

62 AIRLIFT WING



MISSION

The 62 Airlift Wing's mission is to deliver global airlift, focused logistics, and agile combat support for America. The wing's tasking requirements range from supplying humanitarian airlift relief to victims of disasters, to airdropping troops into the heart of contingency operations in hostile areas.

LINEAGE

62 Troop Carrier Wing established, 28 Jul 1947
Organized, 15 Aug 1947
Redesignated 62 Troop Carrier Wing, Medium, 22 Aug 1948
Redesignated 62 Troop Carrier Wing, Heavy, 12 Oct 1949
Inactivated, 1 Jun 1950
Activated, 17 Sep 1951
Redesignated 62 Air Transport Wing, Heavy, 1 Jan 1965
Redesignated 62 Military Airlift Wing, 8 Jan 1966
Redesignated 62 Airlift Wing, 1 Dec 1991

STATIONS

McChord Field (later, McChord AFB), WA, 15 Aug 1947-1 Jun 1950
McChord AFB, WA, 17 Sep 1951
Larson AFB, WA, 21 Apr 1952
McChord AFB, WA, 13 Jun 1960

ASSIGNMENTS

Twelfth Air Force, 15 Aug 1947
Fourth Air Force, 10 Dec 1948-1 Jun 1950
Eighteenth Air Force, 17 Sep 1951

Twenty-Second Air Force, 1 Jul 1957
Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1993
Eighteenth Air Force, 1 Oct 2003

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-82, 1947-1950
C-54, 1949-1950
C-124, 1951-1969
C-54, 1952
C-141, 1966
C-130, 1975-1989
C-17, 1999

COMMANDERS

Col Julius A. Kolb, 15 Aug 1947
Col Fred C. Nelson, 10 Apr 1948-1 May 1950
None, 2 May-1 Jun 1950
Brig Gen Harold W. Bowman, 17 Sep 1951
Col Edward T. Imparate, 19 Mar 1952
Brig Gen Harold W. Bowman, Apr 1952
Brig Gen George F. McGuire, 18 Sep 1954
Col John M. Hutchison, 26 May 1958
Col Harold M. Brecht, 13 Jun 1960
Col Allison C. Brooks, 15 Aug 1960
Col Tracy J. Petersen, By 27 Feb 1963
Col Allison C. Brooks, May 1963
Col Tracy J. Petersen, 3 Jan 1964
Col Hugh E. Wild, 7 Aug 1964
Col Theodore P. Tatum, 16 Nov 1966
Brig Gen Clare T. Ireland, Jr., 9 Jun 1967
Col John H. Germeraad, 16 Feb 1969
Brig Gen Arthur W. Cruikshank Jr., 19 May 1969
Brig Gen John H. Germeraad, 22 Aug 1969
Brig Gen Van N. Backman, 1 Mar 1970
Brig Gen Benjamin F. Starr Jr., 31 May 1973
Col Donald W. Bennett, 12 Aug 1973
Brig Gen Edward J. Nash, 14 Aug 1973
Col Allan K. Andreason, 8 Aug 1975
Col Donald D. Brown, 1 Jul 1977
Col James D. Kellim, 20 Feb 1979
Col Donald C. Smith, 18 Sep 1979
Col Jerry P. Harmon, 24 Mar 1982
Col Vernon J. Kondra, 23 Mar 1984
Col Edwin E. Tenoso, 19 May 1986

Col Michael J. Mccarthy, 16 Aug 1989
Col Howard J. Ingersoll, 17 Jun 1991
Brig Gen Richard C. Marr, 6 Jul 1993
Col Craig R. Rasmussen, 28 Mar 1995
Col Duncan J. McNabb, 17 Jul 1996
Col Arthur F. Diehl Iii, 22 Jul 1997
Col Raymond E. Johns Jr., 14 Aug 1998
Col Paul J. Selva, 17 Jul 2000
Col Robert R. Allardice, 7 Jun 2002
Col Rowayne Schatz, 7 Jun 2004
Col Jerry Martinez, 13 Mar 2006
Col Jeffrey L. Stephenson, 23 Jan 2008
Col Kevin J. Kilb, 26 Jun 2009

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Grenada, 1983

Decorations

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award
11 Sep 2001-10 Sep 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1961-1 Nov 1962
1 Jul 1965- 15 Jul 1966
1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970
1 Jul 1973-30 Jun 1974
1 Jul 1981- 30 Jun 1983
1 Jul 1983-30 Jun 1985
14 Jun-3 Jul 1991
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1997
1 Jul 1997-30 Jun 1999
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2001
11 Sep 2005-10 Sep 2006

Bestowed Honors

Authorized to display honors earned by the 62 Troop Carrier Group prior to 15 Aug 1947

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Rome-Arno

Southern France

North Apennines

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Decorations

EMBLEM





Gray, a globe with axis bendwise Azure, gridlined of the first, above in base two arched olive branches, one to dexter one to sinister Vert, overall in pale a sword with blade Argent, hilt Or, the blade winged of the last, the point of the blade surmounting a demi-sunburst of the like, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "62D AIRLIFT 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 globe represents the Wing's capability to sustain global operations. The wing supported sword, superimposed upon the globe, represents the air mobility power of the organization in supporting and advancing armed might; the sword and olive branches denote the role required in peace and war. The sunburst represents rapid reaction of personnel when called to duty. (Approved, 17 Nov 1969)

MOTTO

Conducted troop carrier raining for 302d Troop Carrier Wing, a Reserve corollary, Jun 1949-May 1950.

Not operational 2 May-1 Jun 1950.

Trained in troop carrier operations with C-124s and C-54s at McChord AFB, WA, in late 1951 and early 1952.

Moved to Larson AFB, WA, in Apr 1952. From Larson, routinely performed troop carrier, air transport, and humanitarian missions on a global scale. Participated in the airlift of French troops from France to Indo-China in Operation BALI-HAI, Apr-May 1954.

Provided a major portion of the airlift needed to construct the distant early warning (DEW) line in northern Alaska and Canada, 1955-1956, and thereafter periodically resupplied the DEW line

stations.

During the international geophysical year 1957-1958, and subsequently through 1962, supported scientific stations in the Arctic Ocean by airlanding and airdropping supplies on the drifting ice.

Helped transport UN troops and supplies to the Congo in 1960.

Assumed responsibility in 1963 for worldwide airlift of nuclear weapons and associated equipment, continuing this mission through early 1971. Assumed airlift of Minuteman missiles from depots to operating sites in Apr 1971.

In 1972, supported Presidential trips to China and the Soviet Union. From 12 Feb to 1 Apr 1973, transported former prisoners of war from North Vietnam to the Philippines and the United States. That same year, transported UN troops from Indonesia to Israel and Egypt as part of a peacekeeping effort.

From Oct 1975 to Oct 1977, maintained a detachment of C-130s in the Canal Zone to support USAF needs in Central and South America.

Airlifted troops and supplies during invasion of Grenada and airlifted university students to safety, Oct-Nov 1983.

Participated in the airdrop of heavy equipment and personnel during military action in Panama, 20 Dec 1989.

Airlifted personnel and equipment in support of American involvement in Southwest Asia and operated airlift control elements at Zaragoza, Spain, to direct cargo and personnel destined for Southwest Asia, Aug 1990-Mar 1991.

Evacuated and gave assistance to Americans at Clark AFB and Subic Bay Naval Base, who were displaced by the eruption of Mount Pinatubo, Philippine Islands, Jun-Jul 1991.

Supported numerous humanitarian, contingency, and peacekeeping operations in the Balkans, Africa, Russia, and Haiti from 1992-1999.

On 30 Nov 1992, four C-141 aircraft from 62 Airlift Wing and a kc-135r from Washington Air National Guard, were practicing refueling maneuvers; two C-141 aircraft collided, exploded and plummeted to earth near Harlem MT. Malmstrom AFB deployed disaster recovery team to crash site.

Assumed responsibility for Operation Deep Freeze resupply missions of scientific research stations in Antarctica beginning in 1997.

Wing aircraft and aircrews participated in airdrop relief missions over Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2001.

In 2005, McChord Airmen assisted in bringing relief to the victims of Hurricane Katrina. McChord brought over 135,000 pounds of food and water into the region and brought more than 1,000 residents of the area out to safety.

Aircrew from the 62d Airlift Wing also participated in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation since Vietnam. In July 2006, they moved 12,703 U.S. citizens from Cyprus and Turkey where they had previously fled to escape fighting in Lebanon. In addition to aiding in the evacuation of people, McChord's Airmen delivered food, water and equipment to Cyprus to support stranded citizens awaiting evacuation.

In December 2006, a C-17 from McChord made its debut airdrop to the South Pole, Antarctica, showcasing the aircraft's reliability and versatility.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. *Larson AFB, WA, 62 Troop Carrier Wing, 1953*. Army and Navy Publishing Company. Baton Rouge, LA. 1953.