

## 5 OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

5 Airdrome Squadron constituted, 7 Nov 1942

Activated, 23 Nov 1942

Inactivated, 15 Dec 1945

Activated, 15 Jan 1947

Inactivated, 20 Aug 1948

Disbanded, 8 Oct 1948

5 Operations Squadron constituted, 4 Jun 1952

Activated, 16 Jun 1952

Inactivated, 8 Apr 1959

5 Airdrome Squadron reconstituted, and consolidated with 5 Operations Squadron, 29 Aug 1991. Consolidated organization redesignated 5 Operations Support Squadron.

#### STATIONS

Kellogg Fld, MI, 23 Nov 1942

Walla Walla, WA, 6 Feb 1943

Camp Douglas, WI, 28 Apr-17 May 1943

Toome, Northern Ireland, 7 Jun 1943

Langford Lodge, Northern Ireland, 3 May 1944

Greencastle, Northern Ireland, 7 Nov 1944

Stansted, England, 21 May 1945

Burtonwood, England, 13 Aug 1945

Baverstock, England, 11 Oct 1945

Burtonwood, England, 5 Nov-9 Dec 1945  
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 14-15 Dec 1945  
Johnson AAB, Japan, 15 Jan 1947  
Nagoya AB, Japan, 31 Mar 1947-20 Aug 1948  
Travis AFB, CA, 16 Jun 1952-8 Apr 1959  
Minot AFB, ND, 1 Sep 1991

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Air Service Command, 23 Nov 1942  
Second Air Force, 28 Dec 1942  
VIII Air Force Composite Command, 8 Jun 1943  
Base Air Depot Area, Air Service Command, 30 Apr 1944  
Air Technical Service Command in Europe, 5 Apr 1945  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 25 Aug-Dec 1945  
314 Composite Wing, 15 Jan 1947  
Fifth Air Force, 31 Mar 1947-20 Aug 1948  
5 Air Base Group, 16 Jun 1952-8 Apr 1959  
5 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Moir L. Shockley  
Lt Col Robert P. Ullman, 1 Sep 1991  
Lt Col Jeffery S. Boulware, 26 Feb 1993  
Lt Col Christopher W. Roy, 26 Aug 1994  
Lt Col Patrick J. Thomas, 9 Jan 1996  
Lt Col Michael R. Moeller, 17 Jul 1997  
Lt Col Joseph R. Griffith, 24 May 1999  
Lt Col John E. Stewe, 22 Jun 2001  
Lt Col Robert Bender, 13 Jun 2003  
Lt Col Norman M. Worthen, 22 Apr 2005  
Lt Col Max B. Mitchell, 27 Apr 2007  
Lt Col Gordon M. Geissler, 8 May 2009  
Lt Col Michael E. Adderley, 30 Oct 2009  
Lt Col Douglas W. Warnock, Jr., 24 Jun 2011  
Lt Col David J. Gordon, 3 Jun 2013  
Lt Col Mark C. Dymtryszyn, 19 Dec 2014  
Lt Col Larry Fenner, 16 Jun 2016  
Lt Col John W. Cornett, 11 May 2018  
Lt Col Brad L. Haynes, 5 Jun 2020

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

World War II  
European-African-Middle Eastern Theater of Operations

Global War on Terrorism (GWOT-S).

## **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with the Combat "V" Device

1 Jun 1999-31 May 2001

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1991-30 Jun 1993

1 Jun 1994-31 May 1996

1 Jun 2002-31 May 2004

1 Jun 2004-31 May 2006

1 Jan 2011-31 Dec 2012

1 Jan 2013-31 Dec 2013

1 Jan 2017-31 Dec 2017

## **EMBLEM**



Blue and 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 knight's helmet represents the warrior spirit of the Air Force combat units supported by the squadron. The crossed swords denote the team effort of maintenance and operations functions of the unit. The winged star stands for aviation heritage and the unit's dedication to meet the high standards set by their predecessors. (Approved, 3 Dec 1992. Revised, 5 Apr 2019)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 5 Airdrome Squadron was initially based at the Combat Crew Replacement Center located at Toome, Northern Ireland. The training of replacement aircrew on the A-20 and B-26 Marauder took place at this station. When the Lockheed Overseas Corporation vacated Langford Lodge In May 1944, the 5 Airdrome Squadron, commanded by Moir L. Shockley, received orders that they were to vacate Toome, and relocate to Langford Lodge. Moving on 3 May 1944, the squadron was given an Orderly Room and eight barracks at Gortnagallon, site 4. A small detachment of men and vehicles stayed behind at Toome. Gradually the squadron replaced LOC personnel and took over their duties, assigned to salvage aircraft, the 5th Airdrome Squadron was in charge of all perimeter service and first and second echelon maintenance. This included handling of refueling units, dispersal of aircraft, and taxiing and towing of all aircraft on the base.

In August 1944, the squadron was maintaining approximately 500 aircraft daily, doing the job with only fifty men. The squadron had its own Softball team, winning the Northern Ireland championship. Around the first of November, the squadron received orders to leave the comforts of Langford Lodge, to take over the new Storage Station at Greencastle, located at Kilkeel. A large detachment of men remained at Langford Lodge, known as detachment "A", this detachment set up their own organization and orderly room located on the airfield at site 2, this detachment was commanded by Lt. R.F. Kenney.

At Greencastle, under the command of Major Shockley, the squadron was assigned to essentially run the base, with the aid of several small detachments. Setting up a Motor Pool, Mess, Communications, Signal, and Quartermaster. In January 1945, detachment "A" left Langford Lodge and arrived at Greencastle, bringing the squadron up to almost full strength.

The 5th Airdrome Squadron was assigned to store a large amount of aircraft in January 1945, maintaining over 350 aircraft in various storage stages with less than 250 men. In March 1945, a deadline was set for clearing the Station of all aircraft, this placed a tremendous strain on the squadron and working hours were increased.

In the Engineering section, with one Officer and ninety-five enlisted men, a commendable amount of work was performed on the various types of aircraft on the station: an average 281 aircraft were worked on each day, de-inhibiting 151 aircraft and delivering 127 aircraft, throughout the month. In May 1945, the squadron continued work in clearing all aircraft from the station. The deadline for clearing all aircraft was set at 15 May 1945. Working from 0700 to 2130 six nights a week, by the 15<sup>th</sup>, four aircraft were left on the station due to poor flying conditions and VE-Day celebrations. On the morning of 21 May 1945, the 5th Airdrome Squadron departed Northern Ireland, destined for Stansted, England.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE 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.