

# 6405 KOREA AIR MATERIEL UNIT

## MISSION

### LINEAGE

6405 Korea Air Materiel Unit organized, Jul 1950  
Discontinued in January 1951  
6405 Korea Air Materiel Unit (Provisional), May 1951  
Discontinued, January 1953

### STATIONS

Taegu AB, South Korea, July 1950  
Pusan AB, South Korea c. August 1950  
Seoul AB, South Korea, October 16, 1950  
Taegu AB, South Korea, December 15, 1950 January 28, 1951  
Taegu AB, South Korea, January 28 May 25, 1951  
Taegu AB, South Korea, May 25, 1951 February 1, 1953  
Taegu, South Korea, 25 May 1951-18 Feb 1953

### ASSIGNMENTS

#### COMMANDERS

Col Marvin Sledge, July 21, 1950-July 28, 1951  
Col Marvin Sledge, July 28 May 25, 1951  
Col Marvin Sledge, May 25, 1951  
Col Marion G. Ferguson, Jr., September 7, 1951  
Col Edward .1. Perkin, by June 1952  
Col Charles N. Howze, August 26, 1952  
Col William L. Wood, January 25 February 1, 1953

#### HONORS

##### Service Streamers

##### Campaign Streamers

UN Defensive

UN Offensive  
CCF Intervention  
First UN Counteroffensive  
CCF Spring Offensive  
UN Summer-Fall Offensive  
Second Korean Winter  
Korea, Summer-Fall 1952  
Third Korean Winter

## **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

Shortly after the conflict in Korea began, Far East Air Materiel Command (FEAMCOM) realized that tactical units of Fifth Air Force would need assistance with maintenance and supply until they could get their own base maintenance and supply personnel and equipment to the combat zone. Out of its own materiel resources, FEAF organized the 6405th Korea Air Materiel Unit (KAMU) in July 1950 to exercise operational control of FEAMCOM units in Korea. Organized on paper in Japan, the KAMU quickly moved to Korea, and its field maintenance, depot support, and ammunition-handling units fanned out in support of Fifth Air Force tactical units. Initially KAMU was charged with coordinating Air Force logistics requirements and Army emergency requirements between Fifth Air Force activities in Korea and FEAMCOM, expediting requisitions of emergency aircraft parts and critical items, performing aircraft and ammunition modification projects, and returning Air Force repairable items to FEAMCOM. It also had responsibility for damaged aircraft in Korea, including salvage, reclamation, and field or depot repair. It soon began operating bomb dumps, aviation ammunition storage, and napalm mixing facilities. In evacuations at Taegu and Pohang in August and September 1950, KAMU personnel continued working on the bases after most of the Fifth Air Force units had left. In the November evacuation from Pyongyang, maintenance personnel kept repairing combat-damaged aircraft, occasionally dodging sniper bullets. Supply personnel worked to evacuate 260- and 500-pound bombs and gasoline, as well as their own gear. In April 1951, KAMU's 543d Ammunition Supply Squadron began operating a pierced-steel planking plant at Pusan East. KAMU also manufactured and issued breathing oxygen to Fifth Air Force tactical units and maintained liaison with the U.S. Army ports in transporting USAF supplies and personnel through these ports. In a paper reorganization, the first 6405th KAMU discontinued in January 1951, replaced by a provisional KAMU, itself replaced in May 1951 by a second 6405th KAMU. In an overall FEAMCOM reorganization in early 1952, the KAMU was elevated to wing-status. After the 75th Air Depot Wing arrived in Korea and settled at Chinhae in January 1953, the KAMU discontinued.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.