

HQ MARYLAND AIR NATIONAL GUARD



MISSION

The Federal Mission: In peacetime, to prepare for wartime tasks, maintain readiness, and support homeland security operations and international peacekeeping efforts. In wartime, to provide close air support and tactical airlift capability to combatant commanders worldwide, and to deploy mission-ready base operating support functions such as security, civil engineering, logistics and medical as required. The State Mission: During emergencies, Warfield Air National Guard Base is a main operating location for joint aviation operations (fixed rotary/wing), Search and Rescue, C-130J alert operations and Civil Air Patrol. 175th Wing provides a 100-person rapid response team. Additionally, the Wing participates in humanitarian operations throughout the United States and worldwide and supports community service projects and events in the local area. **Personnel** Officers: 15 Enlisted: 14

The Maryland Air National Guard is a dual-status state and federal entity. While in state status, it is a component of the Maryland Military Department and reports to the adjutant general of Maryland. The governor of Maryland is the commander-in-chief of the Maryland militia, which includes the Maryland Air National Guard except when called up under federal mobilization orders. The Air National Guard also serves as a reserve of the U.S. Air Force. When mobilized, units of the Maryland Air Guard are allotted to various gaining major commands and report through the regular Air Force chain of command to the President of the United States as commander-in-chief.

The State ANG Headquarters is The Adjutant General's (TAG) senior staff providing information and evaluation, issue resolution, and action recommendations regarding the Maryland Air National Guard. It provides TAG with a personal staff, provides air liaison to the Maryland Army

National Guard State Area Command (STARC), and commands, controls, and supervises the 175th Wing, 104th Weather Flight, and the 235th Civil Engineering Flight. In addition, it directs employment of ANG resources during State emergencies as part of an emergency operations center and interprets Air Force and National Guard Bureau policies and coordinates implementation and compliance within the State. It also plays a key role in policy development, developing air positions on major issues, including mission requirements and placement of units, and long range plans for the state.

LINEAGE

HQ Maryland Air National Guard

STATIONS

Baltimore, MD

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Brig Gen Edwin Wadiel III, 1965

Brig Gen Malcolm E. Henry, 1971

Brig Gen Victor F Kilkowsk, 1980

Brig Gen Donald B. Barshay, 1984

Brig Gen Bruce Tuxill

Brig Gen Allyson R. Solomon

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Organizational Excellence Award - 1997-99

EMBLEM



Maryland Air National Guard Insignia: Prior to 1993, the Headquarters had never had its own insignia. Members of the Headquarters had always come from one of the two Maryland Air Guard groups within the state and worn the insignia of their past unit. Col Mark Allen designed a HQ emblem to capture the mission of State Headquarters. The symbols are representative of the Guard's national defense and state emergency missions.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

In July 1955 the Glenn L. Martin Company offered the Maryland Air National Guard space on property to the north of the company runway. Construction of the new facilities began in early 1956. When completed, the facility provided a permanent home for the jet-equipped 104th Fighter Interceptor Squadron. The new facilities included a hangar, fire station boiler room, warehouse, shops and a parking area in a 25-acre tract adjacent to the present field. The 135th Air Resupply Group joined the 104th at Martin when Harbor Field closed in 1960.

The State Headquarters element was created in 1957 to advise the Adjutant General on Air Guard matters. Lt. Col. Ted Warfield was the first Chief of Staff and served with Maj. James Considine, Maj Robert Wilson and MSgt. Frank Cutair who made up the first HQ staff.

During the 1970s, the Maryland Air National Guard began feeling the effects of the "Total Force" concept adopted by Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird. The Guard was now looked upon as a cost-effective way to keep combat capability while reducing the size of the active duty forces. No longer was the Air Guard seen as "flyable storage" or "federally subsidized flying clubs." Learning from the lessons of the Vietnam conflict, the politicians of the time were eager to avoid unnecessary conflicts in the future and saw the use of reserve components as preferable to conscription for augmenting the active duty forces. The necessity of calling up the Guard and Reserves would ensure that the general populace was involved in the debate and force the country to reach a consensus for or against future military actions. The Total Force concept had several effects on Maryland's air units. As the active components ceded missions to the Guard, the unit had to find a more efficient way to use its active duty time. The "Texas Plan" was

adopted in the mid-1970s: under this concept, the individual support and operational units frequently deployed separately to perform specialized Air Force missions instead of the entire Group deploying together for two weeks in the traditional summer camp scenario. Accordingly, both the 175th and the 135th deployed for their last traditional summer camps in 1976. This certainly increased the capabilities of the subordinate units but took a toll on unit camaraderie, as the units lost the opportunity to work and socialize together as a complete team that had been such a major morale booster in earlier years. By 1977, the units rarely ever deployed as a single entity.

In July 1975, the State of Maryland purchased an additional 750 acres from the Martin Marietta Corporation. The state renamed Martin Airport the Glenn L. Martin State Airport. The airport serves the needs of the general aviation community as well as being the permanent home of the flying units of the Maryland Air National Guard.

The Maryland Air National Guard reached yet another milestone in Oct. 1979 when it held groundbreaking ceremonies beginning the construction of a new 42-acre Multiple Facilities Complex. It included site improvements, access roads parking areas, and general utilities. The new facilities would be home for both the 175th and the 135th.

By 1982, the total Maryland Air National Guard strength stood at 217 officers, 1,433 airmen, and 387 civilian employees. Total annual federal operating funds were now over \$17 million.

On September 16, 1982, Warfield Air National Guard Base was formally renamed and rededicated in honor of Maj. Gen. Edwin Warfield III as the permanent home of the Maryland Air National Guard (the facilities at Warfield had been dedicated to Maj. Gen. Reckord in 1959). Maj. Gen. Ted Warfield, Adjutant General from 1970 through 1979 and a member of Maryland Air National Guard from 1946 through 1979.

Maj. Gen. Donald Shepperd, Director of the Air National Guard, announced at the senior commanders' conference in Nov. 1994 that he was reorganizing and cutting 14,000 positions from the Air Guard. In one of the biggest shake-ups in Air Guard history, Shepperd announced that he would trim state headquarters' staffs and convert all Groups to Wings. Due to the unique nature of our organization with a fighter and an airlift unit at the same location, the 135th AG was one of two units to be excluded from the order.

On June 15, 1996, the units of the 135th and 175th merged to form the 175th Wing. This consolidation, which was prompted by a move to form "slate wings" throughout the Air National Guard, combined the headquarters elements and functions of the two flying operations into a single wing headquarters. The 175th Wing, which carries on the lineage and honors of the 175th Fighter Group, is a composite organization with an Air Combat Command-gained fighter unit, an Air Mobility Command-gained airlift unit, a U.S. Air Forces in Europe-gained civil engineer flight, and, since 2006, a network warfare squadron.

Maryland's leadership teamed up with the Michigan ANG, which had a similar configuration, to

make recommendations on how we should reorganize to fit Air Force requirements. The decision was made to merge the 135th AG and the 175th FG and become the 175th Wing with an airlift squadron and a fighter squadron under one Wing Operations Group.

The formation of the Wing capped off years of intensive efforts to consolidate the functions of the two sides of the house. The various subordinate units would merge according to function. Most of the reorganization was complete when the Air Force announced their decision to transfer all tactical airlift from ACC back to AMC. thus making the reorganization unworkable. It was back to the drawing board.

This time the result had us standing up one Wing with an Operations, Logistics, and Support Group. The 135th Airlift Group was to reform as an attached organization with their own operations and maintenance functions reporting to the Airlift Group Commander. This structure was finalized in May 1999 and Col. David Arnett was named to command the reactivated 135th. While the initial merger and subsequent reorganization was painful, the resulting organization has proven to be efficient and much more in line with the active duty Air Force.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit history. Maryland National Guard, A history of Maryland's Military Forces, 1634-1991.