

# 4<sup>th</sup> DIRECT AIR SUPPORT FLIGHT



## LINEAGE

## STATIONS

Osan AB, South Korea

## ASSIGNMENTS

## COMMANDERS

## HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

## EMBLEM

## MOTTO

## NICKNAME

## OPERATIONS

The 4<sup>th</sup> Direct Air Support Flight mission was to develop and maintain Direct Support Center and Tactical Air Control Party personnel at a high level of combat readiness, immediately available to be deployed for incorporation as operating elements of a Tactical Air Control System.

CHECKING OUT the MRC-108 radio equipment that will be used by the 2nd. and 4th. Direct Air Support Flight are (from left) Capt. Norman F. Conant Jr., Acting Commander; Col. Leon H. Berger, Tactical Operations Director; and A2c Stuart A. Vosk, radio operator (ROMAD). The units are the only ones of their kind in Korea - May 1965

## 2 Flights Forming at Osan AB Korea

Osan AB - Two new U.S. Air Force units which will improve close air support to the Army in Korea are being formed here.

The units, the 2nd and 4th Direct Air Support Flights (DASF), are two of several units being organized in the Pacific Air Forces area.

Acting commander is Capt. Norman F. Conant Jr.

Once the flights go into full operation they will be able to direct United Nations Aircraft to their strike points within minutes by way of MRC-108 Radio equipment.

The units' radios are completely mobile, allowing them to travel with the Army to the front lines.

Once the need for air support is established, DASF personnel on the front lines send a request direct to an Air Force operating unit. This transmission is monitored by intermediate headquarters along the line who either approve or revise the request immediately.

If the request is approved the alerted aircraft are scrambled and directed to their strike targets by the forward air controllers. The aircraft will be able to be over the targets within minutes after the request for support is received.

The flights are tenant units at Osan AB South Korea under the operational control of the 314th. Air Division, PACAF.

Below is additional information concerning the 2nd and 4th DASF as supplied by the USAF Archives Department.

The history of the 4th Direct Air Support Flight (DASF) contains no rosters of either deployed personnel or personnel in the organization at Osan. The history does mention that personnel were deployed to Vietnam up to 120 days, that during the first half of 1966 the 4th DASF was authorized and assigned 29 personnel.

The history also lists a number of exercises with the U.S. Army, FROKA, ROK Marines and the ROKAF during the first half of 1966 including Nightmare Oscar, Nightmare Tango and the weekly and bi-weekly Rock Wall and Kooni Range but again no rosters or names are provided.

The 4th Direct Air Support Flight was simply inactivated, 16 August 1968 (DAF OMO Letter 961n, 16 August 1968). The mission seems to have been taken up in Vietnam by the 504th Tactical Air Support Group and its subordinate units.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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