

483 TACTICAL AIRLIFT WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

483 Troop Carrier Wing, Medium established, 15 Nov 1952
Activated, 1 Jan 1953
Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Jun 1960
Redesignated 483 Troop Carrier Wing and activated, 12 Oct 1966
Organized, 15 Oct 1966
Redesignated 483 Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Aug 1967
Inactivated, 31 May 1972

STATIONS

Ashiya AB, Japan, 1 Jan 1953-25 Jun 1960
Cam Ranh Bay AB, South Vietnam, 15 Oct 1966-31 May 1972

ASSIGNMENTS

Tactical Air Command, 1 Jan 1953
315 Air Division (Combat Cargo), 1 Jul 1954-25 Jun 1960
Pacific Air Forces, 12 Oct 1966
834 Air Division, 15 Oct 1966
Seventh Air Force, 1 Dec 1971-31 May 1972

ATTACHMENTS

315 Air Division [Combat Cargo], 1 Jan 1953-30 Jun 1954

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-119, 1951-1959
C-47, 1953-c. 1959
C-130, 1958-1960
C-7, 1967-1972
C-A1, 1970-1971
EC-47, 1971-1972
C-130, 1971-1972
UH-1, 1971-1972

COMMANDERS

Col Maurice F. Casey, 1 Jan 1953
Col Jamie Gough, 13 May 1954
Col William C. Lindley, 6 Aug 1955
Col LeRoy M. Stanton, 13 Aug 1955
Col John H. Herring, Jr., 30 May 1959-25 Jun 1960
None (not manned), 12 Oct-3 Nov 1966
Col Paul J. Mascot, 4 Nov 1966
Col William H. Mason, 8 Oct 1967
Col Wilbert Turk, 30 Sep 1968
Col Keith L. Christensen, 4 Sep 1969
Col Abbott C. Greenleaf, 23 Mar 1970
Col Rodney H. Newbold, 11 Apr 1971
Col William G. Christensen, 2 Sep 1971 (temporary)
Col Rodney H. Newbold, 17 Sep 1971
Col Duane H. Erickson, 25 Feb-15 May 1972
None (not manned), 16-31 May 1972

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Third Korean Winter
Korea Summer-Fall, 1953
Vietnam Air Offensive
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III
Vietnam Air/ Ground
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV
TET 69/Counteroffensive
Vietnam Summer-Fall, 1969
Vietnam Winter-Spring, 1970
Sanctuary Counteroffensive
Southwest Monsoon
Commando Hunt V

Commando Hunt VI
Commando Hunt VII
Vietnam Ceasefire

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Presidential Unit Citations (Southeast Asia)

21 Jan-12 May 1968

1 Apr-30 Jun 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device

1 Jan-30 Apr 1967

1 May 1967-30 Apr 1968

1 Jul 1970-31 Dec 1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

6 May 1953-10 Sep 1954

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

[1 Jan]-27 Jul 1953

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Crosses with Palm

12 Oct 1966-31 Oct 1971

15 Oct 1966-31 May 1972

EMBLEM



On a shield of the sky, a sphere encircled with an orbit all or, latitude and longitude lines azure, over the sphere a hand proper supporting a parachute proper, an aircraft proper, and artillery proper; encircling the upper section of the sphere, three clouds proper and an increscent moon

and four stars of the second color; on a chief of the third, 13 stars argent, the chief fimbriated or. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The heavens and globe portrayed on the shield signify there is no limit to the wing's capability. This wing for example at one time had units operating in four different nations. The hand holding the parachute, artillery and the jet fighter denotes strength and exemplifies the mission of the wing, which is the support of military units. The mission of the 483 Troop Carrier Wing is further emphasized by the ribbon scroll bearing the motto "Effective Airlift Support." Colors are predominately Air Force colors, blue and gold. The thirteen stars on the chief of the shield represents the original colonies, thus identifying the emblem with the United States. (Approved, 2 Feb 1956)

MOTTO

EFFECTIVE AIRLIFT SUPPORT

OPERATIONS

Replaced 403d Troop Carrier Wing, Medium, in Jan 1953. Performed troop carrier and air transport operations in the Far East, including landing of troops and cargo in forward areas of the combat zone, air transportation of airborne troops and equipment, and air evacuation of casualties. In Jun 1953, as the Korean war neared an armistice, all wing C-119s airlifted the entire 187th Regimental Combat Team (Airborne) from Japan to Seoul and Chunch'on, South Korea, to preclude enemy breakthroughs. This was the largest mass movement of personnel in the history of combat cargo to that time. Between Apr 1953 and Sep 1954, the wing aided the French Air Force in Indo-China by training aircrews, evacuating wounded, and maintaining aircraft. Provided intra-theater airlift of cargo and personnel to specified organizations in Southeast Asia beginning Jan 1967, initially with C-7A aircraft transferred from the U.S. Army. Gained a tactical electronic warfare mission in mid-1971 and a special operations mission in the autumn of 1971. Phased down for inactivation beginning early 1972.

The U.S. Air Force reactivated the 483rd Troop Carrier Wing (later renamed the 483rd Tactical Airlift Wing) on October 15, 1966 with a nucleus of headquarters personnel. The wing was based at Cam Ranh AB and Colonel Paul J. Mascot took command on November 4, 1966. The USAF approved six new squadrons, each with sixteen C-7 Caribous and 24 aircrews. The manning authorization was for 1,555 spaces, replacing the 1,443 spaces used by the Army Caribou operation. The move saw a continuation of the interservice wrangling between the Army and the Air Force which had been central to the controversy surrounding the aircraft since it was ordered by the U.S. Army. The core issues were Army concerns that the Caribous remain near enough Army maneuver units to continue the responsiveness the aircraft provided under Army ownership and the dedicated user concept whereby ground commanders allocated mission control to specific users. The Air Force wanted the aircraft under central control by 834th Air Division. Withdrawal of the aircraft from the Mekong Delta and from the 1st Cavalry Division base at An Khe were particularly controversial. Finally, Defense Secretary McNamara ruled that the Caribous would be based at Air Force and not Army bases. Two squadrons each were then deployed to Cam Ranh, Vung Tau, and Phu Cat.

USAF UNIT HISTORIES
Created: 8 Feb 2012
Updated: 10 Sep 2023

Sources

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