

## 3 TEST AND EVALUATION SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

3 Surveillance Squadron constituted, 10 Aug 1990  
Redesignated 3 Space Surveillance Squadron and activated, 1 Oct 1992  
Inactivated, 20 Feb 2002  
Redesignated 3 Space Experimentation Squadron, 16 Feb 2006  
Activated, 10 Mar 2006  
Redesignated 3 Test and Evaluation Squadron, 27 Aug 2021

#### STATIONS

Misawa AB, Japan, 1 Oct 1992-20 Feb 2002  
Schriever AFB, CO, 10 Mar 2006

#### ASSIGNMENTS

73 Space Group, 1 Oct 1992  
21 Operations Group, 26 Apr 1995-20 Feb 2002  
595 Space Group, 10 Mar 2006  
50 Operations Group, 1 Apr 2013  
750 Operations Group, 19 Jun 2020  
STAR Delta-P, 24 Jul 2020  
Space Delta 12, 27 Aug 2021

## COMMANDERS

Lt Col Jeff Hokett, 1 Jun 2007  
Lt Col Joseph Prue, 26 May 2009  
Lt Col Sam Johnson, 13 Jun 2011  
Lt Col Matthew S. Cantore, 14 Jun 2013  
Lt Col Zachary S. Owen, 13 Feb 2015  
Lt Col Kevin Amsden, 6 Apr 2017  
Lt Col William Burich, 31 May 2019  
Lt Col Anna Gunn-Golkin, 14 Jun 2021

## HONORS

### Service Streamers

### Campaign Streamers

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

### Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
1 Oct 1995-30 Sep 1997  
1 Oct 1997-30 Sep 1999  
1 Jan-31 Dec 1998  
1 Jan-31 Dec 1999  
1 Jan 2000-31 Aug 2001

## EMBLEM



3rd Space Experimentation Squadron emblem: Sable, a temple dog salient or, resting its front paws on a globe azure gridlined argent, within two orbit rings saltirewise of the last; all within a diminished border of the third. Attached below and above the disc are white scrolls edged with

narrow blue borders, the bottom scroll inscribed “Unequaled Excellence” in black letters. 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 black disc represents space. The blue globe denotes earth and the origin of deep space satellites as depicted by the double orbit rings. The temple guard dog known as vigilant sentinel and protector symbolizes the squadron’s presence in the Orient and its constant surveillance of the sky for deep space satellites. (Approved, 27 Jul 1993)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

The 3rd Space Experimentation Squadron is AFSPC's premier organization for space-based demonstrations, pathfinders and experiments. The unit identifies concepts of employment, training, education and technical skill sets required to field selected future AFSPC missions. The 3rd SES will develop a core cadre of space professionals to serve as subject matter experts for all future AFSPC space-based endeavors, demonstrate operational utility of selected demonstrations and apply lessons learned from demonstrations and pathfinders for use in future initiatives.

The 3rd SES previously operated the Automated Navigation and Guidance Experiment for Local Space, or ANGELS, spacecraft which was decommissioned on Nov. 20, 2017. ANGELS hosted a Space Situational Awareness sensor payload to evaluate techniques for detection, tracking and characterization of space objects. The experimental spacecraft utilized autonomous navigation to advance the tactics, techniques and procedures necessary to safely conduct rendezvous and proximity operations.

Launched in April 2018, the Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle Secondary Payload Adapter Augmented Geosynchronous Laboratory Experiment, or EAGLE, spacecraft was the Air Force’s first on-orbit maneuverable ESPA ring. ESPA rings take advantage of secondary payload efficiencies creating low-cost access to geosynchronous orbit, allowing for six or more hosted or deployable experiments. One of EAGLE’s hosted payloads is the Mycroft spacecraft which is a separable, fly-away satellite.

The Mycroft spacecraft will advance Space Domain Awareness technology and enhance space object characterization capabilities while performing rendezvous and proximity operations. These spacecraft, developed by the Air Force Research Laboratory, will initially be supported by 3rd SES members at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. Satellite Control Authority for both spacecraft will shift to 3rd SES, and operations will move to Schriever AFB in 2020 for residual experimentation.

3rd SES also oversees operations of the X-37B Orbital Test Vehicle, an experimental program designed to demonstrate technologies for a reliable, reusable, unmanned space test platform for the U.S. Space Force.

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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.