566th AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE SQUADRON

MISSION

The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is an E-3 service squadron is a diverse organization comprised of more than 750 personnel providing depot level maintenance, servicing, de-painting, and painting on multiple weapon systems to include all aircraft and components worked within AMXG, CMXG, and other tenant organizations to include 552nd ACW and Navy Strategic Communication Wing One. The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is located within the 76th Maintenance Wing at the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center (OC-ALC).

The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron is responsible for all programmed and all unprogrammed Depot Level Maintenance on the E-3 Sentry Fleet, Expanded Phase Maintenance on the Navy E-6B, and maintenance required in support of Paint Processes on C-130. Our workforce contains the skill and experience set that can adapt and move between several levels of maintenance on various types of aircraft. Our facilities consist of 3 bays each of which will support 1 Boeing 707 class aircraft.

Depaint Section is a multi complex, state of the art facility comprised of 179 professionals providing Depot Level Depaint for the 76th Maintenance Wing. Our highly skilled professional workforce is made up of Equipment Cleaners, Shot Peeners / AC Mechanic Helpers, Blasters, Painters, Respirator Cleaners and HazMat Operators. These professionals are responsible for the Depaint Depot maintenance of the E-3 Sentry Fleet, C-130, C135, B1, B52 and the E-6 Navy Fleet. The Depaint facility is equipped with motorized man lifts and communication systems allowing communications between the workforces during
strip operations.

Depaint Section is composed of two buildings equaling four high bay docks for large and small airframes, the largest being the B52 bomber. In addition to supporting of these large frame aircraft, we support over 27,000 aircraft component parts.

Paint Section is comprised of 268 highly skilled and trained professionals providing the best quality of depot level strip and paint capability of aircraft components and aircraft weapon

systems. The weapons systems supported are the E-3, Navy's E-6, C-130, KC-135, B-1 and the B-52.

Paint Section has three paint docks where stripping, sanding, sealing, washing, treating, priming, painting and the applying of all markings is performed without moving the aircraft. In the paint docks we have aerial platforms with remote controls allowing ease of access to high locations on the aircraft. A fire suppressant system in two paint docks provides the capability for painting fueled aircraft. One paint dock has a monorail system providing the capability of painting parts that are removed from the aircraft.

The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron fully supports the Navy's Take Charge and Move Out (TACAMO) mission by providing maintenance and support for the E-6B. The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron performs the Enhanced Phase Maintenance (EPM) in conjunction with the Navy Phase Inspection within a 14 calendar day window in the Navy facility. The EPM, which began in FY94, consists of tasks involving inspections or replacement of components. Along with the EPM, the 566th is also responsible for modifications and the paint program for the E-6B.

The 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and Boeing utilize the Maintenance, Repair & Overhaul Technology Center (MROTC) in a partnership to accomplish the upgrades on the E-3 Sentry. The current upgrade consists of the Demand Assigned Multiple Access (DAMA) UHF SATCOM modification which helps to expand the operational availability. The Navigation portion of the modification is the Global Air Traffic Management (GATM) system which permits aircraft to fly in closer proximity to each other in congest airspace worldwide. The system also uses the Global Positioning Systems to help prevent midair collisions and allows the aircraft to fly at different altitudes. Future Upgrades will include new mission hardware and software, improved operational consoles and upgraded radar equipment. While Boeing was awarded the initial contract, it has partnered with Air Force (566 AMXS) to perform the modifications.

LINEAGE
566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

STATIONS
Tinker AFB, OK

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS
Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

CALL SIGN

OPERATIONS

In FY07, 94 aircraft along with 7,625 aircraft components were painted by the 566th Aircraft Maintenance Services Paint Section while maintaining a dedication to providing the highest level of quality paint jobs to our customers.

2010 Tinker Maintainers Finish First E-6B Refurbishment: Member of the 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Tinker AFB, Okla., on June 15 completed work on the first of 16 Navy E-6 command and control aircraft they are refurbishing under a service life extension program. The unit, a component of Tinker's Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center, began this work about eight months ago. The SLEP involves strengthening the tail and under surfaces of the wing to extend the life of the E-6 fleet to 2038. "It's a pretty significant amount of work," said the 566th's Bill Cain. Like the Air Force E-3 AWACS aircraft that the squadron maintains, the E-6s are based on Boeing's 707 airframe. The E-6 fleet operates from Tinker. These aircraft support US Strategic Command by serving as airborne command posts. Work on the final E-6 is scheduled to be completed in 2013.

Technicians at Tinker AFB, Okla., recently reconditioned the 12th E-6 Mercury nuclear command and control aircraft, returning it to the Navy in less than half the time it took to deliver the first. "That is very important to our Navy customer due to the limited aircraft they have available and the critical mission" supporting US Strategic Command, 566th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director Bob Helgeson said in a Nov. 19 release. Tinker cut the time required to complete service life extension from more than 270 days on the first aircraft in 2009, to 132 days, mostly through innovative planning and more efficient use of personnel, according to the release. The service-life extension program will enable the entire 16-aircraft fleet to fly an additional 20 years. Mercury is the Navy's equivalent of the E-4B nuclear command and control aircraft, and is capable of directing the launch of both Minuteman III ICBMs as well as submarine-launched ballistic missiles. Tinker plans to complete SLEP of the final four aircraft by 2017.2015

Air Force Order of Battle
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Sources

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