

## 20<sup>th</sup> OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON



### **MISSION**

The 20th OSS is responsible for all airfield activities and associated support of the 20th Fighter Wing's missions. The 20th OSS is a diverse squadron, consisting of five unique flights: Airfield Operations, Weapons and Training, Current Operations, Intelligence and Weather.

The Airfield Operations Flight provides airfield management and air traffic control service to the 20th FW and 9th Air Force, as well as a myriad of other military and civilian operators. Airfield Management oversees a dual-runway airfield and plays an integral role in providing a safe operating environment for one of Air Combat Command's busiest airfields. The Tower and Radar Approach Control are responsible for more than 10,000 square miles of airspace that encompasses areas off the east coast.

The Weapons and Training Flight consists of seven different elements. Weapons and Tactics is responsible for providing tactical employment guidance for F-16 munitions and avionics systems. Airspace Management is responsible for ownership, scheduling and operation of 12 special-use airspace areas, 26 low-level routes and three air-refueling tracks. Poinsett Electronic Combat Range provides electronic warfare and air-to-ground training to combat aircrews of any service, at any time. It is a night-capable range, incorporating approximately 12,500 acres. Life Support provides emergency egress, hanging harness and combat survival training to the entire operations group. Operations Plans maintains plans and operational instructions for the 20th FW's combat and peacetime operations. Training designs, implements and monitors wing pilot training plans and syllabi. Finally, the Simulator Element provides operation, scheduling and maintenance of F-16 unit training devices.

The Current Operations Flight manages the maintenance information system and performs quality maintenance analysis in support of the wing mission. It provides the fighter squadrons with the required parts and technical orders to complete all phase inspections on time. In addition, this flight provides quality maintenance and operations scheduling guidelines, along with timely services, to maintain combat-ready forces. This flight also oversees the squadron readiness programs.

The Intelligence Flight provides intelligence support to the wing commander, staff and their fighter squadrons. This flight manages the sensitive compartmented information program and the pilot intelligence training program, maintains the classified intelligence library, and provides system administrative support for the wing's intelligence computer systems.

Weather Flight provides weather support to Shaw AFB, Poinsett Electronic Combat Range and McEntire Air National Guard Station, S.C. Support includes routine and special missions, deployments and joint and wing exercises. The flight advises decision makers of significant weather affecting more than 5,400 personnel and \$2.4 billion in combat assets and government property.

In addition to its mission at Shaw AFB, the 20th OSS deploys personnel around the world in support of various operations, including Operations Northern and Southern Watch, Air Expeditionary Force deployments, and Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

#### **LINEAGE<sup>1</sup>**

20<sup>th</sup> Airdrome Squadron constituted, 25 Jan 1943

Activated, 1 Feb 1943

Redesignated 20<sup>th</sup> Airdrome Squadron (Special), 16 Apr 1943

Disbanded, 1 Apr 1944

Reconstituted and redesignated 20<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, 1 Mar 1992

Activated, 31 Mar 1992

Inactivated, 1 Jan 1994

Activated, 1 Jan 1994

#### **STATIONS**

Smoky Hill AAF, KS, 1 Feb 1943

Scott Field, IL, 29 Jul 1943

Kearney AAF, NE, 13 Nov 1943-1 Apr 1944

RAF Upper Heyford, England, 31 Mar 1992-1 Jan 1994

Shaw AFB, SC, 1 Jan 1994

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<sup>1</sup> Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
20<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Historian. 6 Feb 2020.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Second Air Force, 25 Jan 1943- 1 Apr 1944

20<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, 31 Mar 1992

## **COMMANDERS**

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

World War II American Theater

#### **Campaign Streamers**

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Meritorious Unit Awards

6 Jan 2007-31 May 2009

1 Jun 2009-31 May 2011

1 Jun 2011-31 May 2012

1 Jun 2012-31 May 2013

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

[31 Mar]-30 Jun 1992

1 Jan-31 Dec 1994

1 Jun 1997-31 May 1999

1 Jun 1999-31 May 2001

## **EMBLEM**





20<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron emblems

**MOTTO**

**OPERATIONS**