

73 AERIAL PORT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

73 Aerial Port Squadron constituted, 25 Jun 1971
Activated, 29 Jun 1971
Redesignated 73 Mobile Aerial Port Squadron, 1 Dec 1975
Redesignated 73 Aerial Port Squadron, 1 Mar 1984

STATIONS

Carswell AFB (later, ARS), TX, 29 Jun 1971
NAS JRB Fort Worth, TX

ASSIGNMENTS

Central Air Force Reserve Region, 29 Jun 1971
301 Tactical Fighter Wing, 8 Oct 1976
433 Tactical Airlift (later, 433 Military Airlift; 433 Airlift) Wing, 1 Oct 1980
301 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992
301 Mission Support Group, 1 Oct 2002

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Robert A. Skeans
Lt Col Patrick E. McBride, 2 Oct 2016
Lt Col Robert G. Atkins, 16 Jan 2020

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Oct 1981-30 Sep 1983

1 Oct 1986-30 Sep 1988

14 May 1992-13 May 1994

30 Jun 1995-1 Jul 1997

1 Oct 2000-30 Sep 2002

1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004

1 Oct 2004-30 Sep 2006

1 Oct 2006-30 Sep 2008

EMBLEM

73 Mobile Aerial Port Squadron emblem: Or, a globe, axis bendwise azure, gridlined argent; overall a cross couped and barbed surmounting a chevronel couped and barbed in base of the last charged with a mullet of the second between a pair of wings elevated of the first, all within a diminished bordure azure. Below, a motto scroll or within a diminished bordure azure. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Yellow and blue are the colors associated with the U.S. Air Force. The globe reflects the support mission to the Military Airlift Command. Directional arrows refer to the mobility of the unit and the star suggests the unit's central position in operating terminal facilities. The wings also allude to mobility and support of the Air Force mission.



On an AF Yellow disc, an Ultramarine blue and White globe is positioned with White winged

arrows pointing in multiple directions centered with an Ultramarine blue star, all within a diminished AF Ultramarine blue border and lettering. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The 73 Aerial Port Squadron maintains the Air Force colors of Ultramarine blue and AF Yellow in its squadron emblem. Ultramarine represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations and AF Yellow represents the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. In addition, White winged arrows, Ultramarine blue star and stylized globe in the emblem symbolically display the diverse mission within the aerial port squadron: to deliver superior aerial port support at ports of embarkation or debarkation anywhere in the world. (Approved, 23 Aug 1979)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

1989 The 73 Aerial Police Squadron deployed 25 members to Rhein-Main AB, Germany in October and December, with sixteen members deploying to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana, for embarkation training. During their annual tour, the 73d members assisted the 28th Naval Mobile Construction Battalion. In July the unit deployed 22-members to Yokota AB, Japan. Two members attended the Intermediate Wartime Contingency Course at Travis AFB, California in July.

1990 The 73 APS, Carswell AFB, Texas, supported Desert Shield, giving 32 members the opportunity to accomplish their mission during a real-world operation. From 5 through 19 August, the squadron performed annual tour with the 63 APS, Norton AFB, California, where members loaded combat forces and equipment aboard C-141, C-5 and other aircraft for the 13 hour-plus flight to the Middle East.

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 4 Sep 2010

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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.

Unit history. *Kelly AFB, TX, Heritage of Service, Seventy-Five Years of Military Aviation at Kelly Air Force Base, 1916-1991*. Office of History, San Antonio Air Logistics Center. Kelly AFB, TX. 1991.