

3919 COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP

MISSION

LINEAGE

3919 Combat Support Group

STATIONS

Fairford, England, 1 Jan 1959-30 Jun 1964

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

RAF Fairford's mission was to receive and support SAC's tactical units for pre and post strike staging through RAF Fairford, as well as providing the support and assistance to transport aircraft as required. In addition to this RAF Fairford had to provide operational and logistical support for six B-47 aircraft and crews on continuous alert under "Reflex Action".

As of 1 January 1958 RAF Fairford was assigned the additional responsibility of supporting aircraft of the "Reflex" force on continuous alert during peacetime as well as wartime. This responsibility included the operational control and logistical support of the "Reflex" aircraft.

The 3919th Air Base Squadron (SAC) was re-designated from the 3919th Air Base Group (SAC) on 15th October 1955, in accordance with SAC General Order 67, dated 30 September 1955.

Prior to this re-designation, and during the period 1950-1952, the 3919th Air Base Group functioned under the designation of the 7507th Air Base Group, a satellite under the command of the 7503rd Air Support Wing at nearby RAF Brize Norton. During this period the base was under the control of Headquarters Third Air Force, USAFE. In October 1952 the 3919th Air Base Group was formed utilising personnel from the 7507th Air Base Group. Concurrently, RAF Fairford came under the control of Headquarters 7th Air Division (SAC) located at Ruislip, England.

The 3919th Air Base Group operated as a Strategic Air Command forward base from October 1952 until October 1955, at which time the 3919th Air Base Squadron was formed from personnel of the 3919th Air Base Group and the mission changed from one of wing support to that of a Post-Strike station.

Under the squadron concept the 3919th Air Base Squadron was organised into flights similar in operation to the separate squadrons of a group, e.g. Operations Flight, Supply Flight etc, with a total of ten flights comprising the squadron. Although these flights were an integral part of the squadron for administrative purposes each had its own officer in charge with a Flight Sergeant performing the duties of a First Sergeant.

The 3919th Air Base Squadron operated as a separate organisation under the command of Headquarters 7th Air Division, receiving Supply, Medical, Finance and Legal support from the 3920th Air Base Group at RAF Brize Norton.

The 3919th Combat Support Group (SAC) was re-designated from the 3919th Air Base Squadron on 1 January 1959 in accordance with SAC General Order 67, dated 16 October 1958.

In the event of hostilities RAF Fairford as a SAC forward operating base in the UK would receive and support pre and post striking tactical units operating under Emergency War Orders. In addition a requirement to increase the strike potential in the forward area under minimum warning conditions by "Reflex Action" operations existed. Upon notification from higher headquarters the 3919th CSG would become Fairford Task Force for the implementation of this order.

The 3919th Combat Support Group was assigned to HQ 7th Air Division for operational control during peacetime and wartime. The 3919th CSG was assigned for logistical support to the 3920th Combat Support Group at RAF Brize Norton.

The 68th Bomb Wing would have exercised operational control over the 3919th CSG at RAF Fairford during wartime.

One 15-aircraft post-strike staging team of the 21st Air Division, Forbes Air Force Base, Kansas, exercised administrative and logistical control over the 3919th CSG during peacetime and wartime.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.