

41st AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

41st Transport Squadron constituted, 2 Feb 1942
Activated, 18 Feb 1942
Redesignated 41st Troop Carrier Squadron, 4 Jul 1942
Redesignated 41st Troop Carrier Squadron, Heavy, 30 Jun 1948
Inactivated, 14 Sep 1949
Redesignated 41st Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 3 Jul 1952
Activated, 14 Jul 1952
Redesignated 41st Troop Carrier Squadron, 8 Dec 1965
Redesignated 41st Tactical Airlift Squadron, 1 Apr 1967
Inactivated, 28 Feb 1971
Activated, 31 Aug 1971
Redesignated 41st Airlift Squadron, 1 Jan 1992

STATIONS

Duncan Field, TX, 18 Feb 1942
Bowman Field, KY, 20 Jun 1942
Maxton, NC, 3-12 Dec 1942
Garbutt Field, Australia, 23 Jan 1943
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 5 Oct 1953
Finschhafen, New Guinea, 24 Apr 1944
Hollandia, New Guinea, 13 May 1944

Leyte, 17 Nov 1944
Clark Field, Luzon, 6 Mar 1945
Okinawa, Aug 1945
Kimpo, South Korea, Oct 1945
Seoul, South Korea, 7 Jan 1946
Tachikawa AB, Japan, 19 Jan 1946
Nagoya, Japan, 30 Apr 1947
Tachikawa AB, Japan, Sep 1947-22 Sep 1948
Wiesbaden, Germany, 30 Sep 1948
Celle RAF Station, Germany, 19 Dec 1948-14 Sep 1949
Rhein-Main AB, Germany, 14 Jul 1952
Neubiberg AB, Germany, 21 Mar 1953
Evreux-Fauville AB, France, 15 Mar 1957-20 Jun 1964
Lockbourne AFB, OH, 20 Jun 1964-21 Nov 1965
Naha AB, Ryukyu Islands, 21 Nov 1965-28 Feb 1971
Pope AFB, NC, 31 Aug 1971

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Evreux-Fauville AB, France, 6 Sep-21 Dec 1964
RAF Mildenhall, England, 6 Nov 1971-12 Jan 1972, 11 Mar- 16 May 1974, 11 Nov 1974-15 Jan 1975, 13 Jul-10 Sep 1976, 5 Mar- 25 Apr 1977, 2 May-22 Jul 1978, 5 Dec 1979-12 Feb 1980, 3 Apr-14 Jun 1981, 3 Aug-14 Oct 1982, 4 Dec 1983-15 Feb 1984, 10 Feb-10 Apr 1985, 25 May-13 Aug 1986, 1 Aug-14 Oct 1987, 3 Dec 1989-15 Feb 1990, 2 Dec 1991-15 Feb 1992
Rhein-Main AB, Germany, 4 Jun-16 Aug 1972, 5 Feb- 14 Apr 1973, 9 Aug-15 Oct 1973; 4 Oct-15 Dec 1975
RAF Sculthrope, England, 2 Oct-15 Dec 1988
Thumrait AFld, Oman, 11 Aug 1990-12 Jan 1991
King Fahd, Saudi Arabia, 13 Jan-21 Mar 1991.

ASSIGNMENTS

San Antonio Air Depot, 18 Feb 1942
317th Transport (later, 317th Troop Carrier) Group, 22 Feb 1942-14 Sep 1949
317th Troop Carrier Group, 14 Jul 1952
317th Troop Carrier Wing, 12 Mar 1957
322nd Air Division, 25 Sep 1958
317th Troop Carrier Wing, 15 Apr 1963
315th Air Division, 21 Nov 1965
374th Tactical Airlift Wing, 8 Aug 1966-28 Feb 1971
317th Tactical Airlift Wing, 31 Aug 1971
317th Tactical Airlift Group, 1 Oct 1978
317th Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Apr 1980
317th Operations Group, 1 Jan 1992
23rd Operations Group, 16 Jul 1993

ATTACHMENTS

Detachment 1, 322nd Air Division, 6 Sep-21 Dec 1964

513th Tactical Airlift Wing, 6 Nov 1971- 12 Jan 1972, 11 Mar-16 May 1974, 11 Nov 1974-15 Jan 1975

322nd Tactical Airlift Wing, 4 Jun-16 Aug 1972, 5 Feb-14 Apr 1973, 9 Aug-15 Oct 1973

435th Tactical Airlift Wing, 4 Oct-15 Dec 1975

435th Tactical Airlift Group, 13 Jul-10 Sep 1976, 5 Mar-25 Apr 1977, 2 May-22 Jul 1978

313th Tactical Airlift Group, 5 Dec 1979-12 Feb 1980

313th Tactical Airlift Group, 3 Apr-14 Jun 1981, 3 Aug-14 Oct 1982, 4 Dec 1983-15 Feb 1984, 10 Feb-10 Apr 1985, 25 May-13 Aug 1986, 1 Aug-14 Oct 1987, 3 Dec 1989-15 Feb 1992

Airlift Division Provisional, 1610, 1 Nov-16 Dec 1990

Tactical Airlift Wing Provisional, 1660, 17 Dec 1990-14 Jan 1991

Tactical Airlift Group Provisional, 1675, 15 Jan-21 Mar 1991

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-47, 1942-1946

C-46, 1946-1948

C-46D

C-54, 1948-1949

C-119, 1952-1958

C-119G

C-130, 1957-1971

C-130, 1971

C-130A

COMMANDERS

LTC Philip C. Calhoun

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Japan

Papua

New Guinea

Northern Solomons

Bismarck Archipelago

Western Pacific

Leyte

Luzon

Southern Philippines

Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Panama, 1989-1990

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations: Papua, [Jan 1943]
New Guinea, 30 Jan-1 Feb 1943
Philippine Islands, 16-17 Feb 1945

Presidential Unit Citations
Southeast Asia, 8 Aug 1967-7 Aug 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

8 Jul-10 Aug 1960
1 Sep 1962-15 Apr 1963
1 Apr 1964-30 Jun 1965
30 Nov 1965-30 Apr 1966
8 Aug 1966-7 Aug 1967
1 May 1972- 30 Apr 1973
1 May 1973-30 Apr 1975
1 May 1975-30 Apr 1977
1 Jun 1979-31 May 1981
1 Jun 1982-31 May 1984
1 Mar 1987-31 Mar 1988
6 Oct 1989-13 Jan 1990

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm
1 Apr 1966-28 Feb 1971

EMBLEM



On a Light Green disc, bordure Red, piped White, a caricatured Black cat carrying its young across a White cloud formation in base; all within a narrow border Scarlet. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Scarlet border and inscribed "41ST AIRLIFT SQ" in Scarlet letters. Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 mother cat carrying her young safely in her teeth through the clouds represents an unprecedented safety record earned over the Black Cat Trail in the South Pacific during World War II; two years of combat flying without ever losing any passengers or cargo. (Approved, 13 Jan 1943)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Included paratroop drops on Nadzab (New Guinea), Noemfoor, Tagaytay (Luzon), Corregidor, and Aparri (Luzon), as well as aerial transportation in South, Southwest, and Western Pacific, during World War II. Berlin Airlift, 1948.

The land blockade of Berlin by the Russians, in 1948, brought the Squadron half way around the world in an operation destined to thwart the infamous attempt of the Communist rulers to force the Allies from the divided city. The 41st Squadron played a major role in the glorious Berlin Airlift.

After three years of inactivity, the Squadron again began operations in 1952, at Neubiberg Air Base.

C-130 56-0526 Crashed, mid-air collision with Mystere IV, near Poissy, France, 19 Sep 1958, 7 fatalities.

Transported UN troops to the Congo, 1960. Airlifted personnel and equipment to Southeast Asia from Ryukyu Islands, 1965-1971.

Supported airlift operations in Korea during Pueblo crisis, Jan 1968. Supported Army training and performed rotational duty throughout Europe, since 1971.

Airlifted personnel, special forces and supplies during operations in Grenada, 1983 and Panama, Dec 1989-Jan 1990.

Airlift in Southwest Asia, 11 Aug 1990-21 Mar 1991.

The first C-130J Super Hercules was delivered to an Air Mobility Command active duty unit on 13 March. After accepting the new C-130J, Gen. Duncan McNabb, commander of the Air Mobility Command, flew the aircraft to Little Rock AFB, Arkansas, where it will be operated by 463rd Airlift Group's 41st Airlift Squadron, the third oldest airlift squadron in the US Air Force. The 41st AS, known as the Black Cats, moved from Pope AFB, North Carolina, as part of the Base Realignment and Closure process and officially stood up at Little Rock on 6 April. C-130Js are currently deployed in two combat theaters and are being flown by both US and allied operators. 2007

The last of 16 C-130J transports destined for the 41st Airlift Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark., arrived at the base July 7. Maj. Gen. Winfield Scott, commander of Air Mobility Command's 18th Air Force, flew the Super Hercules from Lockheed Martin's assembly plant in Marietta, Ga. He said it was an honor "second to none" to bring this C-130J to Little Rock. The 41st AS is the first active-duty combat-delivery C-130J unit in the Air Force. The unit first deployed some of its C-130Js to Southwest Asia in early 2008. And this past March, elements of the unit began operating from Kandahar Air Field in Afghanistan. According to Lockheed, the 41st AS has racked up 2,600 combat sorties and 4,000 flight hours in the past two years, carrying a total of 56,000 passengers and 3,500 tons of cargo.

Active Duty airmen from the 41st Airlift Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Ark., tackled Nevada's mountainous terrain in their C-130Js during a training visit to Reno Air National Guard Base. The January trip was in preparation for the airmen's upcoming deployment to Afghanistan, according to a Feb. 4 release from Nevada's 152nd Airlift Wing, an Air Guard unit that operates C-130Hs at Reno. "The mission and terrain here in Nevada is similar to what we'll see overseas, and we can't get this kind of training at home," said Lt. Col. Jim Burgess, 41st AS commander. The Arkansas Super Hercs flew mixed training sorties with Reno's C-130Hs. "We have experience flying in a mountainous environment in our H-model C-130s" that proved valuable to the visiting crews, said Lt. Col. Caesar Garduno, commander of Reno's 192nd AS. Airmen of the 570th Contingency Response Group from Travis AFB, Calif., set up and ran several austere forward bases to give the crews practice in operating from high-altitude unimproved airstrips. 2013

The 41st Airlift Squadron transported more than 100 medical personnel to Orlando, Florida, Sept. 9, 2017, to prepare for Hurricane Irma relief efforts. The 41st AS flew to Dallas and Houston to pick up U.S. Public Health Service Rapid Deployment Force personnel and Disaster Medical Assistance Teams from Alabama, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio, along with their medical equipment.

"Our mission is to assist in response to Hurricane Irma," said Ronda Lacey, AL-1 DMAT commander. "We're here to help the state of Florida and the people who are in need of medical assistance there. It's an honor to help our country in this critical time. Doctors, registered nurses, mid-level technicians, a dentist and an infectious disease specialist were among the USPHS and DMAT personnel who were pre-staged to support potential relief efforts. The responders brought a variety of skillsets as well as medical equipment such as pharmaceuticals, oxygen tanks, triage kits and basic first aid supplies. USPHS and DMAT teams prepare in advance to respond to critical events, similar to the 41st AS.

"We're ready to respond because of the training we do for this," said Staff Sgt. Efrain Huereque, 41st Airlift Squadron loadmaster. "Even though we don't get to do this often, it's very rewarding; it feels good to help people in need." The relationship between DMAT and USPHS allows them to provide care for those affected by Hurricane Irma. The partnership of these civilian agencies with the Air Force secures mission success for immediate medical care. "It's a joint effort," said Jessica Picanzo, TN-1 DMAT nurse paramedic. "We received a notification 12 hours ago, and now we're in the air. We're able to respond so quickly because of our military partners." 2017

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 23 Sep 2010

Updated: 25 Jan 2014

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.

Unit yearbook. *317th Troop Carrier Wing*. @1955.