

621 CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

621 Contingency Response Wing

STATIONS

McGuire AFB, NJ

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Award

1 Oct 2011-30 Sep 2012

EMBLEM

Azure, in sinister chief a sun of seven rays Or, in dexter base an olive branch crescent Vert surmounted by three arrows two saltirewise over one palewise Gules, all within a diminished

bordure Yellow. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "621ST CONTINGENCY RESPONSE WING" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** 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 sun represents the unit's twenty-four hour capability. The seven points of the sun denote the seven continents of the world and reflect the Wing's worldwide functions. The sheaf of arrows over a wreath of olives symbolizes both peace and wartime missions.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 621st Contingency Response Wing, a subordinate unit of the 21st Expeditionary Mobility Task Force, is one of two specialized wings in the Air Force responsible for training and rapidly deploying personnel to quickly open airfields in remote locations and extend Air Mobility Command's ability to deploy people and equipment around the globe.

The 621st CRW was established in March 2005 and consists of three groups, seven squadrons and seven geographically separated operating locations aligned with major Army and Marine Corps combat units. The wing maintains a ready corps of light, lean and agile mobility support forces able to respond in order to meet Combatant Command wartime requirements, and as directed by the 18th Air Force's Tanker Airlift Control Center at Scott Air Force Base, IL.

Three Contingency Response Groups provide the core cadre of expeditionary command and control, airlift and air refueling operations, aerial port, and aircraft maintenance personnel deployed worldwide as mobility control teams and airfield assessment teams. These teams rapidly survey, assess and establish contingency airbase lodgments and expand existing AMC support infrastructure worldwide. Each CRG has a Global Mobility Squadron and Global Mobility Readiness Squadron. The GMS performs aircraft quick-turn maintenance, passenger and cargo movement, and command and control of personnel and aircraft. The GMRS supplies threat assessment, force protection, airfield management, air traffic control, weather, airfield systems maintenance, finance and contracting and contracting finance services.

A seventh squadron, the Global Support Squadron, provides a wide range of dedicated mission support for all three CRGs, including supply, equipment issue/maintenance/storage and deployment readiness. GSS personnel provide specialized teams that deploy in direct support of AMC's global mobility mission, as well as develop, conduct and manage all qualification and continuation training requirements enabling the CRGs to meet tasked mission requirements.

The 621st CRW also includes Air Mobility Liaison Officers who provide air mobility expertise to their aligned Army/ Marine brigade and division-level commanders. The AMLO operating locations include Ft. Drum, NY; Ft. Bragg and Camp Lejeune, NC; Ft. Stewart and Ft. Benning, GA; Ft. Campbell, KY; and Ft. Polk, LA.

There are about 546 people assigned to the 621st CRW at McGuire and about 133 assigned at Charleston AFB, SC. The 621st CRW has an annual budget of \$7.5 million.

Today, more than ever, the Air Force is supporting airlift operations all over the globe. Operations such as ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM are a tribute to the readiness of the 621st CRW to provide mission support whenever and wherever the requirement exists.

About a month after its formal stand up, one of Air Mobility Command's two new contingency response wings sent a team to Afghanistan to establish a new base airfield for Italian troops at Herat. The 47-member team, primarily from the 621st Contingency Response Wing, McGuire AFB, N.J., was expected to complete the operation in less than 45 days.

The McGuire unit was the first of two CRWs created by AMC to provide USAF with rapid air base set-up units, primarily comprising aerial port, command and control, maintenance, and security force personnel.

AMC on April 11 formally activated the second unit the 615th CRW at Travis AFB, Calif.

Depending on the mission, these wings also can deploy intelligence special investigations, medical, finance weather, and contracting personnel, according to USAF officials. For instance, to fill out the contingency response element working on the Herat base, the 621st CRW drew a finance NCO from Travis and a four-person medical team from MacDill AFB, Fla. 2005

Air Mobility Command activated a new wing March 1 at McGuire AFB, N.J., devoted to fast base set up and operations. Replacing the 621st Air Mobility Operations Group, the 621st Contingency Response Wing consolidates personnel that previously had been tapped from different units. They include individuals from key special ties such as command and control, security forces, aerial port operations, and maintenance. 2005

Building Partner Capacity in Africa: The 621st Contingency Response Wing at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., will soon take on the new mission of helping African militaries establish their own air mobility systems. The wing stood up the 818th Mobility Support Advisory Squadron in April to perform that role. "My mission is build partner capacity, and my goal is to leave them physically better than when we got there," said Col. Chris Patterson, 621st CRW commander. The squadron is expected to be ready for initial operations in December; already, it has one-third of its 73 airmen in place, said wing officials. The first mentoring and advising mission likely will take place in Ghana by next spring. The airmen will teach the Africans tasks like how to establish command and control; set up an airfield; run an air-traffic-control system; develop a sustainable fuel supply; and train aircrews. 2011

From Two to One: Officials at Travis AFB, Calif., inactivated the 615th Contingency Response Wing, ending the unit's seven years of operations, according to a base release. The move leaves

the Air Force with one consolidated unit, the 621st CRW at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., to oversee the service's airmen who are specially trained to rapidly set up air bases and conduct airfield operations at austere locations around the world. "The 621st CRW must remain ready to answer the call whenever and wherever across the globe it comes," said Maj. Gen. William Bender, commander of the Air Force Expeditionary Center at McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, during the May 29 inactivation ceremony. The center oversees the 621st CRW, which assumed control of the 615th CRW's two contingency response groups and one contingency operations support group, according to Travis' release. 2012

Air Mobility Command is streamlining its contingency response force by creating a single East Coast operations group, one West Coast operations group, and an advisory group, according to a release. Reorganization of the 621st Contingency Response Wing will consolidate the six current groups (four contingency response groups and two contingency operations support groups) located at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., and at Travis AFB, Calif., into three: the 821st Contingency Response Group at Travis and the 621st CRG and 621st Air Mobility Advisory Group at McGuire, states the May 28 release. "These internal changes provide more leadership at the [noncommissioned officer] level, better define the roles and responsibilities in the wing, and assign a single point of ownership of the equipment that the CRW needs to provide rapid global mobility," said Maj. Gen. Rick Martin, commander of the Air Force Expeditionary Center at McGuire. AMC began implementing the changes on May 28 and expects complete all realignment actions by the end of June, states the release. The realignment does not alter the 621st CRW's mission or assigned assets. 2015

The 621st Contingency Response Wing is highly-specialized in training and rapidly deploying personnel to quickly open airfields and establish, expand, sustain, and coordinate air mobility operations. From wartime taskings to disaster relief, the 621st extends Air Mobility Command's reach in deploying people and equipment around the globe.

Established in March 2005 and based at both Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. and Travis Air Force Base, Calif., the 621st consists of approximately 1500 Airmen in six groups, fourteen squadrons and more than 20 geographically separated operating locations aligned with major Army and Marine Corps combat units. The wing maintains a ready corps of light, lean and agile mobility support forces able to respond as directed by the 18th Air Force at Scott Air Force Base, Ill., in order to meet Combatant Command wartime and humanitarian requirements.

Four Contingency Response Groups (817th, 818th, 570th and 571st CRGs) provide the core cadre of expeditionary command and control, airlift and air refueling operations, aerial port, and aircraft maintenance personnel for deployment worldwide as mobility control teams and airfield assessment teams. These teams rapidly survey, assess and establish contingency air base lodgments and expand existing AMC support infrastructure worldwide. Each CRG has a Global Mobility Squadron and Global Mobility Readiness Squadron. The 818th and 571st CRGs also contain Mobility Support Advisory Squadrons.

The GMS performs aircraft quick-turn maintenance, airfield management, passenger and cargo movement, and command and control of personnel and aircraft.

The GMRS supplies threat assessment, force protection, air traffic control, weather, airfield systems maintenance, finance and contracting.

The MSAS is focused on the mutual exchange of air mobility concepts and procedures with partner nations in the development of their air mobility systems. The 818th MSAS is primarily focused on operations in Africa. The 571st MSAS is trained to operate in Central and South America.

Two other groups; the 615th and 621st Contingency Operations Support Groups, house the 573rd and 819th Global Support Squadrons, the 21st and 15th Air Mobility Operations Squadrons, and the Air Mobility Liaison Officers for the 621st CRW.

The 573rd and 819th GSS deploys contingency response forces to locations where the en-route support for AMC's global air mobility operations is insufficient or nonexistent. In garrison, the GSS manages and maintains the wing's assigned equipment as well as facilitating training for and equipping 621st CRW assigned personnel.

The AMOS¹ provide operational, level-of-war planning and execution of theater airlift, air refueling, and aeromedical evacuation missions. The squadrons accomplish this role by augmenting existing Air Mobility Divisions or Air and Space Operations Centers within the theater, or by standing up an independent AMD in austere environments. While performing AMD duties, AMOS personnel synchronize scheduling of all theater-owned airframes and aircrew to meet the theater commanders' mobility objectives.

The 621st CRW also includes Air Mobility Liaison Officers who provide air mobility expertise to their aligned Army/Marine brigade and division and corps level commanders.

AMLO operating locations include: Fort Drum, NY; Fort Bragg and Camp Lejeune, NC; Fort Stewart and Fort Benning, GA; Fort Campbell and Fort Knox, KY; Fort Carson, CO; Fort Riley, KS; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA; Fort Hood, TX; Fort Bliss, TX; Fort Polk, LA.; Wiesbaden and Kaiserslautern, Germany; Vicenza, Italy; Okinawa, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.

Today, more than ever, the Air Force is supporting mobility operations all over the globe. Operations such as ENDURING FREEDOM, IRAQI FREEDOM and NEW DAWN and humanitarian assistance deployments such as Hurricane Katrina and the Haiti and Pakistan Earthquake relief operations are tributes to the 621st CRW's capabilities and readiness in providing mission support whenever and wherever the requirement exists.

The 621st Contingency Response Wing finalized its reorganization during a June 26 capstone ceremony at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., according to a release. During the month-long reorganization, the wing inactivated four contingency response groups and two contingency operation support groups, located at JB MDL and at Travis AFB, Calif., consolidating them into three new groups: the 821st Contingency Response Group at Travis, the 621st CRG, and the 621st Air Mobility Advisory Group, both at JB MDL. "You've been reorganizing ... while getting the mission done," said Maj. Gen. Rick Martin, commander of the US Air Force Expeditionary Center, during the ceremony. "I equate that to modifying an aircraft while it's flying ... That's an incredible testimony to your leadership, to the planning, and to the execution here." A total of 17 units were inactivated and 12 new units were activated, states the release. "We now step into the future as one wing, one team, with one distinct mission executed through four distinct and integrated lines of operation—air advisors, theater command and control, air mobility, and contingency response forces," said Col. James Copher, 621st CRW commander. "Aligning together, we create a network that builds, strengthens, and executes expeditionary air mobility operations." 2015

A group of airmen from the 621st Contingency Response Wing recently returned home to JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., from Gabon in West Africa, after helping deliver more than 450,000 pounds of equipment to the Central African Republic of Bangui, according to a press release. Gabon's military was asked to deliver equipment to Bangui as part of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission, and the 621st CRW was called in to help. After Lt. Col. Michael Sheldon, an air mobility liaison officer attached to US Army Africa/Southern European Task Force, along with a small team of airmen in Gabon for a planning conference, inspected the materials and coordinated with Air Mobility Command to schedule the C-17, another 621st CRS team worked with French and Gabonese forces to load the equipment onto the plane. "The mission was important in our ability to make an outsized contribution to the larger goals of the US government in Africa," Sheldon said. "Besides helping a partner nation contribute to an important peacekeeping mission, we helped elevate an important African ally." 2016

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 2 Mar 2016

Updated:

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.