

301 AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

301 Troop Carrier Squadron constituted, 25 May 1943
Activated, 1 Aug 1943
Inactivated, 27 May 1946
Redesignated 301 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 10 May 1949
Activated in the Reserve, 27 Jun 1949
Ordered to active service, 10 Mar 1951
Inactivated, 14 Mar 1951
Redesignated 301 Military Airlift Wing (Associate), 18 Mar 1969
Activated, 25 Jul 1969
Redesignated 301 Airlift Squadron (Associate), 1 Feb 1992
Redesignated 301 Airlift Squadron, 1 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Sedalia AAFld, MO, 1 Aug 1943
Camp Mackall, NC, 18 Jan 1944
Baer Field, IN, 22-29 Feb 1944
Langar, England, 17 Mar 1944
Merryfield, England, 25 Apr 1944 (operated from Ramsbury, England, 7-24 Aug 1944)
Villeneuve/Vetrus, France, 8 Sep 1944
St Marceau, France, 1 Oct 1944
Dreux, France, 3 Nov 1944

St-Andre-de-l Eure, France, 20 May 1945
Halle, Germany, 28 Jun 1945
Tempelhof Airdrome (later, US Air Force Station), Germany, 4 Jul 1945-15 Feb 1946
Bolling Field, DC, 15 Feb-27 May 1946
Chicago-Orchard (later, O'Hare Intl) Aprt, IL, 27 Jun 1949-14 Mar 1951
Travis AFB, CA, 25 Jul 1969

ASSIGNMENTS

441 Troop Carrier Group, 1 Aug 1943
442 Troop Carrier Group, 16 Jul 1945
302 Transport Wing, 8 Aug 1945
441 Troop Carrier Group, 8 Aug 1945
Continental Air Forces (later, Strategic Air Command), 15 Feb 1946
Bolling Field [Command], DC, 21 Mar-27 May 1946
441 Troop Carrier Group, 27 Jun 1949-14 Mar 1951
938 Military Airlift Group, 25 Jul 1969
349 Military Airlift (later, 349 Airlift) Wing, 1 Jul 1973
349 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992

ATTACHMENTS

442 Troop Carrier Group, 18 May-16 Jul 1945
473 Air Service Group, 18 Sep 1945-15 Feb 1946

WEAPON SYSTEMS

L-3
C-53D, 1943-1944
C-47A, 1943-1946
CG-4 (glider), 1944-1945
T-6
T-7
T-11
C-46, 1949-1951
C-141, 1969-1973
C-5, 1973-2006
C-17, 2006

COMMANDERS

Maj Ernest W. Pate, 1 Aug 1943
Lt Col Lloyd G. Neblett, 15 Apr 1944
Cpt Robert G. Dean, 13 Apr 1945
Cpt LeRoy King, Dec 1945-15 Feb 1946
Not manned, 15 Feb-27 May 1946
Lt Col Robert L. Behling, 27 Jun 1949-14 Mar 1951
Lt Col Donald R. Rutledge, 25 Jul 1969

Lt Col William J. Hopkins, Jun 1970
Lt Col Irving G. Williams, Sep 1970
Lt Col Edward C. Black Jr., Jun 1971
Lt Col Alfred H. Bekebrede Jr., 1 Sep 1972
Lt Col Neal T. McCloskey, 10 Aug 1975
Col William O. White Jr., 15 Jan 1978
Lt Col Lee R. Janover, 25 Jul 1980
Lt Col James A. Gault, by Jun 1982
Lt Col Richard W. Shriber, by Jan 1985
Lt Col Robert E. Whitehouse, 23 Mar 1986
Col Lee H. Gidney, 9 Dec 1989
Lt Col Jerry D. Willoughby, 17 Nov 1991
Lt Col Conrad D. Waggener, 1 Jul 1993
Lt Col Wayne E. Morotz, 12 Jun 1994
Lt Col James M. Eitel, 19 Oct 1996
Lt Col Peter C. Marcuzzo, 26 Jul 1998
Lt Col Kerry Keithcart, 15 Jun 2001
Lt Col Dale Andrews, 6 Nov 2003
Lt Col Stephen R. Rickert, 23 Jul 2006
Lt Col David Pavey, acting
Lt Col Dale Andrews

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Panama, 1989-1990

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
France, 6-7 Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device
1 Aug 2002-15 Aug 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1975
1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1977
1 Jul 1992-30 Jun 1994
1 Jul 1994-15 Aug 1995
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 Aug 2000-31 Jul 2002
16 Aug 2003-17 Aug 2004
18 Aug 2004-17 Aug 2005
18 Aug 2005-17 Aug 2006
18 Aug 2006-17 Aug 2007
18 Aug 2007-17 Aug 2008
18 Aug 2008-17 Aug 2009
30 Sep 2009-30 Sep 2011
1 Oct 2011-30 Sep 2013
1 Oct 2013-31 Dec 2014

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

25 Jul 1969-28 Jan 1973

EMBLEM



Approved, 1973

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Dropped paratroopers in preparation for Normandy invasion, 6 Jun 1944. Transported cargo and mail in France and England, and evacuated wounded troops from the continent. Took part in airborne attacks in Netherlands in Sep 1944. Dropped supplies to 101st Airborne Division

surrounded at Bastogne, Belgium, during the "Battle of the Bulge". Participated in airborne crossings of Rhine River into Germany, 24 Mar 1945.

First American air unit to occupy Tempelhof Airdrome in Berlin, 1945.

Since 1969, trained in the Reserve to fly global strategic airlift missions, performing routine channel flights, contingency and humanitarian relief operations, and joint training exercises.

The 301 Airlift Squadron celebrated their rich heritage while looking forward to their new mission during a Transition Ceremony May 25 in Bldg. P-31 at Travis Air Force Base, Calif. "Today is an historic day for this squadron, but not solely because of today's ceremony," said Lt. Col. Dave Pavey, acting commander for the 301 Airlift Squadron. "May 25, 1943, is the date when the U.S. Army Air Corps constituted the first iteration of our unit as the 301 Troop Carrier Squadron at Sedalia Field, Missouri. Destined to join the 9th Air Force as an integral part of the Allies invasion of Nazi occupied France on DDay, the 301 was made up of individuals from all over the United States and all walks of life ranging from farmers to lawyers to garage mechanics, just as we are now." The atrium was filled with Team Travis members and honored to be present were the Honorable Harry Price, Mayor of Fairfield, the Honorable Len Augustine, Mayor of Vacaville, and Supervisor Mike Reagan, from the Solano County Board of Supervisors, District 5. The Transition ceremony recognized the operational mission change from the C-5 Galaxy to the C-17 Globemaster III. "In this room there are so many of the people who continue to make our ongoing conversion a success," said Colonel Pavey. "The 21st Airlift Squadron, 60th Operations Group, and 60th Air Mobility Wing have provided much needed support for our programs, and I'd like to think we have helped them to develop in this new area."

The 301 has been flying the C-5 Galaxy since April 1973. Since becoming a C-5 unit, the 301 has participated in every world crisis with which the United States Air Force has been confronted. Some of the early highlights were Operations Babylift and Freedomlift, the emergency evacuation of Vietnam, Operation Nickel Grass, the emergency airlift to Israel, and support of combat operations in Lebanon and Grenada. The 301 began preparing for this transition in January 2005 by sending pilots and loadmasters to training. The ability of the 301 to generate all-Travis, all-Reserve aircrews is a great source of pride for the squadron, and the journey is far from over. "We look forward to strengthening these already strong working relationships with our active duty counterparts. As we get many of our crews trained from Altus and out on the road, the critical and subtle arts of coordination with many of the support agencies continues with an increased emphasis on Life Support, Tactics and Intel and a host of others, both reserve and active," said Colonel Pavey. "We'd especially like to thank our own leaders in both the 349th Operations Group and wing for their steadfast support through this exciting time."

The C-17 Globemaster III will increase the Reserve wings' ability to accomplish the Total Force, global-reach mission, which is critical to the Global War on Terrorism. "In addition to having much of the strategic capability of the C-5, the C-17 with its night vision capability and its unique Direct Lift Control system will allow it to operate on many unimproved surfaces as short as 3,000 feet," said Colonel Pavey. "This capability allows our crews, along with our active duty partner, the 21st AS, to play a key role in the ongoing war on terrorism and Operations

Enduring and Iraqi Freedom. Simply put, the C-17 Globemaster III is the most versatile airlifter in existence and a natural airplane to base at Travis AFB, 'America's First Choice.'" The 60th and 349th Air Mobility Wings will be the only units to concurrently operate three weapons systems within the Air Mobility Command. Travis is scheduled to receive its first C-17 aircraft in August and the aircraft will be dedicated to the local community and called the "Spirit of Solano."

USAF Unit Histories

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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.

A History of Travis Air Force Base, 1943-1996. Gary Leiser. Travis Air Force Base Historical Society. Sacramento, CA. 1996.