

552nd COMPONENT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

552nd Electronics Maintenance Squadron constituted, 11 Oct 1954

Activated, 18 Dec 1954

Inactivated, 18 May 1969

552nd Avionics Maintenance Squadron constituted 13 Nov 1968

Activated, 18 May 1969

Inactivated, 1 April 1975

Redesignated 552nd Component Repair Squadron, 15 May 1978

Activated, 1 Oct 1978

552nd Electronics Maintenance Squadron and 552nd Component Repair Squadron consolidated, 16 Oct 1984. Consolidated organization designated 552nd Component Repair Squadron.

Inactivated, 29 May 1992

Activated, 1 May 1996

Redesignated 552nd Component Maintenance Squadron, 15 July 2002

STATIONS

McClellan AFB, CA, 18 Dec 1954 - 1 Apr 1975

McClellan AFB, CA, 1 Oct 1978 - 29 May 1992

Tinker AFB, OK, 1 May 1996

ASSIGNMENTS

8th Air Division (Airborne Early Warning and Control), 18 Dec 1954

552nd Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing (later, 552d Airborne Early Warning and Control Group), 8 Jul 1955 - 1 Apr 1975

552nd Airborne Warning and Control Division; 552nd Airborne Warning and Control Wing), 1 Oct 1978 - 29 May 1992

552nd Air Control Wing, 1 May 1996

COMMANDERS

Maj Norbert M. Ganska, 18 May 1969

LTC Joseph A. Stoker, 2 Dec 1969

Maj Richard K. Kenney, Sep 1971

Maj Robert C. McCann, 1 Feb 1974

LTC Truman J. Hedding, 15 May 1974

Maj Richard C. Branch III, 1 Oct 1978

Maj Joseph S. Bonpensiero, 1 May 1981

LTC Richard F. Malick, 20 May 1982

LTC Donald A. Aho, 16 Jun 1983

LTC Joseph B. Gaskin III, 13 May 1986

LTC Gary D. Trende, 3 Mar 1987

LTC Paul Calvert, 12 Oct 1989

Maj James L. Hass, 13 Dec 1990

Maj Merkel C. Joseph, 13 May 1996

LTC Russell S. Hall, 21 May 1998

Maj Algene Fryer, 1 Sep 1999

Maj Frank R. Heinsohn, 18 July 2001

Maj Thomas D. Eisenhauer, 9 July 2002

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Devices

1 Jul 1969 - 30 Jun 1970

1 Jul 1971 - 31 Dec 1972

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1961 - 30 Jun 1963

15 Apr 1965 - 1 Jul 1966

2 Jul 1966 - 1 Jul 1968

1 Jul 1970 - 30 Jun 1971
1 Jul 1974 - 30 Jun 1975
1 Jul 1977 - 30 Jun 1978
15 Feb 1983 - 30 Jun 1984
1 May 1985 - 30 Apr 1987
1 May 1987 - 30 Apr 1989
1 Dec 1989 - 1 Dec 1991
1 Jun 1996 - 31 May 1998
1 Jun 1998 - 31 May 2000
1 Jun 2002 - 31 May 2003
1 Jun 2003 - 31 May 2004

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm
1 Apr 1966 - 28 Jan 1973

EMBLEM

On a disc edged with a blue border, the inner background divided per bend light blue and blue, a yellow bend, issuing from base a black arced mound edged white, with a white pathway, astride the mound a sentry, garbed and armed of the Revolutionary era, black, highlighted and fimbriated white, with the dexter arm upraised and grasping in the sinister hand a yellow scroll garnished black; on the blue portion a pattern of six yellow five pointed stars above a yellow atom. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The sentry is standing watch over the pathway of freedom, symbolizes the mission of the 552d Air Control Wing to provide worldwide airborne warning and control capability through the use of the highly mobile and survivable fleet of E-3 "Sentry aircraft. The sentry is holding a scroll, which represents the knowledge that members of the 552d Component Repair Squadron need to maintain the extremely complex equipment onboard the E-3. The six stars represent each branch within the 552 CRS plus administrative and staff. The gold bar exemplifies our barrier of defense with the sentry at the forefront in its role as the "eyes" of the Air Force. (Approved, 16 Jul 1981)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The unit was originally activated on 18 December 1954, as the 552d Electronic Maintenance Squadron, supporting the maintenance of EC-121s as part of the 552d Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing at McClellan Air Force Base, California. It was redesignated the 552d Avionics Maintenance Squadron on 18 May 1969. The 552d Avionics Maintenance Squadron was inactivated at McClellan Air Force Base on 1 April 1975, as part of the downsizing of the Air Force at the end of the Vietnam War. In support of the new E-3 AWACS aircraft at Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma, the 552d Avionics Maintenance Squadron was redesignated the 552d Component Repair Squadron on 15 May 1978, and activated on 1 October 1978. The 552d Component Repair Squadron was inactivated in May 1992, as part of the Air Force reorganization and was merged

with the 552d Equipment Maintenance Squadron to form the 552d Maintenance Squadron. On 13 May 1996, the 552d Maintenance Squadron was inactivated and the 552d Component Repair Squadron was reactivated in an effort to improve E-3 systems efficiency and reliability and increase aircraft availability.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Nov 2010

Updated: 7 Feb 2019

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency claims they don't have lineage and honors on file for this organization. 2 Jan 2019.

Unit yearbook. *552nd Airborne Early Warning and Control Wing, 1957*.

Unit historian. 552 Air Control Wing. 18 Mar 2020.