

445th maintenance keep C-17s mission ready



Airman Basic Jack Rott, 445th Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion apprentice, performs an inlet inspection on the engine of a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 16, 2025. During the Home Station Check the engine inlet is knocked on and visually inspected for cracks, damage, and loose rivets or paneling. The blades are also inspected the same. Each engine is rated at 40,440 pounds of thrust, with a length of 146.8 inches and a maximum diameter of 84.5 inches.

Tech. Sgt. Joel McCullough

445th LRS ensures readiness thru preparation

*By Staff Sgt. Johnathan Quinones
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*

The key to always being ready is preparation – words that embody the missions carried out by the 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron.

The squadron has seven sections that play a pivotal role in readiness that focus on materiel management, fuels management, logistics planning, vehicle operations and maintenance, traffic management, quality assurance, and the deployment processing center.

“The logistics readiness squadron ensures the warfighter has the resources to complete their mission,” said Jessica Shaughnessy, 445th LRS chief of plans and integration section/installation deployment officer. “Essentially, the LRS handles everything ‘behind the scenes’ to ensure the wing runs smoothly and its personnel can focus on their primary mission.”

According to Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Schaumleffel, 445th LRS ground transportation superintendent, ground transportation manages 80 vehicles valued at around \$4.1 million.

“We do licensing, dispatch and drive all busses tasked for events,” said Capt. Joel Russo, 445th LRS material management and ground transportation flight commander.

Schaumleffel said he oversees 32 vehicle control officials throughout the wing who work with fleet management for all routine vehicle maintenance requirements.

To help in mastering the fundamentals of vehicle maintenance, ground transportation collaborates with the Springfield Air National Guard and local Dayton-area businesses. By utilizing those facilities, this provides Airmen with the necessary on-the-job training tasks needed for skill level upgrades to maintain current qualifications, as well as for those in supervisory upgrade training.

“We train with Sandy’s Towing and Recovery &

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445th FSS: Support more than a name

By Staff Sgt. Angela Jackson
445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Down the quiet hallways of building 4014 tucked in offices throughout, members of the 445th Force Support Squadron actively work to provide necessary resources and support to more than 2,600 Airmen in the 445th AW and 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing.

Comprised of seven sections, the FSS scope of responsibility is substantial, and at one time or another, every Airman has relied on their proficiency and efficiency.

Those sections include the Military & Family Readiness Center, military personnel flight, sustainment services flight, education and training, communication flight, civilian personnel, and manpower.

“The FSS supports the mission by ensuring each member, both inbound and outbound, always have the necessary benefits and entitlements in place,” said Lt. Col. Timothy Johansen, 445th FSS commander. “This assures that Airmen can successfully complete the job at hand while deployed or here at home. The FSS ensures that every Airman is fit tested, ensuring that readiness standards are always met.”

According to Johansen, the FSS is like a smaller version of the group level as the squadron covers a breadth of functions like the sustainment services flight, many times shortened to services, focuses on lodging, food service, fitness, readiness and mortuary affairs.

For Senior Master Sgt. Victoria Moore, 445th FSS sustainment services flight superintendent, providing top quality service in these areas enhances wing morale.

“We provide essential services that assist an Airman through their entire career,” Moore said. “We make sure everyone is taken care from the beginning to the end.”

“When I first got here, Airmen were not able to choose the hotel they wanted during unit training assembly weekends and the options were limited,” Moore continued. “Having spent almost 10 years in the hospitality industry, I felt it was important to give Airman that choice. We made modifications to the Automated Lodging and Reservation System and lodging procedures that included the use of the app and website. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.”

Trusted to maintain enlisted personal records, services ensures Airmen are staying current in their readiness and are deployable. While programs and processes like lodging and fitness are familiar, it is the unseen and often overlooked functions of services that keep the wing operational and prepared to face the challenges that lie down range.

Once deployed, services provides meals and safe-



Patrick O'Reilly

Staff Sgt. Adam Klosterman, 445th Force Support Squadron client support technician, configures computers by setting up networks supporting the 445th Airlift Wing at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 21, 2025.

guards against food contamination.

“One of the easiest ways to take down a large amount of people is to contaminate their food,” Moore said. “So, when we go down range and deploy, we are constantly performing quality assurance for all food we give to our Airmen. We make sure that the things that we ordered, received and cooked are exactly as expected, because that is one way that the enemy tries to hurt us.”

Services is continually working to improve upon their procedures to ensure the quality of life and death. Moore recognizes it is a difficult subject but takes pride in knowing services will manage an Airman’s mortuary affairs with dignity and respect.

“Mortuary Affairs is new for the team here,” the flight superintendent said. “I had a team back at Andrews Air Force Base that I was a part of, so I bring that experience to the fight here. It can make the team feel nervous at times to talk about mortuary procedures, but it is an unfortunate reality in our career field. Honestly, to be with an Airman until the end is an honor and it’s one of the most powerful things we are privileged to do.”

Moore said she also believes the key to services is loving what you do and understanding the impact that work has on the success of the wing.

Another facet focusing on support of Airmen and their families includes the Military & Family Readiness Center, also considered one of the wing’s helping agencies.

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Carrier Service bi-annually, and Germain Ford of Beaver Creek,” Schaumleffel explained. “Airmen use their facilities to receive on-the-job training for safe use of wrecker vehicles, recovery procedures and vehicle maintenance training. This has aided in the completion of our core tasks for ground transportation and vehicle maintenance career fields.”

According to Schaumleffel, these local partnerships have strengthened the squadron’s reputation in the community and continue to keep ground transportation Airmen prepared to deploy and maintain assets for peak performance.

“External organizations have allowed us to engage with the community, build relations and integrate their knowledge and experience that we can practice in our training, building confidence for everyone in their particular field,” he explained. “This also allows for members to develop into supervisors and helps them develop/conduct training sessions.”

While vehicle maintenance is a big part of LRS, the squadron also procures other equipment through the materiel management flight that includes 28 Airmen and focuses on logistics support and decentralized materiel support.

“Materiel management ensures mobility and supply chain management systems are being utilized in as efficient a manner as possible and pivots to more robust methods in times of crisis,” said Master Sgt. Mark Reel, 445th LRS materiel management flight superintendent. “LRS is financial management’s focal point for all acquisitions concerning uniforms and personnel equipment know as leu.”

According to Master Sgt. Sarah McAlister, 445th LRS logistics support manager, DMS accelerated 146 mission-critical parts orders that were valued at \$3.8 million in this current year, supporting C-17 Globemaster III aircraft operations.

“The LRS decentralized materiel support is integrated within the 445th Maintenance Group, offering direct support in the research, storage, issuance and sourcing of aircraft parts,” McAlister said. “The DMS also oversees the movement of repairable parts through the repair cycle to ensure critical assets are restored to serviceable stock for future use.”

McAlister said the logistics support function “delivers real-time assistance for the issuance of clothing and individual equipment, facilitating the distribution of daily use and deployment uniform items.”

Logistics support provides these items to 2,600 members in 13 squadrons and 12 geographically separated units across the 445th AW and 655th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Wing. Since the beginning of fiscal year 2025, logistics support has issued more than 400 individual clothing items.

Reel highlighted that when the 445th AW transitioned from the Airman Battle Uniforms to the Operational Camouflage Pattern uniforms from 2018 to 2021, LRS was the “sole source” of procurement for

the wing, as they are the program managers for the uniform procurement process.

In total, Reel said the flight procured around \$150,000 uniforms and equipment last year, averaging about \$200,000 over the last eight years.

Materiel management procures anything from shirts to flight suits, and Reel explained they also provide serviceable replacements for short-notice taskers. For example, when the wing deployed short notice in October 2023, materiel management procured \$40,000 in protective equipment for the 140 deployers.

Additionally, they were able to provide the deployers uniform items a month into the deployment that had been on backorder with the vendor due to an emergency stock they had in order.

Overall, Shaughnessy said the LRS supplies the wing, facilitates deployment and sustains mobility.

“In essence, the LRS directly impacts a wing’s ability to launch and recover aircraft, deploy forces rapidly, sustain operations at home and abroad, and train effectively for any mission,” she explained. “Without a well-functioning LRS, a wing would be severely hampered in its ability to execute its mission and maintain readiness.”



Staff Sgt. Angela Jackson

Senior Airman Andrew Castle, 445th Logistics Readiness Squadron ground transportation journeyman, replaces a tow truck wheel while Richard Dunn of Sandy's towing observes in Dayton, Ohio, Nov. 3, 2024.



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“We have a wide variety of programs we’re responsible for,” said Shanna King, M&FRC director. “We’re kind of the overall helping agency for the Air Force.”

Functions that fall under the M&FRC include the Transition Assistance Program, Commander’s Key Support Program, newcomers, personal financial readiness, deployment support and more. They are also the main point of contact for Month of the Military Child and the Air Force Aid Society.

“We’re a big umbrella for anything that’s not really mental health, equal opportunity, or sexual assault and prevention but it’s a helper function, that would be us,” King said.

In order to deliver mission ready combat forces who are mentally sharp and physically prepared to answer the nation’s call at any time, Airmen and their families must also be prepared.

“If your family is not ready, you’re not going to be ready,” King said. “If your family is not solid or you have stressors, you’re not going to be focused when you’re here, and you’re definitely not going to be focused if you have to go into a deployed situation.”

King explained the M&FRC aims to help families focus on financial, deployment and family readiness to help them have less stress during daily and deployment life which is something core to the squadron.

“With the FSS mission being ‘People First,’ we’re here to help people, and people are what we do,” she said.

Or as Johansen puts it, “People are our mission, and our mission is people.”

With the focus on people, the military personnel flight aids with common access/identification card issuance, evaluations, career advisor functions, in/out processing, promotions/demotions, basic military training ship and return functions, Service Group Life Insurance coverage, casualty reporting, deployment functions, Personnel Support for Contingency Operations, and managers personnel systems accesses.

The education and training office deals with testing, career development courses, tuitions assistance and acquiring training line numbers for those attending formal schools.

The civilian personnel office is the liaison for the 445th and 655th leadership to hire civilians. The function also submits requested personnel actions for civilian employees and deals with the civilian retention packages and bonuses.

According to Johansen, the manpower office “deals with spaces not faces.” This means they managing the wing’s unit manning document, advising leadership on strategic alignment, completing manpower change and organizational change requests, analyzing support agreements, and more.

Customer support is a key focus for the communications flight.

“The communications flight provides end-user support for both 445th AW and 655th ISRW Airmen,” said

Master Sgt. Joshua Hall, 445th FSS communications flight client systems technician NCO in charge. “We diagnose and repair hardware, software, and network issues. We install and configure application upgrades, reimage computers and ensure cybersecurity requirements are met as directed by the 88th Communications Squadron. Lastly, we direct and coordinate the Tier-2 and Tier-3 level Comm related issues to the 88th for resolution.”

Hall said the flight ensures the wing’s readiness as the backbone for communication at all levels from flight scheduling to intelligence gathering to being able to hold Team’s meetings throughout the week.

“The communications flight is essential to all command and control of information throughout each unit,” Hall explained. “When it isn’t working, delays in those efforts that require communications could be catastrophic for everyone involved who is relying on that continual flow of information over the communications platforms they use.”

According to Hall, the “support and initiative” from the traditional reservists during unit training assembly weekends make the flight function.

“The drive and desire to learn and their ability to not be afraid to ask questions when they don’t know something has been inspiring,” he continued. “Their initiative that they have when it comes to helping members of the 445th has been nothing short of amazing so far this year. I can’t wait to see how much we can accomplish throughout the rest of 2025.”

This dedication is held by all Airmen in the 445th FSS and ensure the squadron lives up to the support in its name.



Patrick O'Reilly

Staff Sgt. Alexis Eppley, 445th Mission Support Group commanders support staff technician, reviews customer support topics with Airman Basic Valmir Lorwy, 445th Force Support Squadron personnel specialist, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 20, 2025.



SPOTLIGHT

Rank/Name: Master Sgt. Stephanie Koth

Unit: 445th Airlift Wing Inspector General Inspections

Duty Title: Inspection Specialist

Hometown: Joplin, Missouri

Civilian Job: Acquisition Program Manager

Education: Associate’s degree in electronic system technology from Community College of the Air Force

Hobbies: I thrive on physical challenges that test my strength and endurance, seeking out new adventures, and hiking with my family.



Career Goal: Continue to help support improving the unit and mentor Airmen from my role in the wing Inspector General Office. In conjunction, I plan to prioritize

my civilian career progression and pursue a bachelor’s degree.

What do you like about working at the 445th? I transferred into the unit during COVID, and everyone was so welcoming and helpful. I appreciate the collaborative environment where there is a willingness to learn and work together.

Why did you join the Air Force? I originally enlisted in active duty for the opportunity to broaden my skillset and travel. Little did I know that decision would open doors for me and help shape my life. It led to meeting my husband, the joy of my sons, a cross-country move, and dedicated service in both the California Air National Guard and now the Air Force Reserve.

Around the wing ...



Patrick O'Reilly

(left) Staff Sgt. Devin Copeland, center right, 445th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron medical technician, provides refresher training on military funeral honors to honor guard program managers during Train the Trainer at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 18, 2025.



courtesy photo

(right) First Lt. Cierra White, 445th Force Support Squadron military personnel flight commander, provides the oath of enlistment to Matthew Damron at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 19, 2025.



445th maintenance business as usual



(left) Senior Airman Hunter Shaw, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft hydraulic specialist, uses a torque wrench to tighten a nut on the front hydraulic strut of a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 16, 2025. A torque wrench is used to ensure fasteners like nuts and bolts are tighten to a specific, predetermined torque value, which is crucial for safety, proper assembly, and performance of equipment. They prevent both overtightening and under tightening.



(right) Master Sgt. John McDermott, 445th Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion technician, uses a new high-resolution borescope to inspect the combustion chamber of a C-17 Globemaster III jet engine at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 16, 2025. The camera, which is new to the unit, allows the Airmen to inspect more areas of the aircraft allowing for better preventative maintenance.



(left) Senior Airman Ethan Cass, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion technician, stands on a lift while assisting a fellow Airman in riveting a panel on to the side of a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 16, 2025. A leaking fuel cell was replaced on the aircraft underneath the panel.



(right) Staff Sgt. Anthony Carreon, 445th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aircraft hydraulic specialist, holds a bolt in place while a fellow Airman tightens the nut on the front hydraulic strut of a C-17 Globemaster III at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, March 16, 2025. Because of the high torque specifications for the nut and bolt, the maintenance Airmen had to use resourcefulness and teamwork to ensure the specifications were met.



News Briefs

Promotions

Senior Master Sergeant
Angelique Hall, FSS
Victoria Moore, FSS
Jordan West, 87 APS

Master Sergeant
Matthew Sanders, AMDS
Logan Wild, AES

Technical Sergeant
Brandon Gilmore, CES
Edward Kearns, FSS
Nathan Lopez, AMXS
Brian Teates, LRS

Staff Sergeant
Lyle Brooks, AMDS
Joseph Church, MXS
Oscar Keino, 87 APS
Justin Shuster, AMXS
Kingsley Oteng, FSS

Senior Airman

Jimmie Darbonne, FSS
Jonathan Pascual Lopez, LRS
Dominic Siciliano, AMXS

Airman First Class

Mason Kimmel, 87 APS
Tatiana Rivera, 87 APS
Seth Staiger, MSG
Ricardo White, AMDS

Airman

Hudson Tabor, CES

Newcomers

Maj Aaron Freeman, AES
1 Lt Joseph Brovont, AES
TSgt Anthony Fox, OG
TSgt Ethan Green, ASTS
SrA Nicholas Romans, CES

SrA Graham Simpson, SFS
A1C Hailey Koehl, AES
A1C Christabel Okafor, ASTS
A1C Luca Tancreti, AMXS
Amn Adam Dinovo, AMXS
Amn Katherine Ross, LRS
AB James Grady, MXS
AB Shwun Le Oo, AES
AB Jack Rott, MXS
AB Lorwy Valmir, FSS

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U.S. Government Printing Office
5-00001-445AW



Effectively managing time key to genuine work-life balance

By Vera Ensalcaco
445th Airlift Wing Director of Psychological Health

It's no secret that our world is everchanging and filled with an overwhelming amount of information and activity. This time of year can bring significant stress as we juggle work, family obligations, school responsibilities and countless other tasks. It's easy for everything to feel chaotic.

We often hear about the value of multitasking, and many take pride in being excellent at it. However, the reality is that our brains are designed to focus on one thing at a time.

Achieving true work-life balance is rooted in effective time management, not the illusion of multitasking. Our minds cannot manage an endless barrage of simultaneous demands, which is why it's crucial to focus on what matters most to you.

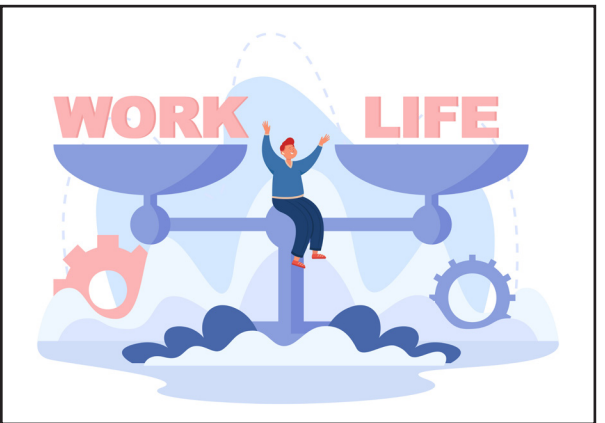
During stressful periods, take a step back to evaluate your situation at work, home and in your

social circles. Prioritize your health – this includes sleep, nutrition, exercise and nurturing your relationships.

It's vital to recognize you cannot give your all to every aspect of your life. Instead, identify what holds the greatest significance for you.

Consider adopting a personal mantra – a positive affirmation that resonates with you. This practice can help cultivate mindfulness, a powerful tool for navigating stressful times. Stay grounded in the present, set your sights on the future, and maintain a clear and inspiring vision for your goals and aspirations.

If you need support, reach out to this office at (937)257-6267 or (937)701-1124, or via email at vera.ensalcaco@us.af.mil. You can also reach out to one of the other wing helping agencies. We are here to help. Remember, you are not alone in this journey.



CES performs deployment training at Patrick Space Force Base



Staff Sgt. Ben Maxfield, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron structural journeyman, right, and Senior Airman Kevin Kruger, 445th CES structural journeyman, cut drywall during a deployment for training at Patrick Space Force Base, Florida, March 5, 2025.



(above) Tech. Sgt. Brandon Gilmore, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical journeyman, bends a pipe while using a level during a deployment for training at Patrick Space Force Base, Florida, March 5, 2025. The deployment for training included Airmen from the 445th CES from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base remodeling a joint warehouse space on PSFB to convert it into office space for the Requirements and Optimization office of the 445th CES.



(left) Tech. Sgt. Brandon Gilmore, 445th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical journeyman, secures a pipe to the ceiling during a deployment for training at Patrick Space Force Base, Florida, March 5, 2025.

U.S. Space Force photos by Senior Airman Spencer Contreras



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