

HQ SOUTH CAROLINA AIR NATIONAL GUARD

MISSION

LINEAGE

HQ South Carolina Air National Guard

STATIONS

Eastover, SC

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Brig Gen John Motley

Col Grady Patterson, III, Apr 2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

25 May 1961

Brigadier General Bernie B. McEntire, Jr., commander of the South Carolina Air National Guard, is killed when his Lockheed F-104A-25-LO Starfighter, 56-0853, suffers engine failure on take off from Olmsted Air Force Base, Pennsylvania, and he stays with the jet to crash into the Susquehanna River rather than risk it crashing into populated areas of Harrisburg,

Pennsylvania. Congaree Air National Guard Base near Eastover, South Carolina is subsequently renamed in his honor in October 1961 by Governor Ernest F. Hollings.

More than 1,300 National Guardsmen in South Carolina continue to fight historic flooding from last weekend's hurricane, which brought heavy rains and dam breaks, completing more than 2,500 aerial rescues and 25 total missions. Air National Guard Col. Rich Neely, the chief of current operations for the National Guard Bureau, said Guardsmen have conducted six high-wheeled vehicle rescue operations, personnel and critical commodity transportation, and aerial evacuations. Twenty-two Guardsmen and four UH-60 Black Hawks have worked with local agencies on air rescues following Hurricane Joaquin. "The flooding in South Carolina and across the East Coast is truly a historic event," Neely. Guard units in other states, including New York, Virginia, and Maryland also are helping clean up from the storm, with more Guardsmen in North Carolina on Active Duty. 2015

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