

772 EXPEDITIONARY AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

772 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 19 May 1943

Activated, 1 Aug 1943

Inactivated, 25 Sep 1945

Redesignated 772 Troop Carrier Squadron (Medium), 1 Dec 1952

Activated, 16 Jan 1953

Redesignated 772 Troop Carrier Squadron (Assault), 18 Dec 1961

Redesignated 772 Tactical Airlift Squadron

Redesignated 772 Airlift Squadron

Inactivated 1 Oct 1993

Redesignated 772 Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, and converted to provisional status, 4 Dec 2001

STATIONS

Geiger Field, WA, 1 Aug 1943

Rapid City AAB, SD, Aug 1943

MacDill Field, FL, 4 Nov 1943

Lakeland AAFld, FL, 3 Jan-2 Feb 1944

Hampton Roads (Camp Patrick Henry), VA (ground echelon), 2-12 Feb 1944 (air echelon operated from Hunter Field, GA, 6-10 Feb 1944)

Morrison Field, FL, 11-14 Feb 1944; then staged through bases in South America and North Africa, 15 Feb-13 Mar 1944)

Naples, Italy (ground echelon), 10 Mar 1944

Celone Airfield, Italy (ground echelon), 11 Mar 1944 (air echelon operated from Amendola Field,

Foggia, Italy, 14-27 Mar 1944, then joined ground echelon at Celone Airfield, Italy, 28 Mar 1944)

Pomigliano Airfield, Italy, 26 May 1945

Celone Airfield, Italy, 3-25 Sep 1945

Memphis Muni Aprt, TN, 16 Jan 1953
Ardmore AFB, OK, 17 Aug 1953
Sewart AFB, TN, 15 Nov 1958
Langley AFB, VA, 5 Jul 1963-7 Feb 1966
Mactan Isle Airfield, Philippines, 12 Feb 1966
Clark AB, Philippines, 15 Jul 1968-15 Jun 1971

DEPLOYED STATIONS

RAF Mildenhall, England, 9 Jul-15 Sep 1972 and 10 Nov 1972-10 Jan 1973
Ching Chuan Kang AB, Taiwan, 6 May-4 Jun 1973
Rhein Main AB, Germany, 5 Feb-8 Apr 1974
RAF Mildenhall, England, 5 Jan-15 Mar 1975, and 3 Nov 1975-15 Jan 1976
Rhein Main AB, Germany, 3 Aug-15 Oct 1976
RAF Mildenhall, England, 3 Nov 1977-7 Jan 1978, 3 Apr-5 Jun 1979, 3 Aug-5 Oct 1980, 3 Dec 1981-13 Feb 1982, 4 Apr-7 Jun 1983, 5 Jun-4 Aug 1984, 10 Oct -7 Dec 1985, 4 Jun-12 Aug 1987, and 4 Oct-12 Dec 1989
RAF Sculthorpe, England, 4 Aug-13 Oct 1988

ASSIGNMENTS

463 Bombardment Group, 1 Aug 1943-25 Sep 1945
463 Troop Carrier Group, 16 Jan 1953
463 Troop Carrier Wing, 25 Sep 1957
840 Air Division, 23 Nov 1965
463 Troop Carrier (later, 463 Tactical Airlift) Wing, 7 Feb 1966-15 Jun 1971
463 Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Jun 1972
463 Operations Group, 1 Nov 1991-1 Oct 1993
Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 4 Dec 2001

ATTACHMENTS

513 Tactical Airlift Wing, 9 Jul-15 Sep 1972 and 10 Nov 1972-10 Jan 1973
374 Tactical Airlift Wing, 6 May-4 Jun 1973
322 Tactical Airlift Wing, 5 Feb-8 Apr 1974
513 Tactical Airlift Wing, 5 Jan-15 Mar 1975 and 3 Nov 1975-15 Jan 1976
322 Tactical Airlift Wing, 3 Aug-15 Oct 1976
313 Tactical Airlift Group, 3 Nov 1977-7 Jan 1978, 3 Apr-5 Jun 1979, 3 Aug-5 Oct 1980, 3 Dec 1981-13 Feb 1982, 4 Apr-7 Jun 1983; 5 Jun-4 Aug 1984; 10 Oct-7 Dec 1985, 4 Jun-12 Aug 1987, 4 Aug-13 Oct 1988, and 4 Oct-12 Dec 1989

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1943-1945
C-119, 1953-1957
C-130, 1956-1971
C-130, 1972

COMMANDERS

Maj Harry W. Robb, 1 Aug 1943
2nd Lt William R. Francis, 1 Sep 1943
1st Lt Emerson Tolle, 5 Oct 1943
Capt George D. Burgess, 28 Oct 1943
Maj James W. Patton, 21 Mar 1944
Lt Col Harry W. Robb, Jan 1945
Lt Col Harvey E. Ferguson, 25 Mar 1945-Unkn
Unkn, 16 Jan-4 Aug 1953
Maj Arthur T. Schaaf, 5 Aug 1953
Capt J. B. Leroy Mccoy, Jun 1955
Lt Col Arthur C. Madeley Jr., Jul 1955
Lt Col Frank Hatten, 25 Sep 1957-Unkn
Lt Col Edwin L. Hibner, 2 Feb 1958
Maj George B. Clark, 1 Mar 1958
Maj Francis B. Young, By Aug 1958
Maj Ray C. Shoemaker, By Sep 1958-Unkn
Lt Col Edwin L. Hibner, By Jan 1960
Maj Ray C. Shoemaker, 23 May 1960
Col Edwin L. Hibner, 1 Jan 1961
Lt Col Ray C. Shoemaker, 8 May 1961
Maj Lester J. Baer, 1 Jun 1962
Maj Charles L. Muirhead Jr., 15 Jun 1962
Lt Col Robert T. Simpson, 25 Jun 1962
Col Robert C. Drum, 3 Dec 1962
Lt Col Paul E. Malone, 18 Feb 1965
Lt Col Miles R. League, 1 Nov 1966
Lt Col Denning M. Perdew, 17 Jan 1967
Col Loyal W. Fry, 13 Dec 1967
Lt Col Stanley A. Rollag, 22 Mar 1968
Lt Col William A. Wood, 11 Jun 1968
Lt Col Leroy M. Lancaster, 30 Nov 1968
Lt Col Howard D. Morgan, 17 Jun 1970-15 Jun 1971
Lt Col Richard D. Kimball, 1 Jun 1972
Lt Col Richard L. W. Henry, 1 Nov 1973
Lt Col Bruce H. Mosley, 1 May 1975
Lt Col Jack R. Nickel, 21 Mar 1977
Lt Col Gene R. Hollrah, 15 Dec 1978
Lt Col Baxter F. Snider, 24 Mar 1980
Lt Col David D. Wilson, 22 Dec 1980
Lt Col Robert A. Mcguire, 31 Jul 1981
Lt Col Carl L. Mcpherson, 25 Jun 1982
Lt Col Gary C. Vycital, 29 Mar 1984
Lt Col Frederick G. Gross, 14 Apr 1986

Lt Col Steven F. Tomhave, 27 Jun 1986
Lt Col Robert H. Meyers, 19 May 1987
Lt Col Robert L. Mims, 30 May 1989
Unkn, Jul 1990-1 Oct 1993
Lt Col Carlos H. Ortiz

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe
Rome-Arno
Northern France
Southern France
North Apennines
Rhineland
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Ploesti, Rumania 18 May 1944
Germany, 24 Mar 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with "Combat V"

1 Jan 1967-31 May 1968
1 Jun 1968-30 Jun 1969
1 Jul 1970-31 May 1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

15 Dec 1960-1 Apr 1961
1 Jul 1964-[22 Nov 1965] and [7 Feb 1966]-15 Jun 1966
1 May 1977-15 Jul 1978
16 Jul 1978-30 Jun 1979
1 Mar 1981-30 Apr 1982

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Jan 1967-31 May 1971

EMBLEM



772nd Bombardment Squadron, Heavy emblem: On a medium blue disc, wide border light red, piped white, a caricatured brown and white falcon with yellow feet and beak, wearing a tan aviator's helmet and white goggles, carrying a large light tan aerial bomb under each wing, while stepping from one white cloud formation to another in base. (Approved, 16 Feb 1944)



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

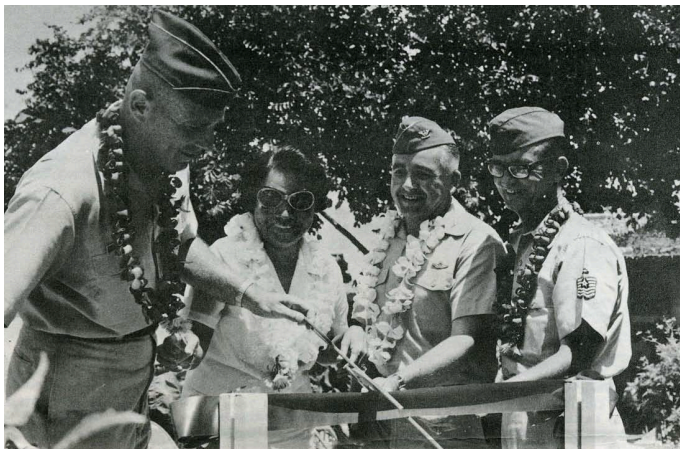
Combat in MTO and ETO, 16 Mar 1944-26 Apr 1945. Transported men and material in support of the crises in Lebanon, Jul 1958, Taiwan, Aug 1958; Berlin, Sep 1961, Cuba, Oct-Nov 1962, and Dominican Republic, Apr-Oct 1965. Rotated aircraft and crews to SEA, Feb 1966- May 1971. Worldwide tactical airlift, 1972-1993.

1966

Brilliant sunshine and a clear blue sky favored the formal dedication of a two-classroom school building Aug. 27 which the 772nd Troop Carrier Sq. "Red Foxes" had constructed for barrio Punta Engano on the tip of Mactan Island, not far from the historic Magellan monument. A host of distinguished civilian and military dignitaries arriving by bus at the barrio from Mactan Air Base for

the ceremonies were welcomed at Punta Engaiio by hundreds of flag waving children lining the road. Father Pedro Reichwein, parish priest of Lapu-Lapu City, and Chaplain (Capt.) John Farrell opened the ceremonies with prayer and blessing of the school building. Brief remarks followed by Cebu Province Gov. Rene Espina, Lapu-Lapu City Mayor Mariano Dimataga, Col. A. E. Aenchbacher, 463rd Troop Carrier Wg. commander; and Lt. Col. Paul E. Malone, commander of the 772nd Squadron. A fifth speaker scheduled, Capt. Edward Orbock, who headed the school project, was not present due to being in the United States to fly a C-130B back to Mactan. Governor Espina set the tone for the afternoon by saying the school project was "...a great step forward in the education of the minds and hearts of our children." Colonel Aenchbacher said the 772nd Squadron had built the school as one means of letting the Filipinos of Mactan Island know "...how much we appreciate your hospitality and friendship." Colonel Malone expressed the sentiments of his men, who built the school and donated funds to furnish it, when he told the gathering: "We did it because we wanted too. We looked around for a project to occupy our off-duty time and settled on the project of building a school for Punta Engano. It was strictly a volunteer effort and I'm proud to say every man in the squadron worked at it voluntarily." The colonel had special praise for the absent Captain Orbock, whom he called the driving force behind construction of the school. He told newsmen: "He designed the school off the top of his head and directed the work force in building it. I can't really say enough for him. MSgt. George D. Weber, assistant project officer for the school, added: "Captain Orbock really honchoed the project; he worked harder than anyone else at it." The traditional ribbon cutting followed remarks by dignitaries and was performed by Mrs. Augusta Dimataga, wife of the Lapu-Lapu City mayor; Colonel Aenchbacher, Colonel Malone and Sergeant Weber. The dedication ceremonies climaxed a project that had its beginning some months back when Colonel Malone expressed an interest in his squadron taking on a project that would be of benefit to a local community. After reviewing several possibilities, the squadron settled on a school building for barrio Punta Engano and set to work. Virtually every man assigned to the 772nd Squadron contributed to the building either financially or physically and most of them did both. Tools for the construction were furnished by the men themselves or borrowed from shops on base. Due to the shortage of tools, they were frequently passed from man to man when a worker had to return to his military duties. All work was done on a strictly voluntary basis on the individual's time off. Since most of them are flying crew members, all work had to be sandwiched between flights. Captain Orbock, who has made carpentry a hobby for several years, was named boss of the project and spent every spare moment at the site. He participated in every phase of the construction from the pouring of the foundation to the final painting of the building. Many problems arose during the building of the school, ranging from the basic problem of keeping the job going with volunteer off-duty labor to discomforts of numerous insect pests. Electricity is not available in the community so all sawing and drilling had to be accomplished with hand tools. When the men were preparing concrete for the floor, fresh water and ground coral had to be hauled from the base to the construction site. Local townspeople were very helpful to the squadron workers during construction of the school, pitching in to assist with the labor and other related chores. As a natural consequence to the associations, lasting friendships were formed between the American airmen and residents of the barrio. Construction of the school is not the first example at Punta Engano of cooperation between barrio residents and American military men. As far back as World War II Filipinos of the barrio, including PTA President Mahusay, assisted in moving downed American flyers to safety through the Philippine underground organization. The latest demonstration of friendship is a lasting one indeed. The school building is 24-foot wide, 48-foot

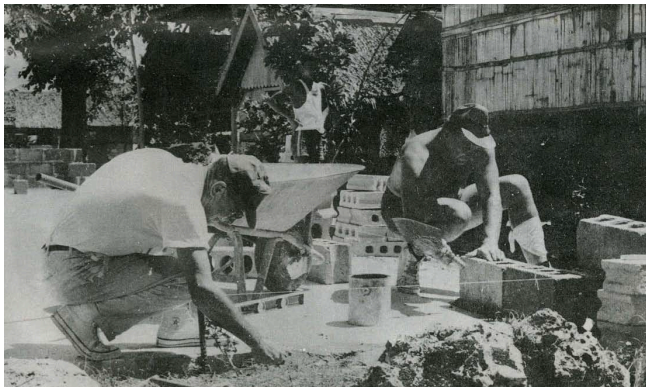
long and constructed of concrete block. It is the only concrete block structure on the north end of the island and will serve double duty as a typhoon shelter if the need arises. The floor is solid concrete, built on a foundation of solid coral, the roof is of asbestos combination. The entire operation required approximately 5,500 man hours from its beginning May 23 to its completion Aug. 23. Aside from the basic construction, the 772nd Squadron has also furnished the school with 100 desk chairs, desks for the teachers and blackboards for the two rooms." Opening of the new dining hall. Dining Hall 1 will close. In addition, a cold storage and ration breakdown building was scheduled for completion by the past weekend as was the aerospace ground equipment maintenance building. Civil engineering said last week that the championship intramural softball tourney could be held on the new softball field by the second week in September. By Oct. 1, sufficient boilers will have been installed to provide continuous hot water in latrines and other facilities. The completion date for the latrines at the Breezeway Lounge was moved from Aug. 25 to Sept 15 because of difficulty in obtaining specified materials. The base hobby shop, going up in the Base Exchange-Snack Bar area has also been scheduled for occupancy this month. It measures 3* feet by 80 feet and will house several hobbyist functions including a photo darkroom. The hobby shop opened in a trailer on a temporary basis last month until a permanent facility could be constructed. A contract was in the mill to be let by civil engineering last week for installation of seats at the outdoor theater. The theater, with the new seats will open on approximately Oct 1. When completed, it will seat 450 persons.



THE TRADITIONAL RIBBON CUTTING at dedication ceremonies for the Punta Engaiio School is accomplished by Mrs. Augusta Dimataga, wife of the Lapu-Lapu City Mayor; and CoL A. E. Aenchbacher, 463rd Troop Carrier Wg. commander; with the assistance of Lt. Col Paul E. Malone, 772nd Troop Carrier Sq. commander, at left; and MSgt. George D. Weber, 772nd first sergeant, at right.



THE COMMANDER of the 772nd Troop Carrier Sq., Lt Col Paul E. Malone tells the group assembled for the school dedication that his men built the school "because we wanted too" and cites Capt. Edward Orbock of the squadron as the driving force behind its construction.



TWO OF THE KEY MEN behind the construction of the school at barrio Punta Engano are MSgt. George Weber, left, and Capt. Edward Orbock, shown laying concrete blocks of the building. Sergeant Weber is first sergeant of the 772nd Troop Carrier Sq. and assisted Captain Orbock, project officer, in heading up the project.

To assist the buildup of 17,000 more troops into Afghanistan ordered by President Obama in February, the Air Force activated the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, a new C-130J unit, on March 15.

Based at Kandahar Airfield, the squadron will support the movement of personnel and cargo into the country. The unit falls under Kandahar's 451st Air Expeditionary Group. "Tactical airlift is a high-demand asset here, and we are at the leading edge of the Afghanistan surge of forces," said Col. Ted Osowski, commander of the 451st AEG, adding that the C-130Js are "going to be busy." The squadron is composed of eight C-130Js and around 120 operations personnel and maintainers, deployed from the 41st Airlift Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark. The 41st AS is the Air Force's sole active duty operational C-130J unit currently with combat experience, having previously deployed to Southwest Asia in early 2008.

Airlift Unit Breaks Own Airdrop Mark: Members of the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, established a new record for the unit by completing 51 airdrop missions during January. This mark shattered the C-130J unit's previous monthly high of 40 airdrops. "It feels good to be setting records, but what you'll find with most of the guys here is that it doesn't matter if you break a record. It matters that you complete the mission and get the supplies where they need to go so we can help those guys on the ground," said Lt. Col. Walt Ord, 772nd EAS aircraft commander. Airmen assigned to the 41st Airlift Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark., and the 345th AS and Air Force Reserve Command's 815th AS, both at Keesler AFB, Miss., currently constitute this expeditionary unit. 2011

Combat Airlift Unit Utilizes New Airdrop System The 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, a C-130J unit operating out of Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, completed the first combat airdrop with the new Extracted Container Delivery System, according to unit officials. The new airdrop method, known as XCDS, speeds up the airdrop process, which improves the overall accuracy of the drop, according to Kandahar's May 3 release. In fact, they said the dispersion of the bundles on the drop zone in the April 29 mission was reduced by about two-thirds. "Normally, a bundle falls out of the aircraft due to gravity, with the speed mostly dependent on the deck angle of the aircraft," said Capt. Raeanna Elms of the squadron. "With XCDS, there is an additional parachute attached to a group of bundles that pulls them out of the aircraft together and at a faster speed, resulting in a smaller dispersion area on the ground." Because of the greater accuracy, the new delivery system also "reduces the risk of a stray bundle damaging" the homes and crops of Afghans, noted Elms. 2013

Excess Speed Caused C-130 Landing Mishap A C-130 making a second landing attempt at Forward Operating Base Shank in Logar province, Afghanistan, in May came in "too fast," causing the airplane to go off of the runway, announced Air Mobility Command. The hard landing occurred on May 19 during an aeromedical evacuation mission. "The crewmembers calmly and safely ran through their emergency response procedures to evacuate passengers to safety, resulting in no fatalities or significant injuries," states AMC's Oct. 8 release, which summarizes the findings of the command's accident investigation board. There was a weather advisory that day at Shank's high-altitude airfield for winds gusting at 25 knots to 35 knots, according to the release. The C-130 and aircrew were operating as part of the 772nd Airlift Squadron at Kandahar Airfield. The aircraft was deployed from the 19th Airlift Wing at Little Rock AFB, Ark. 2013

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

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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.

Unit yearbook. *Ardmore AFB, OK*. Army and Navy Publishing Co., Inc. 1955.