es and F-16Cs, respectively. "The unfurling of a unit's guidon is a rare event that many of us have never been a part of before," said Maj. Lydia Black, who assumed the squadron's command during the May 26 stand-up ceremony. The 414th MXS, together with its sister squadron, will be part of the new 414th Fighter Group that is due to stand up Aug. 5 at Seymour Johnson. The group is due to add a total of 279 airmen to the maintenance force at the two bases by 2014. 2011

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.