

## **181<sup>st</sup> INTELLIGENCE WING**



### **LINEAGE**

181<sup>st</sup> Tactical Fighter Group  
181<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing  
181<sup>st</sup> Intelligence Wing

### **STATIONS**

Terre Haute, IN

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

**Mission Aircraft**

**Support Aircraft**

### **COMMANDERS**

LTC Allison Maxwell, 1947  
Col Jeffrey Hauser, #2008  
Col Donald Bonte, 6 Aug 2011

### **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
1 Nov 06 – 31 Oct 08

## **EMBLEM**

Azure, in bend a double ended lightning flash Or through the Constellation Cygnus Argent between a dove's wing of the like garnished of the first and a nuclear symbol Gules; all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "181ST INTELLIGENCE WING" in Blue 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 white wing of a dove denotes a desire to maintain peace. A nuclear symbol signifies a capability for unleashing devastating retaliatory power. The bolt of lightning expresses the ability to strike forcefully and quickly. The stars arrayed in the order of the Constellation of the Northern Cross, brightly visible in the Northern Hemisphere akin to the bright distinction of the Indiana National Guard among other members of their peer group.

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

181st Fighter Wing was redesignated as the 181st Intelligence Wing effective 3 May 2008. Official ceremony was held in high Racer fashion on July 13, 2008. Of 369 members attending technical schools for the new mission, over 300 were prior members, cross training to stay with the 181st during the transition.

- Distributive Ground Station
- Air Support Operations Squadron

New Units:

- 181st Intelligence Group
- 181st Intelligence Support Squadron
- 181st Operations Support Squadron
- 137th Intel Squadron
- 113th Air Support Operations Squadron

7/25/2008 - HULMAN FIELD, TERRE HAUTE, Indiana – The 181st Fighter Wing, Terre Haute, Ind., conducted a redesignation ceremony on 13 July, 2008 officially marking its transition from flying jets to processing intelligence and providing ground support to air operations at forward locations. The Indiana Air Guard unit stationed at Hulman Field Airport since 1954 is now officially the 181st Intelligence Wing. "As an Intelligence Wing, the 181st now has a vital mission using the latest and greatest in warfare," said Col. Jeffrey Hauser, wing commander. The ceremony was conducted in the hangar that just months ago housed the Wing's F-16 fighter jets. Airman stood at attention while the commanders of the Air Guard replaced the 'Fighter' Wing guidons with 'Intelligence' Wing guidons and installed new commanders. The brief ceremony allowed the Airman to witness the historic transition of the Wing. "This is an important part of transitioning a unit," said Col. Chris Colbert, wing vice commander. "It's important for us, the community and the state to let everyone know who we are and what we're doing. Our pride in being a Fighter Wing will carry over into being an Intelligence Wing and, as we've always done, we'll perform at the highest level in the Guard and Air Force." "Our new

role as an Intelligence Wing brings us two new missions--a Distributive Ground Station and an Air Support Operations Squadron. Both missions put the 181st Intelligence Wing on the cutting edge of technology and keep us relevant as the nation's war fighters." The Wing now adds the 181st Intelligence Group, 181st Intelligence Support Squadron, 181st Operations Support Squadron, 137th Intel Squadron, and the 113th Air Support Operations Squadron. Official designation authorizes use of the new Intelligence Wing patch, letterhead and signage. Accepting the new missions, 181st members have been looking toward the future of warfare and many are re-training for their new military professions or Air Force Specialty Codes. The new missions include a Distributive Ground Station (DGS), a digital imagery and surveillance unit directly involved in global missions from Hulman Field using the newest high-tech imagery equipment and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) in deployed locations. The DGS translates the imagery to troops on the ground and aircraft in the sky. The other new mission is the Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS), which deploys Battlefield Airmen to forward locations with Joint Forces troops on the ground to relay information regarding air support assets to forward deployed commanders. These Battlefield Airmen, also known as Tactical Air Control Parties (TACP), face rigorous mental and physical training to become a member of the new ASOS unit. The primary mission is to advise the ground commander on the proper use and execution of airpower to shape the battlefield, and to provide close control of aircraft munitions. This requires detailed integration with ground forces. "We're excited to get our new missions combat ready," Hauser said. "We have more than 80 Airmen currently in training for different positions in the new missions. This transition is a long process and the official designation makes the Wing one step closer to being ready." Along with the new missions, the 181st continues to have a combat ready Mission Support Group, including: Civil Engineering Squadron, Medical Group, Security Forces Squadron, Services Squadron, Communications Flight, Military Personnel Flight, and Logistics Readiness Squadron. Like every Guard unit, the 181st still responds to the needs of community and state. The recent flooding throughout southern Indiana demonstrated how an Intelligence Wing, preparing for a global-aspect mission, still supported state and local flood prevention and recovery efforts.

More than 300 members came together for the Wabash Valley in support of flood relief efforts. They worked around the clock to build over 15,000 sandbags in less than 2 days, and continued sandbagging operations the following week. In addition to being instrumental in getting assets to areas in need while working closely with local Emergency Management Team, the 181st became the delivery location for state assets brought to the area for assistance. The water distribution center was manned for 24 hours a day, and water was delivered to stranded residents throughout the community. Over 30,000 gallons of drinking water was received and distributed to area residents.

A total of 168 Airmen were activated at home station to support the intelligence mission. Additionally, 36 Airmen of the Intelligence Group deployed to various Distributed Ground Stations across the U.S. to complete upgrade training and stay current on mission requirements. The Security Forces Squadron deployed 43 defenders to Eskan Village, Saudi Arabia, from May through November. Pre-deployment training was conducted for the group at Fort Bliss, Texas in April. The Racers were teamed up with fellow defenders from Nevada, New Hampshire, Vermont and West Virginia. They provided law enforcement and force protection to the installation. Eskan Village is the headquarters for two critical state department missions: The

United States Military Training Mission in Saudi Arabia and the Office of Program Management; of the Saudi Arabian National Guard. While deployed the Racers received visits from Gen. Norton A. Swartz, U.S. Air Force chief of staff, and Brig. Gen. Jimmy E. McMilliam, U.S. Air Force security force director.

A new range support complex facility costing \$1.05 million is being constructed at Camp Atterbury near Edinburgh, Ind. Hulman Field is being remodeled with two facilities to support the intelligence mission with a total of \$5.2 million in costs. Overall maintenance and repair projects at Hulman Field and Atterbury totaled \$765,000.

The 181st Intelligence Wing deployed a total of nearly 400 members across the world to locations such as Pakistan, Kosovo, Iraq, Qatar, Afghanistan, Haiti, Spain, and Saudi Arabia. As war fighting dynamics change, many Racers found themselves supporting theater operations in the United States from New Mexico, California, Nevada, Indiana, Florida, Delaware and Michigan.

2010 This past March, four Airmen from the 181st Intelligence Wing contributed to the relief efforts in Haiti. 1st Lt. Matt Hollowell, Master Sgt. Clint Robinson, Tech. Sgt. Jeff Wernz and Staff Sgt. Kevin Feltner provided intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance support for Operation Unified Response. The team of Airmen were initially attached to the Army's 82nd Airborne and located at Forward Operating Base Falcon. It was not long before the Air Force Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Agency absorbed the intelligence team. Originally tasked to observe security personnel movement, the team also assisted in turning over the distribution points to United Nations authorities. With thousands of unfortunate civilians living in tent cities and aftershocks causing more panic and confusion, the Racers immediately began assisting the Haitian government in the recovery and relief efforts. Many of the Racers have deployed and been on training missions during their military careers; however, this was the first time any of the four engaged in humanitarian efforts. When asked if they would volunteer for similar missions in the future, the response was a unanimous and energetic "Yes!" The team of intelligence Airmen from the 181st analyzed imagery collected by the RC-26 aircraft assigned to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division. The aircraft was used to locate internally displaced personnel that were not observable for the ground, which facilitated ground movement to those sites for assessment and aid. The pilots and crew members of the RC-26 were instrumental in providing support to the humanitarian assistance mission. "When reviewing the aerial imagery, reality really hit in terms of the sheer numbers of Haitians that were displaced due to the earthquake," Robinson said. "With Haiti being a third world country, sometimes it was difficult to determine if the damage to the infrastructure and countryside was caused by the quake or was the normal state of life," said Robinson. A few of the Airmen were given the opportunity to go outside of the FOB to view some of the devastation in person, and were able to interact with the Haiti citizens. Feltner said the children were very interested in the American military. "They wanted to come up and touch each of us, and they did not seem to be phased by the different style of uniforms", said Feltner. "It was even noted that groups of children would play soccer using empty water bottles for entertainment." "We eventually assisted in moving them into the settlement camps so that the Haitian authorities had an idea of how many people were actually there." Hollowell said with a look of defeat for the Haitian citizens, "Unfortunately

the rainy season was right around the corner and we were called in to assist the government in determining new locations for the tent cities. A lot of the camps were in really bad spots for floods. Due to the thousands of homeless refugees there were tents to count, meals to be given away, and numerous security and sanitation issues.” As the Airmen remembered their efforts in assisting the citizens of Haiti, there was an obvious sense of completion in their hearts. ‘Service before self’ definitely comes to mind when military members volunteer their time away from their loved ones to help another country in need, a family a need, a child in need. Even though mountains still need to be climbed in terms of the relief efforts, the 181st was able to leave a positive impression on the Haitian government and its citizens through their humanitarian assistance.

An Aerial First for Hoosier Air Guard Unit The Indiana Air National Guard's 181st Intelligence Wing conducted its first-ever aerial operation in support of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, according to a unit release. An aerial collection team from the wing in late February completed a sortie in a Civil Air Patrol aircraft to assess flooding in the state's Tippecanoe and Fulton counties, states the release. "I am proud of how our airmen responded to this historic tasking," stated Col. Patrick Renwick, 181st IW vice commander. During the flight, the Air Guardsmen observed and reported a sport utility vehicle stranded in flood water, according to the release. The wing, which relinquished its F-16 flying mission in 2008, operates from Hulman Field in Terra Haute. "While we hope disasters don't happen, we are here and ready whenever the state of Indiana requires our assistance," said 181st IW Commander Col. Donald Bonte. 2014



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Air Force Order of Battle  
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#### Sources

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