

97 FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON



MISSION

The 97 Force Support Squadron supports the training, airlift and refueling missions of the 97 Air Mobility Wing by providing top quality manpower, civilian personnel, military personnel, lodging, dining, education, professional development, library, family support, child care and leisure services. The squadron has 520 personnel and manages a \$12.2M annual operating budget. The squadron is also an integral part of the Aerospace Expeditionary Force with 78 members on deployment teams.

The squadron is comprised of five flights. The Manpower and Personnel Flight consists of military and civilian personnel along with manpower. Military personnel handle all personnel issues pertaining to active-duty, reserve and retired service members and their dependents. Included in the military personnel areas of responsibility are: assignments, decorations, promotions, deployment processing, reenlistments, separations, training and casualty assistance. Civilian personnel provides advice and assistance to commanders and supervisors on federal personnel rules, regulations and procedures concerning Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense and Non-Appropriated Fund employees for the following areas: recruitment, training, labor relations, compensation and conduct/discipline. The Manpower and Organization office is dedicated to supplying innovative management services to help the wing manage its manpower resources. In addition they act as the focal point for the Wing's Best Practice program and Air Force Productivity programs.

The Sustainment Services Flight provides lodging for temporary duty and transient personnel and

operates dining facilities for the enlisted work force and aircrew The Solar Inn Dining Facility provides high quality hot, nutritious food service to more than 62,000 enlisted and aircrew personnel annually in support of the Air Force readiness and peacetime mission. The small but Mighty Flight Kitchen is "always ready on the go" providing quick nutritional carry out meals to 6,300 flying operational personnel and support staff annually. The Red River Inn annually accommodates 6,035 guests staying 106K bed-nights in 345 rooms throughout 13 building. The Fitness Center improves the quality of life and moral while preparing the military personnel for deployment by displaying excellence in physical fitness and athletic programming and competition.

The Airman and Family Services Flight provides active duty members, retirees, DoD civilians and their families a wide range of services: relocation, information and referral assistance; Air Force Aid; financial guidance; spouse employment, transition; and Family and Life skills. It is a support base for families when the sponsor is away. This flight is also responsible for our Child Development Center and Youth Center, providing child development services and recreation opportunities to the families of Altus AFB.

The Force Development Flight offers a variety of professional development, educational services and support to Team Altus members. The flight has a broad academic offering for enlisted, officers, civilians and their dependents in furthering their education. Additionally, the flight provides professional military education through the First Term Airman's Center for Airmen that are experiencing their first duty station and also the Airman's Leadership School as Airmen prepare to advance into the ranks of non-commissioned officers. Our career assistance advisor is available to all military and civilian employees on the base to guide them in choosing their career paths and offering continuing professional education classes to further their knowledge, skills and abilities. The Altus AFB Library supports the community through their services, providing education and reading materials for all ages.

The Community Support Flight provides efficient, solvent, affordable, adaptable and customer-driven integrated food, outdoor recreation, bowling, golf and community driven programs. Additionally, the flight provides leisure-time facilities and equipment to meet the social and recreational needs of the Altus community. Leisure-time facilities include Club Altus, Freedom Community Center, Outdoor Recreation, Galaxy bowling center, Windy Trails golf course, Skills Development Center, Auto Skills Development Center, swimming pool, paintball and archery ranges.

LINEAGE

Squadron D, 97 Airdrome Group designated, 11 Sep 1947

Organized, 1 Dec 1947

Discontinued, 12 Jul 1948

97 Food Service Squadron, Bombardment, Medium constituted, 28 May 1948

Activated, 12 Jul 1948

Redesignated 97 Food Service Squadron, 16 Mar 1950

Inactivated, 16 Jun 1952
Activated, 1 Jul 1959
Redesignated 97 Services Squadron, 1 Oct 1965
Inactivated, 1 Mar 1970
Activated on 1 Oct 1979

Squadron D, 97 Airdrome Group and 97 Services Squadron consolidated, 10 Oct 1984.
Consolidated unit designated 97 Services Squadron

Inactivated, 31 May 1992
Redesignated 97 Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron, 21 Aug 1992
Activated, 1 Oct 1992
Redesignated 97 Services Squadron, 1 Jan 1994
Redesignated 97 Force Support Squadron, 1 Jun 2008

STATIONS

Mile 26 Field (later Eielson AFB), AK, 1 Dec 1947-12 Mar 1948
Smoky Hill AFB, KS, 21 Mar 1948
Biggs AFB, TX, 17 May 1948-16 Jun 1952
Blytheville AFB, AR, 1 Jul 1959-1 Mar 1970
Blytheville (later Eaker) AFB, AR, 1 Oct 1979-31 May 1992
Altus AFB, OK, 1 Oct 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

97 Airdrome Group, 1 Dec 1947-12 Jul 1948
Eighth Air Force, 12 Jul 1948
97 Air Base Group, 22 Jul 1948-16 Jun 1952
97 Combat Support Group, 1 Jul 1959-1 Mar 1970
97 Combat Support (later 97 Support) Group, 1 Oct 1979-31 May 1992
97 Support (later 97 Mission Support) Group, 1 Oct 1992

COMMANDERS

Capt Leland H. Agard, 1949
2LT R. H. Osgood, Jr., #1964

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1986-30 Jun 1988
1 Oct 1992-30 Jun 1993
1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1994
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1995
1 Jul 1995-30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 July 1999-30 Jun 2000
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2002
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2004
1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2006
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007
1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010
1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011
1 Jul 2011-30 Jun 2012
1 Jul 2013-30 Jun 2015
1 Jul 2016-30 Jun 2017
1 Jul 2017-30 Jun 2019
1 Jul 2019-30 Jun 2021

EMBLEM



97 Services Squadron emblem



97 Services Squadron emblem



97 Force Support Squadron emblem: On a disc Azure, a torteau in dexter base rayed of eight throughout Gules, the rays highlighted on the leading edge clock-wise by a ray Or, overall a Pegasus enraged Argent, all within a narrow border Sable. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "EVER SOARING" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "97 SERVICES SQUADRON" in Black letters. 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 sunburst suggests the expanding and broadening of the service's career field. The Pegasus embodies air power and its global reach, plus the pride, endurance, responsiveness and reliability exhibited by the unit personnel. (Approved, 1 Aug 1990; modified, 1 May 2003)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS



Chow line, 97 Food Service Squadron, Biggs AFB, TX (USAF)



“Guess what’s for lunch?” 97 Food Service Squadron, Biggs AFB, TX (USAF)

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 18 Nov 2010
Updated: 18 Nov 2017

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.
Unit yearbook. *97 Bombardment Wing, Biggs AFB, TX. @1948.*
Unit yearbook. *Biggs AFB, TX, El Paso, TX. 1949.*
Unit yearbook. *Blytheville AFB, AR, 1964.*