

## 673 MISSION SUPPORT GROUP



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

5040 Air Base Squadron Organized, 15 Jul 1958  
Redesignated 5073 Air Base Squadron, 1 Oct 1961  
Redesignated 507 Air Base Group, 15 Oct 1974  
Redesignated 673 Air Base Group, 27 Jan 1992  
Inactivated, 1 Apr 1995  
Redesignated 673 Mission Support Group, 14 Dec 2009  
Activated, 24 Jun 2010

#### STATIONS

Shemya Aprt (later, Shemya AAB Shemya AFS; Shemya AFB; Eareckson AFS, Eareckson AS),  
AK, 15 Jul 1958-1 Apr 1995  
Elmendorf AFB, AK, 24 Jun 2010

#### ASSIGNMENTS

10 Air Division, 15 Jul 1958  
5040 Air Control and Warning Group, 1 Feb 1959  
10 Air Division, 1 Nov 1959  
5040 Air Base Wing, 1 Aug 1960  
Alaskan Air Command (later, Eleventh Air Force), 1 Oct 1961  
11 Air Control Wing, 27 Jan 1992  
Eleventh Air Force, 1 Jul 1994-1 Apr 1995  
673 Air Base Wing, 24 Jun 2010

## COMMANDERS

### HONORS

#### Service Streamers

None

#### Campaign Streamers

None

#### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

### Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan-31 Dec 1970

1 Jan-31 Dec 1971

1 Jan 1973-31 Dec 1974

1 Jan-31 Dec 1975

1 Jan-31 Dec 1979

1 Jul 1983-30 Jun 1985

1 Oct 1990-30 Sep 1992

1 Oct 1992-30 Jun 1994

6 Apr 1993

### EMBLEM

Per pale Or and Azure, issuant from base in pale a column counterchanged supporting a sphere with axis palewise Light Blue, rimmed and gridlined of the second on the dexter portion and of the first on the sinister portion, on which are eight mullets of five points Argent forming the Big Dipper constellations and the North Star, in the sinister top of the sphere, flanked by a stylized wing fesswise of the last, a mullet of five points of like bearing a torteau, in dexter base a stylized aircraft ascending bendwise of the second and in sinister base a lightning bolt Gules, all within a diminished bordure of the first. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "673D MISSION SUPPORT GROUP" in Blue letters. Group will use the wing emblem with the group designation in the scroll. **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 constellation of stars draws heritage from the 5073d Air Base Group (Big Dipper), formerly stationed on Eareckson AB, Alaska. The guiding North Star with the red dot symbolizes the forging of a new path, providing installation support to a joint base. Its combination with the winged eagle signifies respect for the former Alaskan Air Command and the Group's continuation of its rich traditions within Eleventh Air Force. The globe represents the organization's impact in supporting worldwide missions, unfettered by geographical boundaries. Within the globe displays two mutually dependent sides representing Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, supporting the vital missions of the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army.

The pedestal uplifting the globe represents the foundation of Joint Basing, joint missions held together and supported by the installation support professionals of the 673d Air Base Wing. The four pillars of the column represent the shared values of Integrity, Service Before Self, Excellence and Courage. The aircraft represents the proud lineage of the Air Force, airpower and the expeditionary means of deploying Airmen and Soldiers. The lightning bolt symbolizes the rich, proud tradition of the Army Garrison that merged to establish the 673d Air Base Wing and the organizations' readiness, speed, power and aggressive action in accomplishing its mission.

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

On 27 January 1992, the 5073rd Air Base Group located at Shemya AFB was redesignated as the 673rd Air Base Group. The 673d and the base were then reassigned from Eleventh Air Force to the 11th Air Control Wing. The 673rd was reassigned to the Eleventh Air Force on the 1 July 1994, inactivation of the 11th Air Control Wing.

With the end of the Cold War, activities on Eareckson AS were eliminated or reduced. Currently, Air Force Intelligence Agency operates Cobra Dane and the Navy maintains the Classic Owl facility. Both support intelligence gathering activities. Eareckson Air Station was turned over to a contractor (Piquini Management Cooperation) on 1 April 1995, and the 673rd Air Base Group was inactivated.

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Air Force Lineage and Honors

Created: 12 Apr 2012

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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.