

310th AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

310th Airlift Squadron provides Safe, Comfortable, and Reliable Worldwide Airlift for our Nation's CONUS Based Unified Combatant Commanders.

The 310 AS operates three C-37A aircraft utilizing highly experienced crews to provide global airlift on special assignment missions directly supporting the Combatant Commanders of U.S. Central Command, U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, U.S. Northern Command, U.S. Transportation Command, U.S. Joint Forces Command, and U.S. Strategic Command.

LINEAGE

310th Troop Carrier Squadron constituted, 25 May 1943

Activated, 1 Oct 1943

Inactivated, 31 Jul 1945

Redesignated 310th Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 10 May 1949

Activated in the Reserve, 27 Jun 1949

Ordered to Active Service, 1 May 1951

Inactivated, 1 Feb 1953

Redesignated 310th Troop Carrier Squadron, Assault, Rotary Wing, 16 Nov 1954

Activated, 8 Feb 1955

Inactivated, 7 Sep 1956

Redesignated 310th Troop Carrier Squadron, Assault, and activated, 24 May 1963

Organized, 8 Jul 1963

Redesignated 310th Air Commando Squadron, Troop Carrier, 8 Mar 1965

Redesignated 310th Air Commando Squadron, Tactical Airlift, 1 Aug 1967
Redesignated 310th Special Operations Squadron, 1 Aug 1968
Redesignated 310th Tactical Airlift Squadron, 1 Jan 1970
Inactivated, 15 Nov 1972
Redesignated 310th Military Airlift Squadron, and activated, 1 Dec 1984
Redesignated 310th Airlift Squadron, 1 Jun 1992
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1999
Activated, 1 Jan 2001

STATIONS

Sedalia AAFld, MO, 1 Oct 1943
Alliance AAFld, NE, 19 Jan 1944
Camp Mackall, NC, 8 Mar-21 Apr 1944
Spanhoe, England, 21 Apr 1944
Amiens, France, 6 Apr-19 May 1945
Waller Field, Trinidad, 30 May-31 Jul 1945
Hensley Field, TX, 27 Jun 1949
Donaldson AFB, SC, 9 Aug 1951-1 Feb 1953
Pope AFB, NC, 8 Feb 1955-7 Sep 1956
Tan Son Nhut Afd, South Vietnam, 8 Jul 1963
Nha Trang Aprt (later, AB), South Vietnam, 29 Jun 1965
Phan Rang AB, South Vietnam, 14 Jul 1967
Tan Son Nhut AB, South Vietnam, 27 Jan-15 Nov 1972
Howard AFB, Panama, 1 Dec 1984-31 Mar 1999
MacDill AFB, FL, 1 Jan 2001

ASSIGNMENTS

443rd Troop Carrier Group, 1 Oct 1943
I Troop Carrier Command, 15 Feb 1944
Eighth Air Force, 21 Apr 1944
315th Troop Carrier Group, 26 Apr 1944-31 Jul 1945
443rd Troop Carrier Group, 27 Jun 1949-1 Feb 1953
Eighteenth Air Force (attached to 464th Troop Carrier Wing), 8 Feb 1955-7 Sep 1956
Pacific Air Forces, 24 May 1963
315th Troop Carrier (later, 315th Air Commando) Group, 8 Jul 1963
315th Air Commando (later, 315th Special Operations; 315th Tactical Airlift) Wing, 8 Mar 1966
377th Combat Support Group (later, 377th Air Base Wing), 15 Jan-15 Nov 1972
61st Military Airlift Group, 1 Dec 1984
24th Operations Group, 1 Jun 1992
Twenty-First Air Force, 1 Oct 1997-31 Mar 1999
6th Operations Group, 1 Jan 2001

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-47, 1943-1945
C-47A
C-46, 1949-1952
C-119, 1952-1953
H-19, 1955-1956
C/UC-123, 1963-1972
C-7, 1972
C-22, 1985-1991
C-130, 1984-1996
C-21, 1989-1999
C-27, 1991-1999
CT-43, 1992-1997
CT-43A
EC-135N
C-37A

COMMANDERS

Cpt Charles G. Carter Jr., 1 Oct 1943
Col Henry G. Hamby Jr., 26 Apr 1944
Maj George A. Rylance, 17 Jan-Apr 1945
Unkn, May-31 Jul 1945
Unkn, 27 Jun 1949-1950
Maj Glenn Barrow, 1950
Maj John S. Gibson, Oct 1951
Maj Joseph L. Baldwin, 7 Feb-30 Jun 1952
Unkn, Jul 1952-1 Feb 1953
Unkn, 8 Feb-May 1955
LTC Wilfred F. Simmons, by Jun 1955
Unkn, Jul-7 Sep 1956
Unkn, 8 Jul-Sep 1963
LTC Doyle L. Crites, Sep 1963
LTC Woodland M. Styron, 13 Oct 1964
Col William A. McLaughlin, 10 Sep 1965
LTC John L. Jeff, 10 May 1966
Col George N. Blair Jr., 18 Sep 1966
LTC Edwin P. Leonard, 20 Oct 1966
LTC Gordon G. Neal, 6 Feb 1967
Col Jack K. Massie, 23 Sep 1967
LTC Jack L. Goodman, 27 Mar 1968
LTC Frank F. Cannon, 7 Dec 1968
LTC Joedan J. Saunders, 30 Jun 1969
LTC Ben V. Walker (acting), 8 Dec 1969
LTC Robert K. Wright, 12 Jan 1970
LTC Emery J. Crane, 13 Nov 1970

LTC Creston J. Fowler, 1 Feb 1971
LTC Melvin F. Slicker, 12 Aug 1971
LTC James A. Nouss, 21 May 1972
LTC Ted W. Caudle, 1 Sep-15 Nov 1972
Unkn, 1 Dec 1984
LTC John J. Foncannon, 28 Jan 1985
Unkn, Jan 1986-Dec 1989
LTC Steven E. Harrington, by 1 Jan 1990
LTC Kenneth A. Ertie, by Nov 1990
LTC Michael L. Dittl, 26 Sep 1991
LTC Curtis L. Ross, 27 Jul 1993
LTC David M. Roetzel, 28 Jun 1995
LTC Eugene W. Barnash, 14 Mar 1997
Unkn, Jan-Mar 1999
LTC Eden Murrie, 1 Jan 2001
LTC David S. Dale Jr., 22 Jul 2002
Eugene W. Barnash, 14 Mar 1997
unkn, Jan-Mar 1999
Lt Col Eden Murrie, 1 Jan 2001
Lt Col David S. Dale, Jr., 22 Jul 2002
Lt Col Monty Perry, 21 Jul 2004
Lt Col Michael A. Hess, 17 Mar 2006
Lt Col Jennifer L. Uptmor, 22 Mar 2008
Lt Col Jason D. Wolf, 25 May 2010
Lt Col Derrick D. Hodges, 22 Jun 2012
Lt Col John P. Hartigan III, 1 Jul 2014

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Central Europe

Vietnam

Vietnam Advisory

Vietnam Defensive

Vietnam Air

Vietnam Air Offensive

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III
Vietnam Air/Ground
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV
TET 69/ Counteroffensive
Vietnam Summer/Fall, 1969
Vietnam Winter/Spring, 1970
Sanctuary Counteroffensive
Southwest Monsoon
Commando Hunt V
Commando Hunt VI
Commando Hunt VII
Vietnam Ceasefire

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Panama, 1989-1990

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation
Normandy, 5-6 Jun 1944

Presidential Unit Citations
Vietnam, 21 Jan-12 May 1968
1 Apr-30 Jun 1970

Presidential Unit Citation (Navy)
Khe Sanh, 20 Jan-31 Mar 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device
[8 Jul] 1963-30 Apr 1965
30 Jun-9 Jul 1965
15 Oct 1966-30 Apr 1967
10 Jun-31 Dec 1967
15 Jul 1968-30 Jun 1969
1 Jan 1971-26 Jan 1972
27 Jan-15 Nov 1972

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Dec 1984-30 Jun 1986
1 Jul 1986-30 Jun 1988
1 Jul 1988-30 Jun 1989
20 Dec 1989-14 Feb 1991
11 Feb 1992-31 Jul 1993
1 Jun 1996-31 May 1998

1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2006; 1 Jul 2007–30 Jun 2009, 1 Jul 09 – 30 Jun 10; 1 Jul 2013 – 30 Jun 2014.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Crosses with Palm

22 Apr 1966-1 Jan 1970

1 Jan 1970-15 Nov 1972

EMBLEM



310th Airlift Squadron emblem: zure, a stylized bird rising Or, fimbriated and garnished Sable below four mullets arcing in chief three to sinister and one to dexter Argent, all within a diminished bordure of the third. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "LIBERTATEM SUSTENTAMUS" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "310th AIRLIFT SQ" in Black letters. Blue and 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 stylized bird suggests an ancient pre Columbian symbol indicative of man's desire to fly. The group of three stars denotes the elements the squadron is formed around mission, personnel, and equipment. The single star symbolizes the courage of all previous veterans who served to protect our country and freedoms. (Approved, 7 Jul 1994)

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OPERATIONS

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Airborne assaults on Normandy, Holland, and Germany, as well as aerial transportation in ETO, during World War II.

Helicopter support for atomic weapons tests (Operation RED WING) on Bikini in the Eniwetok Atoll, Feb-Jun 1956.

Airdrop and airlift to combat forces in Southeast Asia, 1963-1972; also vegetation destruction and malaria control flights, Aug 1970-Jun 1972.

The Air Force's C 123s and Army Caribous made daily drops of ammunition and rations at the camp. All C 123 missions originated from Nha Trang and were flown by the 310th Air Commando Squadron. Requests for air supply, following the usual channel procedures for the Special Forces, were radioed from the camp to the 5th Special Forces Group at Nha Trang. Landings were impossible at Plei Me because of runway damage and continued enemy fire. On October 20, the first day of drops, four C-123s received a total of twenty hits; one aircraft was forced to divert to Pleiku. From October 22 to 25, nineteen C-123s received hits. During some of the missions, escort fighters sprayed the ridges on either side of the approach path while the defenders released white-phosphorous smoke. No hits were received when these actions were taken. Airdrop tactics were extemporized to minimize exposure to fire using lower than standard approach altitudes between 200 and 350 feet. The small size of the Plei Me camp, a triangle with sides two hundred twenty yards in length, necessitated that aircrews make repeated drop runs. Their accuracy was satisfactory and the loss rate of supplies was 1.6 percent. At least five deliveries were made at night using flareship illumination. During October 22-25, C-123s dropped 118 tons during twenty-five sorties while the Caribous delivered 38 tons in sixteen sorties from Nha Trang and Pleiku. Drops continued through the twenty-eighth of that month following the arrival of an armored task force which increased supply requirements while the road remained closed.

Airlift in South and Central America, 1985-1999.

Participated in the invasion of Panama (Operation JUST CAUSE), Dec 1989-Jan 1990

The CT-43A was retired on Sept. 30, 2001 and the EC-135N was retired on Feb. 19, 2003. The unit's first C-37A arrived 25 July 2001 and their third C-37A arrived Sept. 13, 2002. Before being reactivated at MacDill, the unit had been based in England, Trinidad, Vietnam, and Panama.

First Time Overseas for MacDill's VIP Transport Unit: One of the C-37A executive jets assigned to the 310th Airlift Squadron at MacDill AFB, Fla., along with 11 of the unit's airmen plus contractor support staff, deployed to Afghanistan, marking the squadron's first-ever overseas stint, said base officials. The contingent of all volunteers left MacDill in late January and is expected to spend about three months in that theater shuttling senior US military and government officials, states MacDill's Jan. 31 release. "Since our squadron had never deployed with the C-37A, every process had to be built from scratch," said 310th AS Commander Lt. Col. Derrick Hodges. "We had about five weeks' notice that we were tasked to fill this slot," he added. The MacDill airmen relieved deployed crews from the 76th AS at Ramstein AB, Germany, according to the release. 2013

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 25 Sep 2010

Updated: 24 Aug 2017

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.