

455th EXPEDITIONARY MAINTENANCE GROUP



MISSION

The 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group maintains and delivers aircraft for use in airlift and strike missions for Operation Enduring Freedom.

LINEAGE

455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group

STATIONS

Bagram, Afghanistan

ASSIGNMENTS

455th Air Expeditionary Wing

COMMANDERS

Col John Thiesen
Col Jon Sutterfield
Col Ben Spencer

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Argent, on a chief per fess nebuly Celeste bearing a semé of mullets of the first superimposed by a

globe counter-changed palewise Azure and of the first gridlined of the like in base two lightning flashes pilewise Gules, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "455TH EXPEDITIONARY MAINTENANCE GROUP" in Blue 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 globe represents range capability and alert vigilance both day and night. The stars allude to the unit as a worldwide deterrent force. The lightning flashes pertain to the speed with which the unit operates.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The US Air Force will no longer operate the C-130H in Afghanistan. The new C-130J model replaced the veteran cargo workhorse on Jan. 9, states a Jan. 13 release. The first C-130J actually arrived at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, moments after the last C-130H took off from the base for its final time. "The C-130H model here at Bagram has been truly outstanding. They are the oldest C-130 fleet here in the [area of responsibility], flying the highest utilization rate, yet they continually boast the highest mission capability rate in the AOR," said Col. Ben Spencer, commander of the 455th Expeditionary Maintenance Group. In fact, the H-model had a 94 percent reliability rate flying out of Bagram, states the release. However, the newer aircraft is expected to be even more efficient with a whole new digital cockpit, additional airlift capacity, and more efficient engines and propellers, noted Lt. Col. Greg Lowe, commander of the 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. "We hope that the J-models will pick up the mantle and do as well as our H-model brethren did," Spencer said. 2014

Air Force Order of Battle

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Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.