

# 440<sup>th</sup> AIR EXPEDITIONARY ADVISORY SQUADRON



## MISSION

## LINEAGE

440<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron

## STATIONS

## ASSIGNMENTS

## COMMANDERS

## HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

## Decorations

## EMBLEM

On a disc per pale Azure, a Phoenix Gules, eyed of the field, rising from flames of the second, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "LEADING THE WAY" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "440 AEAS" in Yellow letters.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 Phoenix symbolizes rebirth and resurrection, alluding to air advisors' objective of creating a sustainable, fully independent, operationally capable air force, often from modest beginnings. It also symbolizes strength and vigor.

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

1/8/2011 - KABUL, Afghanistan -- The NATO Air Training Command-Afghanistan's 440th Air Expeditionary changed command during a ceremony at the Afghan Air Force Base in Kabul Jan. 8, with Maj. Joseph Stangl assuming command from Lt. Col. Kimberly Tooman as commander of the squadron. Lt. Col. Tooman commanded the largest NATC-A squadron, a unit comprised of 48 airmen, eight coalition nation's aviation advisor teams and 169 special contractors advising aircraft maintenance, logistics, resources management, fleet sustainment and air worthiness for 10 C-27s, six An-32/An-26s and 51 Mi-17/35s during her tenure. She was responsible for instituting, guiding and instructing maintenance and logistics strategic vision across three wings and five forward operating bases.

Given an opportunity to speak to her troops one final time, Tooman thanked everyone that she had an opportunity to work with during her time as the 440th AEAS commander. She gave special thanks to Col Abdul Shafi, the AAF Maintenance Group Commander, Tooman's counterpart in the AAF. "I appreciate you welcoming me into your family, and I appreciate your friendship. Col. Shafi, I know you will continue to take the maintenance route to further heights this year. It was an honor to work with you, the best maintenance officer in the Afghan Air Force," she said. Tooman also spoke of her admiration for the members of the 440th AEAS. "To the men and woman of the 440th Air Expeditionary Advisory Squadron, thank you for the hard work you displayed while I was the commander of this squadron. Leading this world class group of airmen has been the highlight of my 17 year career. Many times we have made the impossible possible and even made it look easy while doing it. You have made me proud to be your commander," she said.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.