

433 AEROMEDICAL STAGING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

433 Aeromedical Staging Squadron constituted, 9 Sep 1994
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Kelly AFB (Later, Kelly Fld Annex, Lackland AFB), TX. 1 Oct 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

433 Medical Group, 1 Oct 1994

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

A wooden staff with a vert snake entwined is centered on the disc. The dexter side of the disc is ultramarine blue. An argent five pointed estoile is centered on the blue background. Sinister to sinister chief of the disc is also argent, while sinister to sinister base is gules. A gules cross is placed at sinister. The disc is border with or. An ultramarine azure scroll is attached above and below the disc. The scrolls are bordered also with or. The scroll above is blank. The one below is lettered with or and bears the unit's motto "pathway to survival." **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are used in the design. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of air force operations. Yellow signifies the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The scarlet of the red cross reflect blood shed in combat, and the life saving mission of the unit. Life and healing are represented by the emerald green snake, while the gold brown of the staff symbolizes strength and determination. The white of the star and emblem background signifies purity of purpose in the medical mission. (approved, 23 Jan 1997)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

During the early part of the year forty-six members of the 433d Security Police Squadron and five members of the 433d Aeromedical Staging Squadron invaded Camp Swift near Austin, Texas. The members participated in a three-day training mission. The training improved vital security police and medical skills.

"We chose six wartime skills we needed critical training in," said MSgt David A. Holman, 433 SPS, Air Reserve Technician. "We trained in night operations using infrared early warning devices and various types of flares. We also tested our reaction to simulated indirect fire such as mortar or artillery fire." The 433 ASTS provided medical support in case of any real world injuries, according to Colonel Barbara L. Barnes, commander.

"One medic assignment was to a squad with a medical back pack, while another was assigned to a roving ambulance," said Barnes. "They provided treatment for hypothermia, eye injuries, dehydration, sprained ankles, and abrasions. This real world care of injured soldiers in primitive conditions gave the medics experience and training for what they will encounter if mobilized."

The police divided into squads so smaller groups rotated into all of the different areas of training. One scenario made a small defensive line with three gun emplacements and installed field telephones at each location. One squad of security police defended this line while they were in their chemical warfare gear.

Over 250 members from the Alamo Wing joined 2000 active duty, reserve and guard airman soldiers and sailors in Patriot Star 97. The exercise was a massive joint medical training exercise staged at several sites in the Northeast during June. Reservists assigned to the 433d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron and the 433d Aeromedical Staging Squadron tested their abilities to deploy to a contingency location, sustain operations and deploy home. Patriot

MedStar '97 was a joint service, Total Force exercise sponsored by Headquarters, Air Force Reserve Command. It was the first time since the Persian Gulf War in more than six years that reserve and active components exercised the complete medical evacuation system for movement of patients both within a small theater area and over long distances. In addition to their medical and medically related duties, participants trained in deployment procedures, ground and flight operations, chemical warfare protection, and perimeter defense training.

1997 The 433d Aeromedical Staging Squadron conducted its annual training exercise, Operation Winteifest 98,5-8 November, emphasized learning how to react to mass casualty scenarios and chemical attacks from terrorists. Unit members set up a 50-bed aeromedical staging facility in tents on the 433d Airlift Wing flight line. Members training consisted of establishing and operating a medical facility, loaded and unloaded patients from air and ground transportation, and looked after them. We also had the opportunity to use our medical equipment under simulated conditions.

The 433 Security Police Squadron worked with the unit to train the 433 ASTS personnel on security matters and challenged their security capabilities. Several terrorist scenarios were presented including enemy infiltration, bomb threats and hostage situations.

More than 200 members of the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, the active Air Force and the U.S. Army participated in a joint medical training exercise hosted by the Alamo Wing, 1-2 May. Dubbed Operation SPRING GAMES '99, the exercise provided contingency training to personnel involved in a mass casualty scenario. The 433d Aeromedical Staging Squadron and 433d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron set up the exercise and conducted training for their own members and those of the other components. The beneficiaries of the training were active-duty ASTS units from Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio, and Lackland AFB, Texas. The Air Force Reserve's 459th ASTS at Andrews AFB, Maryland, also provided exercise support, as well as the 452nd Air Mobility Wing, March ARB, California, which contributed a C-141 Starlifter to the exercise on which patients were evacuated.

The 433d Aeromedical Staging Squadron added new faces to its ongoing mission readiness requirements. Three new areas were given the green light to establish better manning in an effort to continually deliver superior medical services so that ASTS could better prepare patients for aeromedical evacuation.

First, four critical care aeromedical transport teams, with each team consisting of a physician, a critical care registered nurse and a cardio-pulmonary technician, would work in conjunction with the 433d Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. The Critical Care Augmentation Team (CCAT) team augmented care for ill, critically injured and burn patients requiring advanced care during aeromedical transport. The team was to be a rapid deployable resource available to support a forward-deployed medical unit that needed added medical assistance. In addition, CCAT was to assist the ASF when specialized medical equipment requirements needed to support patients expected to exceed the unit's medical inventory in flight. Along with the new CCAT teams, ASTS started manning a new 50-bed, 27-member addition to its

already 24-hour, 1,100-bed ASF, providing medical support augmentation with emergency medical care for patients transiting to the aeromedical evacuation squadron.

USAF Unit Histories

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Sources

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

Unit history. *Kelly AFB, TX, Heritage of Service, Seventy-Five Years of Military Aviation at Kelly Air Force Base, 1916-1991*. Office of History, San Antonio Air Logistics Center. Kelly AFB, TX. 1991.