

1733 AIR TRANSPORT SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

1733 Air Transport Squadron

STATIONS

Lowry AFB, CO, 9 Oct 1948

Travis AFB, CA, 16 Dec 1948-8 Nov 1956

ASSIGNMENTS

1704 Air Transport Group

WEAPON SYSTEMS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The only MATS flying unit left on base after mid 1949 was the 1733rd Air Transport Squadron (Air Evacuation), which included both flight crew and medical personnel.

In order to meet the rapidly growing demand for domestic aeromedical flights, the 1733rd Air Transport Squadron began flying a converted C-97 on its route to Kelly AFB in place of much smaller C-47s. By March 1953, all of the squadron's C-47s were gone, replaced by the medium-size C-54M "Samaritans," which were based at Kelly. Organizationally, the 1733rd Air Transport Squadron had been transferred to Travis (Fairfield-Suisun) from Lowry Field, Colorado on 16 December 1948 to handle domestic patient airlift from the base, already the major transfer point for patients returning from the Pacific area.

Squadron personnel in that era included both flight crews and medical personnel. They flew C-47 and C-54 aircraft, some based at Travis and some at Kelly. Following a reorganization of MATS on 1 July 1952, the 1733rd was reassigned from the local MATS air transport group directly to a central aeromedical air transport group based at Brooks AFB, Texas. The squadron's planes and personnel remained at Travis. In May 1954, the 1733rd modernized its equipment, trading the aging C-54Ms for C-131A Samaritan aircraft. This marked the beginning of 14 years of C-131 operations at Travis. Shortly thereafter, on 8 November 1956, the 1733rd was redesignated the 13th Aeromedical Transport Squadron. The new squadron assumed the equipment, personnel, and mission of its predecessor.

The 1733rd Air Transport Squadron remained assigned to the Continental Division. Never again did the active air transport unit at Travis control an aeromedical evacuation squadron, although medical flights continued to operate regularly through the base.