

109th AIRLIFT WING



LINEAGE

Redesignated 109th Airlift Group , 15 Mar 1992

Redesignated 109th Airlift Wing

STATIONS

Schenectady, NY

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Mission Aircraft

LC-130

Support Aircraft

C-12J

COMMANDERS

Maj. William J. Flavin 1948-1950

Lt. Col. Frederick J. Zilly Jr. 1950-1962

Col. John C. Campbell 1962-1971

Col. Stanley W. Hemstreet 1971-1985

Col. Douglas B. Morey 1985-1990

Col. John F. Ammerall 1990-1991

Col. Archie J. Berberian II 1991-1995

Col. Jonathan E. Adams 1995-1998

Col. Marion G. Pritchard 1998-1999

Col. Max DellaPia 1999-2006

Col. Anthony P. German 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Midway during our Active Duty tour, a severe medical problem caused Lt Col Frederick J. Zilly Jr. to be removed from flying status. Since it was a requirement for the Group Commander to be on flying status, a change of Command was necessitated. Lt Col John C. Campbell, Jr. was assigned the Group Commander's position and on 1 March 1962 assumed command. In the fall of 1950, Capt Campbell had reported to Major Zilly. It had probably never occurred to either one at the time that their positions would be reversed. Maj David C. Ormiston assumed Command of the 139th Air Transport Squadron, the position vacated by Lt Col Campbell.

1987 The 109th TAG continued to perform its annual resupply mission of the distant early warning radar sites located on the Greenland Ice Cap. The resupply operations for 1987 took place during May and June. As in previous years, the Group's four LC-130H were deployed to Sondrestrom Air Base, Greenland. The 109th's aircraft transported aircrews, maintenance and support personnel, and necessary equipment between home station and Sondrestrom during the two month operation. The mission of the Group is to resupply northern tier forces requiring ski-equipped capability. The 109th flies missions throughout the northern tier from Alaska to Greenland to maintain this capability. Beyond the 109th's Greenland operation, the Group's personnel and aircraft participated in a number of other operations and training missions during 1987. Twenty-five members of the Aerial Port Flight trained at Hickam AFB, Hawaii, while another 13 members of the flight trained in aircraft cargo handling at Norton AFB, California, in early February. February also saw 15 members of the Communications Flight go to Hickam AFB, Hawaii, for training. During the same period, 35 officers and airmen of the Combat Support Squadron deployed to Gulfport, Mississippi, for training. As the Group's personnel trained in the locations noted, aircrews took part in airlifting members of the NYARNG's 210th Armor to Idaho and return for their training. In late spring, 60 members of the AEF deployed to Lackenheath, for annual training. Members of the CES and Weapons Systems Security Flight were also on the move as they went to Eglin AFB, Florida, and Charleston, South Carolina. During autumn, 23 members of the Clinic moved to the Weisbaden Germany Medical Center for annual training. Late in the year the 109th completed planning for sending two of its LC-130H to Antarctica during January 1988. The mission is in support of the National Science Foundation which operates research facilities in Antarctica. The 109th has assisted the Foundation in the past with its meteorology, climatology, and geology research on the Greenland Ice Cap.

1988 The 109th Tactical Airlift Group continued its unique mission by performing resupply of the distant early warning radar sites located on the Greenland Ice Cap. As in previous years, the Group's four ski equipped LC-130H were deployed to Sondrestrom Air Base, Greenland, from which they airlifted supplies and equipment to the remote sites. The 109th's four C-130H were used to transport aircrews, maintenance and support personnel, and necessary equipment between home station and Sondrestrom A B in the two-month operation. The 109th fly missions throughout the northern tier from Alaska to Greenland to maintain this capability. Beyond the 109th's Greenland operation, the Group's personnel and aircraft participated in a number of other operations and training missions during 1988. Two LC-130H and 12 aircrew members and support personnel deployed twice on a familiarization mission to Antarctica in support of the National Science Foundation and its U. S. Navy support aircraft. In February, 60 members of the Aeromedical Evacuation Flight traveled to Travis AFB, California, for training. During the same period, members of the 109th Mission Support and Resource Management Squadrons deployed to Gulfport, Mississippi, for annual training. In March, two teams of 20 personnel each, from the 109th Mobile Aerial Port Flight deployed to Europe for training. One team worked with its active duty counterparts at Torrejon AB, Spain, while the other worked primarily at Rhein Main AB, West Germany. Fifteen members of the 109th Accounting and Finance Office deployed to Travis AFB, California, for training with their active duty counterparts in the spring. In April the Group flew a humanitarian airlift to northern Greenland. The Group airlifted 220 sled dogs from southern Greenland to north of Thule AB, Greenland, at the request of the Danish government. The canine population had been ravaged by rabies and the livelihood of the local population was threatened. In separate operations 109th aircrews and aircraft airlifted elements of the Army's 10th Mountain Division while members of the Weapons Systems Security Flight deployed to Mildenhall AB, England, for training. The 139th Tactical Airlift Squadron, the flying unit of the Group, successfully passed a Standard Evaluation Inspection administered by the 22nd Air Force in June. The "Northeast Flight '88" Air Show, held at Schenectady County Airport, celebrated the 40th anniversary of the 109th TAG. In August, the Group provided emergency lighting to local municipalities during power disruptions in the Capital District area. During autumn, 22 members of the Aeromedical Evacuation Flight deployed to Ramstein AB, West Germany, in support of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Exercise REFORGER '88 and supported QUICKFORCE '88. The Group also transported 24,000 pounds of humanitarian relief supplies to the island of Jamaica in humanitarian airlift operations similar to those performed by the 105th MAG at Newburgh. The 109th ended the year by supporting the Air Force and Navy operations during FLEETER 1-89 with aircraft and aircrews. In all, the 109th conducted 15 deployments, nine OCONUS and six CONUS.

2005 3 Sep

Three Aeromedical Evacuation crews (fifteen personnel) and two In-Flights kits from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed in SAD status to Kelly AFB, Texas to support hurricane relief efforts in Louisiana.

5 Sep

The 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed three Aerial Port squadron personnel in Title 32 orders to NAS New Orleans to support hurricane relief efforts.

6 Sep

Twelve Aerial Port Squadron personnel from the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, deployed in Title 32 status to Stennis IAP.

15 Sep

One C-130 and two Aeromedical Evacuation crews assigned to the 109th Airlift Wing, New York ANG, returned to home station at Schenectady County Airport, New York. Unit aircraft and members were deployed in Title 32 status to Kelly AFB, Texas for hurricane relief operations.

New York Guardsmen, Skibirds Return from Greenland Some 70 Air National Guardsmen and two ski-equipped LC-130 Hercules aircraft from the 109th Airlift Wing at Stratton ANGB, N.Y., recently returned home from a four-day mission to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland. The airmen flew to Greenland in late June to train for Operation Deep Freeze, a joint-service effort to provide support to the National Science Foundation. This is the fourth rotation to the Arctic region—only two more are left before the end of the 2014 season, states a July 3 release. The 109th Airlift Wing flies to Antarctica in the winter to support ODF. Weather can easily affect aircraft in the Arctic region, so the maintainers "primary mission is to fix the aircraft so they [can] fly their missions while here," said MSgt. Joseph Deamer of the 109th Maintenance Group. "The other part of our mission is [to train] out of Raven Camp," said Capt. Rachel Leimbach, the supervisor of flying for this rotation. "There is minimal science that we do at Raven, making it primarily a training site, which is how we get the crews ready for Antarctica," she said. 2014

Seven LC-130 Skibirds of the New York Air National Guard wrapped up the five-month Antarctic summer research support season and returned to Stratton ANGB, N.Y., this week. "We flew over 155 on-continent missions in Antarctica as well as intercontinental missions from New Zealand to Antarctica" since last October, said Lt. Col. Clifford Souza in a Feb. 25 release. The unit's aircraft hauled a total of 2,250 tons of cargo and 3,000 passengers over a total of 241 missions, according to the unit. Unit aircraft also flew nine scanning sorties with the experimental IcePod sensor package to measure ice density and fluctuations. "These were the final tests before the IcePod is fully commissioned," said pilot Maj. Joshua Hicks. "Overall it went very well," he added. A total of 575 Guardsmen rotated to McMurdo Station, Antarctica, maintaining a 120-strong contingent on the continent. The first aircraft returned Feb. 23. 2015

A pair of New York Air National Guard LC-130 ski-equipped transports supported Operation Nunavut, a Canadian Arctic exercise, for the second consecutive year, announced Air Guard officials. In light of Russian belligerence toward NATO and increased military activity in the Arctic, "we feel that these exercises are ever-more important to exert our sovereignty and our ability to respond," said Canadian associate defense minister Julian Fantino in a report by the Canadian Nunatsiak News. "We're looking to continue standing up against any threat to our sovereignty and stand ready at any moment to defend our people, land, and interests," he added. The LC-130s are practicing operating from ice runways and working with the Canadian forces during the exercise, which concludes on April 22. Approximately 200 Canadian troops and 30 US airmen from the 109th Airlift Wing at Stratton ANGB, N.Y., are taking part in the exercise.

2015



Air Force Order of Battle
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Sources

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The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
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Unit history. 109th Tactical Airlift Group, 25th Anniversary. 1948-1973.