

908 AIRLIFT WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

908 Troop Carrier Group, Medium established and activated in the Air Force Reserve, 15 Jan 1963

Organized, 11 Feb 1963

Redesignated 908 Tactical Airlift Group, 1 Jul 1967

Redesignated 908 Tactical Air Support Group, 25 Apr 1969

Redesignated 908 Tactical Airlift Group, 15 Dec 1971

Redesignated 908 Airlift Group, 1 Feb 1992

Redesignated 908 Airlift Wing, 1 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Bates Field, AL, 11 Feb 1963

Brookley AFB, AL, 1 Oct 1964

Maxwell AFB, AL, 25 Apr 1969

ASSIGNMENTS

Continental Air Command, 15 Jan 1963

302 Troop Carrier Wing, 11 Feb 1963

435 Troop Carrier Wing, 18 Mar 1963

446 Troop Carrier (later, 446 Tactical Airlift) Wing, 1 Dec 1965

433 Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Mar 1968

Third Air Force Reserve Region, 25 Apr 1969

Eastern Air Force Reserve Region, 31 Dec 1969

434 Special Operations Wing, 1 Jul 1971

302 Tactical Airlift Wing, 25 Oct 1971

94 Tactical Airlift (later, 94 Airlift) Wing, 1 Jul 1972

403rd Airlift Wing (later, 403 Wing), 1 Aug 1992

Tenth Air Force, 1 Oct 1994
Twenty-Second Air Force, 1 Apr 1997

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-119, 1963-1969
U-3, 1969-1971
O-2, 1970-1971
C-7, 1971-1983
C-130, 1983

COMMANDERS

LTC William A. Willis, 11 Feb 1963
LTC David P. Whiteside, by Dec 1966
Col Marcus C. West, 7 Jul 1967
LTC John P. Cranford, 8 Jun 1968
Col Andrew Chaplin, by Dec 1968
Col Marcus C. West, 2 Feb 1970
LTC Sloan R. Gill, Oct 1971
Maj Lelias E. Thomas, 4 Jun 1973
LTC Jonathan Gardner, 14 Aug 1973
LTC Billie H. Parker, 17 Jan 1976
Col Jack P. Ferguson, 30 Aug 1976
Col Robert Q. Head, 4 Sep 1977
Col Robert S. Martin, 18 Jul 1980
Col Anthony Tassone Jr., 1 Oct 1989
Col Thomas W. Spencer, 13 Jan 1991
Col Christopher M. Joniec, 21 Aug 1994
Col William P. Kane, 24 Aug 1996
Col Heath J. Nuckolls, Feb 2004

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi Arabia

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jul 1972-15 Mar 1974
1 Jan 1976-30 Nov 1977

1 Feb 1980-31 Jan 1982
1 Sep 1986-31 Aug 1988
1 Sep 1991-31 Aug 1993

EMBLEM



Approved, 20 Apr 1976

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 908th from its organization in 1963 flew airlift missions. Beginning in 1969 it recruited and trained personnel to provide ground-to-air communications in support of ground forces. In 1971, the group resumed its tactical airlift role. It maintained combat readiness and the ability to respond to national emergencies and supported Air National Guard, ROTC, Army, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard units. During the Southeast (SEA) conflict, the unit flew airlift missions to free Military Airlift Command assets for SEA action. From Jun 1973, it also flew aerial search and rescue, medical patient, and humanitarian missions. In Feb 1982, the 908th started the conversion from C-7 to C-130 aircraft. Since then, it has flown numerous, worldwide airlift and humanitarian missions, including in support of the Southwest Asia War and the Bosnian relief effort.

1984 Specialists from several Air Force bases and commands teamed up in August to provide emergency air transportation for a critically ill infant at Dyess AFB, Abilene, Texas. The child, born premature and experiencing respiratory distress syndrome and persistent fetal circulation needed special attention from Wilford Hall. To assist in the delivery of the child to Wilford Hall, the 34th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, who specialized in inflight care of medical patients, received the request. Within a short time, the squadron put together two teams of nurses and medical technicians. The aircrew came from the 908 TAG. The humanitarian missions labeled Denton Amendment began this year. The program allowed the Department of Defense to ship privately donated supplies on a space-available basis throughout the world. Such supply missions would be used to relieve civilian suffering throughout the world.

Reservists Provide Airlift Support in Puerto Rico: Hurricane Irene couldn't keep the members of

Air Force Reserve Command's 908th Airlift Wing at Maxwell AFB, Ala., from deploying to Muniz ANGB, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, for their regular airlift support contributions in Central and South America. The wing—Alabama's only Reserve unit—last week evacuated its C-130Hs to MacDill AFB, Fla., to avoid the storm, which hit the US East Coast on Aug. 27. However, the Reservists still left that same day from MacDill for Muniz to participate in Coronet Oak, an Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve operation that the 908th AW has participated in several times a year since 1983, according to a unit release. "Coronet Oak deployments provide airlift to US embassies and other government agencies throughout the region. For Reserve and Guard units, it is an excellent opportunity to train people, while providing much needed airlift service," said Lt. Col. Jerry Lobb, 908th AW spokesman. 2011

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.