

127th AIR REFUELING GROUP

LINEAGE

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Mission Aircraft

Support Aircraft

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Flying two aircraft and supporting three Air Force Major Commands, the 127th Wing is one of the most complex units in the U.S. Air Force. As a component of the Michigan Air National Guard, the Wing has a dual state and federal role and stands ready to serve both at home and abroad.

Based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich, the 127th Wing is composed of approximately 1,700 Citizen-Airmen and provides highly trained personnel and aircraft and support resources to serve the community, state and nation. The 127th Wing operates KC-135 Stratotankers, providing global aerial refueling capability in support of Air Mobility Command, and the A-10 Thunderbolt II, flying the close air support mission in support of Air Combat Command. The Wing also supports the Air Force Special Operations Command with its 107th Weather Flight.

The 127th Wing was created in 1996 by the merger of the 127th Fighter Wing and the 191st Airlift Group. The 127th Wing is broken into five groups, each of which are composed of various flights and squadrons.

The 127th Air Refueling Group flies and maintains the KC-135T. The 127th ARG includes the 171st Air Refueling Squadron, 191st Operation Support Flight, 191st Maintenance Squadron, 191st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 191st Maintenance Operations Flight.

Earlier this year the 127th Airlift Group deployed to Gabon a republic of West and Central Africa formally in overseas territory of French Equatorial Africa in support of exercise to Gabon 2000. During the deployment the unit logged 23,570 miles. The exercise was developed by the French to reflect the country's willingness to contribute to Africa stability. 11 African states contributed troops, 14 African nations participated as observers and eight Western nations participated including the United States. The scenario involved a civil war within a fictitious state in which many local citizens were displaced. The United Nations and the organization of African unity established a displaced persons welcome camp and medical facility. The 127 partnered with the 135 airlift group, Maryland air National Guard and the 908 Medical support training squadron at Maxwell Air Force Base to become the 135th expeditionary airlift squadron for the exercise. The support mission centered on moving troops within the interior and moving medical supplies to the medical facility. The exercise successfully demonstrated the capabilities of African nations to work together in the contingency situation. It was also a success in terms of support provided by the 127 as well of the three flying units. The 127 flew 55% of the sorties and transported 50% of the passengers and cargo.

April 2006—members of the 127th Airlift Group deployed to the CRTIC in Alpena for its Operational Readiness Exercise in preparation for the Operational Readiness Inspection. The ORI was cancelled later that year due to the deployment commitments of the group.

August 2007—the 127th AG deployed a C-130 and personnel to the Alpena CRTIC for readiness training. This was to be the last of such deployments before the group's conversion to the KC-135. That same month, the group was named 2007 Distinguished Flying Unit by the NGAUS.

December 2007—the first KC-135 was handed over to the 127th Air Refueling Group by the 927th Air Refueling Wing (Air Force Reserve Command), which was the former aerial refueling unit based at Selfridge. The 927th transferred to MacDill AFB, FL. in 2008 as a part of the 2005 BRAC decision. Lt Col David Brooks was named the first commander of the 171st Air Refueling Squadron.

April 2008—127th Airlift Group officially became the 127th Air Refueling Group to reflect the unit's transition from the C-130 to the KC-135. Lt. Col. David Brooks was named commander of the 171st Air Refueling Squadron in a ceremony that month.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources