

8th MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

8th Maintenance Squadron mission is to maintain the F16 C/D Aircraft in support of two combat ready fighter squadrons flying over 10,500 hours annually. Maintains engines, avionics, fuels, egress, aerospace ground equipment, transient alert, aircraft paint, calibration, munitions, fabrication, and armament systems support capabilities. Support follow-on forces for the Air Component Commander.

Performs on- and off-equipment maintenance for two combat-ready fighter squadrons with 45 F-16CMs flying more than 8,000 hours annually. Assigned 600 personnel across 9 flights that maintain engines, avionics, fuels, egress, aerospace ground equipment, transient alert, aircraft paint, calibration, munitions, fabrication, and armament systems support capabilities. Supports follow-on forces for the Air Component Commander, ready to "Take the Fight North."

LINEAGE

8th Maintenance Squadron Constituted, Fighter, Single Engine, 10 Aug 1948

Activated, 18 Aug 1948

Redesignated 8th Maintenance Squadron, Fighter, Jet, 1 Jan 1950

Redesignated 8th Maintenance Squadron, 20 Jan 1950

Redesignated 8th Field Maintenance Squadron, 8 Nov 1954

Discontinued, 18 Jun 1964

Inactivated, 18 Jun 1964

Activated, 9 Jul 1964
Organized, 25 Jul 1964
Redesignated 8th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, 1 Jun 1977
Redesignated 8th Maintenance Squadron, 3 Feb 1992

STATIONS

Ashiya AB, Japan, 18 Aug 1948
Itazuke AB, Japan, 25 Mar 1949
Seoul, South Korea, 1 Dec 1950
Itazuke AB, Japan, 9 Dec 1950
Suwon AB, South Korea, 3 Sep 1951
Itazuke AB, Japan, 19 Oct 1954 -18 Jun 1964
George AFB, California, 25 Jul 1964 - 8 Dec 1965
Ubon AFB, Thailand, 8 Dec 1965
Kunsan AB, South Korea, 16 Sep 1974

ASSIGNMENTS

8th Maintenance and Supply Group, 18 Aug 1948
8th Fighter Bomber Wing (later 8th Tactical Fighter Wing), 1 Oct 1957 – 18 Jun 1964
Tactical Air Command, 9 Jul 1964
8th Tactical Fighter Wing (later 8th Fighter Wing), 25 Jul 1964
8th Logistics Group (later 8th Maintenance Group), 3 Feb 1992

COMMANDERS

Cpt Morris B. Pitts, 18 Aug 1948
Cpt Elvador E. Ritter, Jan 1949
Maj Martin L. DeLong, Feb 1949
Maj Frank J. Rhinehart, 25 Mar 1949
Maj Andrew Haughom, Sep 1949
Maj Frank J. Rhinehart, Oct 1949
Cpt Winfred H. Owen, 28 Mar 1950
LTC James R. Callihan, Jan 1951
Maj Harry L. Hines, Feb 1952
Cpt Nathan M. Jacobson, 4 Jun 1952
Cpt George G. Dunn Jr., unknown
LTC Corwin C. Grimes, 1 Apr 1953
LTC Edgar C. Kurner, unknown
LTC Samuel W. Mayberry Jr., 17 Feb 1955
Maj James F. May Jr., 1 Jun 1957
Cpt Cecil O. Brown, 1958
Maj Lloyd R. Pugh Jr., 15 Jul 1958
Maj Fred Clemovitz, 9 Nov 1959
LTC Joseph C. Hamilton Jr., 1 Dec 1960

LTC Henry W. Mays, 27 Jul 1962
Maj Emil V. Busch, Apr 1964
LTC John A. Perrone, 1964
LTC Jerome A. O'Toole, 1966
LTC Jack Oates, 1966
LTC Ray H. Fox, Jun 1967
Maj Charles E. Siefert, 1967
LTC Carl A. Janssen, 1968
LTC John M. Weeks Jr., Dec 1968
LTC John D. Beeson, 19 Oct 1969
LTC Robert E. Zimmerman, 27 Mar 1970
Maj George S. Florkiewicz, 17 Aug 1970
LTC Vincent O. Adams Jr., 1970
LTC Edward S. Prunko, Jun 1971
LTC Ward C. Shaw, 3 Jul 1972
Maj Charles J. Celveles, 5 Oct 1972
LTC Thomas E. Brown, 18 Oct 1972
Maj Quitman W. Lott, 2 Apr 1972
Maj Marcus A. Anderson, 2 Jan 1974
Cpt Virgil V. Monti Jr., 13 Jul 1974
Maj William C. Morrison, 30 Sep 1974
Maj Al M. Smith, 15 May 1975
1st Lieutenant Elgin T. Sanders, 5 Aug 1975
Maj Theodore L. Cates, 1 Sep 1975
Maj Donald R. Edwards, 11 Aug 1976
Cpt James E. Femal, 28 Mar 1977
Maj Donald R. Edwards, 1 Jun 1977
Maj Herbert W. Wessell, 19 Jul 1977
Maj William L. Bryant, 6 Sep 1977
Maj James W. Miles, 14 Jul 1978
Maj Jesse C. DeHay Jr., 23 Nov 1978
Maj James E. Ivy, 16 Jun 1979
Maj Bryce D. Segar, 16 Jul 1980
Unknown, 1981
Maj Guckenberger, 1982
Maj Leonard E. Schmidt, 24 Jun 1983
LTC William F. McDonald, 30 Jun 1984
Maj Nettie L. Crawford, 23 Jul 1985
Maj John T. Knight, Jul 1986
LTC Mel D. Byers, Jul 1987
Maj Patrick Cvitanovich, 11 Jul 1988
Maj Jerry R. Worsham, 11 Aug 1989
Maj William C. McCammon, 5 Jul 1990
LTC Polly A. Peyer, Jul 1991

LTC Pamela D. Carter, 10 Jul 1992
LTC Frank V. Avent IV, 6 Jul 1993
LTC Steven L. Fuzzell, Jul 1994
LTC Anthony J. Heyward, 28 Jun 1995
Maj Richard G. Matthews, 14 Jun 1996
Maj John R. Miller, 6 Jun 1997
LTC Gregory G. Iusi, 5 Jun 1998
Maj Tyrone A. Strachan, 1 Jun 1999
Maj Darryl A. Sweetwine, 31 May 2000
Maj Steven J. Brooks, 8 May 2001
LTC Jon M. Sutterfield, 3 Jun 2002
LTC Robert L. Stephenson, 3 Jun 2003
Maj Richard Spillane, 14 Jun 2004
Maj Matthew D. Cox, 3 Jun 2005
LTC Margaret N. Fleming, 15 Jun 2006
LTC Brian A. Fox, 18 Jun 2007
Maj Michael L. Merritt, 25 Jun 2008
Maj Darin D. Findling, 6 Mar 2009
Maj Michael L. Merritt, 1 Jun 2009
Maj James M. Zick, 19 Jun 2009
Maj William Bradley, Jun 2010
Maj Caesar Gonzalez, 6 Jun 2011
Maj Christopher A. Tooman, 3 Jul 2012
Maj Timothy Fuhrman, 2 Jul 2013
Maj Charles Ploetz, 3 Jul 2014
Maj Adam C. Hauer, 25 Jun 2015
Maj David M. Flowers, 23 Jun 2016

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

CCF Intervention 1950- 1951
UN Summer-Fall Offensive, 1951
Second Korean Winter 1951 - 1952
Korea, Summer-Fall 1952
Third Korean Winter 1952-1 953
Korea, Summer 1953

Vietnam

Vietnam Defensive 1965- 1966

Vietnam Air 1966

Vietnam Air Offensive 1966- 1967

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II 1967-1968

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III, 1968
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV 1968- 1969
Tet 69/Counteroffensive 1969
Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969
Vietnam Winter/Spring 1969- 1970
Sanctuary Counteroffensive 1970
Southwest Monsoon 1970
Commando Hunt V 1970-1971
Commando Hunt VI 1971
Commando Hunt VII 1971 -1972
Vietnam Ceasefire 1972-1973

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Presidential Unit Citations
16 Dec 1966 - 2 Jan 1967
1 Mar 1967 - 31 Mar 1968
1 Jan 1971 - 1 Apr 1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat V
16 Dec 1965 - 15 Dec 1966
1 Apr 1968 - 30 Sep 1968
1 Jan - 31 Dec 1970
1 Oct 1971 – 31 Mar 1972
1 Apr 1972 - 22 Oct 1972
18 Dec 1972 - 15 Aug 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
12 May 1963 - 21 Mar 1964
1 Apr 1977 -31 Mar 1978
1 Jun 1986 - 31 May 1988
1 Oct 2003 - 30 Sep 2005
1 Oct 2005 - 30 Sep 2007
1 Nov 2009 - 31 Oct 2011

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations
27 Jun 1950 - 31 Jan 1951
1 Feb 1951-31 Mar 1953

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

EMBLEM

On a blue disc, a green Chinese dragon coiled detailed blue and silver, gray head and tail, enflamed yellow and red, with yellow claws; all within a narrow gray border. Attached above the disc a green scroll edged with a narrow gray border. Attached below the disc a green scroll inscribed WARFITTERS OF THE PACK in gray letters and edged with a narrow gray border. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theatre of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sky and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The dragon symbolizes the military preparedness and represents the diversity and combined strength of the eight Equipment Maintenance Squadrons' resources.

MOTTO

Warfitters of the Pack

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Officials at Kunsan AB, South Korea, this week cut the ribbon on a new maintenance complex that consolidates 18 interrelated shops. "Before the new facility was completed, maintenance operations were performed out of several buildings scattered across three square miles," said Andrew Rajala, the resident engineer at Kunsan's US Army Corps of Engineers office. "Now, all these sections are in a single area and there are fewer inefficiencies of transporting parts among the shops," he added. The new accessories shop will be home to four functional areas within Kunsan's 8th Maintenance Squadron: wheel and tire, hydraulics and electrical, external tank, and commander support staff. The ribbon-cutting took place on Dec. 18. "Having everyone right here instead of having to walk across base is really convenient," said SSgt. Brice Gaston, 8th MXS alternate facility manager and vehicle control officer. 2012

Airmen assigned to the 8th Maintenance Squadron and 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron are tasked to ensure one aircraft is ready to fly, fight and win with a simultaneous double-wing replacement. "Aircraft maintenance doesn't happen in one section; it takes the entire team, day in and day out," said Senior Master Sgt. Casey Hall, the 8th AMXS lead production superintendent. "This double-wing change is a perfect example of how different sections in different squadrons all come together to make the mission happen." This procedure requires crew chiefs and maintainers from aircraft fuels systems, aircraft armament systems and aircraft structural maintenance to work in harmony to ensure the replacement of the wings is done correctly and the aircraft is returned to duty. Tech. Sgt. Rene St. Hilaire, an 8th MXS aircraft fuels system craftsman, has worked on F-16 Fighting Falcons for nine years and has been a part of four double-wing replacement procedures. "For the Airmen here, it is a great training experience," St. Hilaire said. "The team (members) working on this double-wing replacement have different experience levels with the F-16, and, for some, this is a once in a lifetime experience."

While single replacements are common, a simultaneous double-wing replacement is rare, and the amount of maintainers with experience doing it is even rarer. "When they told me it was a double-wing replacement on the same jet, it seemed kind of daunting," said Staff Sgt. Dwight Hunter, an 8th AMXS aircraft armament systems team lead. Considerable planning and

preparation have to happen beforehand in order to embark on a project of this magnitude. Senior Airman Samantha Cash, an 8th MXS aircraft fuels system journeyman, was part of the fuels systems team replacing the wings. “You don’t see a double-wing change very often, so while the challenge is exciting, you have to do your research and make sure everyone knows their role and is comfortable in that role,” Cash said. “Cross talk between the different career fields is key to everyone being on the same page and that the steps required are completed so that the procedure can be done timely and correctly.” 2016

Air Force Order of Battle
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.