

74 AERIAL PORT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

74 Aerial Port Squadron constituted, 25 Jun 1971
Activated in the Reserve, 29 Jun 1971
Redesignated 74 Mobile Aerial Port Squadron, 1 Dec 1975
Redesignated 74 Aerial Port Squadron, 1 Mar 1984

STATIONS

Carswell AFB, TX, 29 Jun 1971

ASSIGNMENTS

Central Air Force Reserve Region, 29 Jun 1971
433 Tactical Airlift (Later, 433 Military Airlift; 433 Airlift) Wing. 8 Oct 1976
433 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Gloria Fuentes
Maj Luis Torres, Jr., 21 Aug

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

16 Jul 1977-15 Jul 1979

1 Oct 1981-30 Sep 1983

1 Oct 1986-30 Sep 1988

EMBLEM



On a disc Azure, a representation of the Alamo in chief Brown, detailed as the field, surmounted in base by an American bald eagle Proper, stooping to grasp in its dexter claw a crate arraswise highlighted Argent, shaded Buff, suspended in a cargo net Celeste, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "PARATI IRE" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "74TH AERIAL PORT SQ" in Yellow letters.

SIGNIFICANCE: Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The eagle represents our national symbol and flight. The palletized cargo represents the primary mission of the unit. The Alamo represents the pride and determination of the unit personnel and identifies the unit with its host wing. The motto translates to "Ready to Go" in English. (Approved, 1 Nov 2002)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

1971 After an all-out effort, the final unit-manning document showed a streamlined, 922 TAG and the units newly activated 75th Aerial Port Flight on 29 June. Along with this new unit, the 921 TAG also saw activation of the 74th Aerial Port Squadron on 29 June. The command and control rested with Central Air Force Reserve Region, Ellington AFB, Texas.

1974 Exercise Solid Shield involved 19 members from the 74th Aerial Port Squadron providing a new and different training experience. Members left Kelly AFB during May on a C-130 to join the 1st Aerial Port unit from Dyess AFB at Oak Grove, North Carolina to take part in war games. On arrival at Oak Grove members from Dyess and Kelly in-processed making up the Field Aerial Port unit that handled the operation. C-130 aircraft began arriving at short intervals and the off-loading of cargo, passengers and freight got underway. This continued for the rest of the week, operating day and night. During the second week, the big drops of heavies, troops, and low altitude parachute extraction system (LAPES) began. By the middle of the week, members handled 180 sorties and on-loaded freight, cargo and passengers. By Friday, the 1st Aerial Port and 74th Aerial Port personnel had moved tons and tons of cargo and the perfect teamwork of these two groups had done an outstanding job. The exercise had eight aircraft handled. Some choppers were used for the purpose of training. The field exercise provided excellent training for all those making the tour from the 74th. Members learned to work in field conditions, live in tents.

1974 Seven members of the 74th and 75th Aerial Port Squadrons left Kelly AFB in June for a 95-day tour of duty at U-Tapao RTAFB, Thailand. The seven members performed aerial port duties helping to move Americans out of Thailand.

1990 Desert Shield began influencing the 74th Aerial Port Squadron is training requirements in August. The unit had to cancel loading exercises and engine off/on loading training.

1992 More than 200 reservists from the Alamo Wing participated in Exercise Battle-Axe 92-2 in April. The joint mobility exercise conducted in conjunction with Kelly AFB, Battle-Axe called for deploying forces and their equipment to the Middle East in order to replace forces involved in Provide Comfort and an operation to help the Kurdish people in northern Iraq. The exercise involved reservists from the 26th Aerial Port Squadron, 74th Aerial Port Squadron, 34th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, 433d Communication Squadron, 433d Support Group, 404th Combat Logistics Support Squadron and the Headquarters Squadron.

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 4 Sep 2010

Updated: 18 Aug 2023

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

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.