

## 433 OPERATIONS GROUP



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

433 Troop Carrier Group established, 22 Jan 1943  
Activated, 9 Feb 1943  
Inactivated, 15 Jan 1946  
Activated in the Reserve, 6 Jul 1947  
Redesignated 433 Troop Carrier Group, Medium, 27 Jun 1949  
Ordered to active service, 15 Oct 1950  
Inactivated, 14 Jul 1952  
Activated in the Reserve, 18 May 1955  
Inactivated, 14 Apr 1959  
Redesignated 433 Tactical Airlift Group, 31 Jul 1985  
Redesignated 433 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Aug 1992

### STATIONS

Florence AAB, SC, 9 Feb 1943  
Sedalia AAB, MO, 19 Mar 1943  
Laurinburg-Maxton AAB, NC, 1 Jun 1943  
Baer Field, IN, 1 Aug-7 Sep 1943  
Port Moresby, New Guinea, late Aug 1943 (air echelon)  
Nadzab, New Guinea, Nov 1943  
Biak Island, 7 Nov 1944  
Tanauan, Leyte, 11 Feb 1945  
Clark Field, Luzon, Jun 1945  
Tachikawa, Japan, 30 Sep 1945-15 Jan 1946  
Akron, OH, 6 Jul 1947

Cleveland Muni Aprt, OH, 27 Jun 1949  
Greenville (later, Donaldson) AFB, SC, 16 Oct 1950-20 Jul 1951  
Rhein-Main AB, Germany, 5 Aug 1951-14 Jul 1952  
Brooks AFB, TX, 18 May 1955-14 Apr 1959  
Kelly AFB, TX, 1 Aug 1992  
Lackland AFB, TX, 1 Apr 2001

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

I Troop Carrier Command, 9 Feb 1943  
52 Troop Carrier Wing, Feb 1943  
50 Troop Carrier Wing, c. 19 Mar 1943  
53 Troop Carrier Wing, 15 Apr 1943  
50 Troop Carrier Wing, 2 Jun 1943  
Fifth Air Force, c. Sep 1943  
54 Troop Carrier Wing, 4 Oct 1943-15 Jan 1946  
Eleventh Air Force, 6 Jul 1947  
69 Troop Carrier Wing (later, 69 Air Division), 17 Oct 1947  
433 Troop Carrier Wing, 27 Jun 1949-14 Jul 1952  
433 Troop Carrier Wing, 18 May 1955-14 Apr 1959  
433 Airlift Wing, 1 Aug 1992

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

C-53, 1943  
C-47, 1943-1945  
B-17, 1944  
C-46, 1944-1945  
T-6, 1948-1950  
T-11, 1948-1951  
T-7, 1949-1951  
C-46, 1949-1950  
C-119, 1950-195  
T-28, 1955  
C-45, 1955-c. 1956  
C-46, 1955-1958  
C-119, 1958-1959  
C-5, 1992

### **COMMANDERS**

Lt Col Cecil B. Guile, 10 Feb 1943  
Lt Col Marvin O. Calliham, 17 Apr 1945  
Lt Col James L. Cole, Sep 1945-unkn  
Unkn, 6 Jul 1947-May 1949  
Col Earl F. Baskey, Jun 1949  
Col Harry W. Hopp, 6 Apr 1950

Lt Col Cornelius P. Chima, 15 Oct 1950  
Col Lucion N. Powell, 3 Mar-15 Jul 1952  
Unkn, 1955-1958  
Lt Col Henry O. Kight, Apr 1958-14 Apr 1959  
Col Gary Spence, 1 Aug 1992  
Col Alan M. Mitchell, 17 Apr 1994  
Col John S. Harlan Jr., 5 Feb 1995  
Col Aaron G. Vangelisti Jun 2009 - Oct 2011  
Col William Rolocut  
Col Delbert Lewis

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Air Offensive, Japan  
New Guinea  
Northern Solomons  
Bismarck Archipelago  
Western Pacific  
Leyte  
Luzon  
Southern Philippines  
Ryukyus

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

None

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
12 Sep 2000-11 Sep 2002  
1 Sep 2004-31 Aug 2006  
1 Jan 2007-31 Dec 2008  
Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

#### **EMBLEM**

Group will use the wing emblem with the group designation in the scroll.

#### **MOTTO**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Trained to tow gliders and to transport and drop supplies and paratroops, Feb-Jul 1943. Air echelon

flew Group's C-47s to New Guinea, via Hawaii, the Fiji Islands, and Australia, Aug-Sep 1943, and began operations with Fifth Air Force. Ground echelon sailed from the West Coast on 25 Sep 1943, arriving in Australia on 10 Oct 1943.

By early Nov 1943, the two echelons had rejoined at Nadzab, New Guinea. Transported troops and carried cargo, such as gasoline, ammunition, medicine, food, equipment, and construction materials; and evacuated wounded personnel. From Nov 1943 to Feb 1945, the group was assigned six troop carrier squadrons, rather than the more normal four. Lost operational control of two squadrons, Jul-Nov 1944.

Squadrons moved, Oct 1944-Jan 1945, to Biak Island, and Jan-Feb 1945 to the Philippines. Operations in the Philippines included delivering ammunition, food, and other items to Filipino guerrilla forces; evacuating former allied prisoners of war and civilian internees; transporting combat units from New Guinea, the Netherlands Indies, and the Solomons. Group flew its one combat glider tow mission on 23 Jun 1945 to Aparri, Luzon.

Transported troops to Okinawa, Jun-Aug 1945 and occupation forces to Japan after V-J Day. Activated as a Reserve organization in Ohio on 6 Jul 1947.

Ordered to active service and moved to North Carolina in Oct 1950; received C-119 aircraft the following month.

Tactical training began in Mar 1951. Transported personnel and supplies to Army units in the field. Airdropped personnel and equipment during army exercises. Moved to Germany and participated with US, British, and French units in field training until inactivated.

By 1958, flew airlift missions and participated in tactical exercises.

Beginning Aug 1992, the group participated in airlift missions worldwide, including numerous humanitarian missions.

The C-5 FTU is the first unit of its kind to be owned and operated by AFRC. Though there are other flight training units in the command, the facility at Kelly Field is the first to combine active-duty and Reserve instructors and evaluators to train aircrew in all three components of the Air Force, Reserve, Guard and active-duty. Col. Del Lewis, 433 Operations Group Commander, also cited the spirit of cooperation needed to continue the successful training of Air Force C-5 aircrews. "If you are going to form a good team, you want the best," said Colonel Lewis. "We have the talent and wherewithal to pull this off but it will take people." Colonel Lewis said it would take the people of the Alamo Wing, the host base and the community to keep the mission successful. He challenged attendees to carry the standard even higher. "What we want here is a true 'Galaxy' University," said Colonel Lewis.

Alamo Wing Steps Up C-5 Schoolhouse Operations The Air Force Reserve's 433 Airlift Wing at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, gained two new squadrons Feb. 6. The wing is home to the Air Force's C-5 Galaxy schoolhouse. At a formal ceremony, the 356th Airlift Squadron and 733rd Training Squadron joined the Alamo Wing. The wing, which flies from adjacent Kelly Field, is now the service's C-5 formal training unit. The two units started operating at the base in November, and Air Force officials activated them Jan. 6. They operated as detachments while they built up their capabilities. The C-5 schoolhouse, which used to be at Altus AFB, Okla., is in session even as workers put the finishing touches on several buildings, according to a wing spokesperson. "What we want to build here is a true C-5 Galaxy University, to match and exceed the standard (set at Altus)," said Col. Del Lewis, 433 Operations Group commander. The airlift squadron once trained C-141 Starlifter aircrews at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The Air Force reactivated the unit, which transferred its unit flag and patch to the Alamo Wing. At Lackland, the unit is responsible for conducting several C-5 training courses. Currently, students and instructors use a flight simulator housed in another building. Wing officials are installing a new C-5 full-motion simulator. Once that equipment is up and running, available training time will double, the spokesperson said. 2007

From January to June the 68 AS flew fifteen missions in support of Bosnia operations. During the first part of the year, the wing helped deliver reservists and cargo from the 301st Fighter Wing, NAS Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base formerly Carswell ARB, to Aviano, Italy. This support came as the results of NATO's efforts to enforce the no-fly zone over Bosnia. Six of the 301 st FW's F-16 Flying Falcons remained in Aviano for 60 days. One reason the Alamo Wing participated so heavily was the Air Force Reserve gained control of special "channel" missions to Europe. This enabled them to manage their own reserve aircrews and aircraft, according to Lieutenant Colonel Steve Bilyeu, deputy commander, 433d Operations Group. "AFRES flew missions every day, and got its aircrews back home within four days after they departed," said Bilyeu. "Therefore, there was a minimum disruption to their civilian lives caused by being away from home, families and civilian jobs for too long. Most important, the AFRES channel missions allowed more participation by the Reserve," he said. Response by wing members was high, according to Colonel John Harlan, 433 OG commander. "The high rate of volunteerism is a real plus, because we're getting a lot of mission essential and real-world training," Harlan said. Further, the wing flew humanitarian relief missions in the wake of natural disasters both within the United States and around the world. Harlan reflected the wing's enthusiasm for supporting Joint Endeavor.

---

USAF Unit Histories  
Created: 26 Nov 2010  
Updated: 30 Dec 2022

#### 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.