

4 AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

4 Provisional Transport Squadron constituted, 1 Mar 1935
Redesignated 4 Transport Squadron, 25 Jun 1935
Activated, 8 Jul 1935
Redesignated 4 Troop Carrier Squadron, 4 Jul 1942
Inactivated, 13 Dec 1945
Activated, 7 Sep 1946
Redesignated 4 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 23 Jun 1948
Redesignated 4 Troop Carrier Squadron, Heavy, 12 Oct 1949
Redesignated 4 Air Transport Squadron, Heavy, 8 Jul 1962
Redesignated 4 Military Airlift Squadron, 8 Jan 1966
Redesignated 4 Airlift Squadron, 1 Dec 1991

STATIONS

Rockwell Field, CA, 8 Jul 1935
Sacramento, CA, 1 Dec 1938
Kellogg Field, MI, 29 May 1942
Florence, SC, 1 Jul–14 Aug 1942
Keevil, England, 25 Sep 1942
Tafaraoui, Algeria, 15 Nov 1942
Casablanca, French Morocco, 16 Dec 1942

Nouvion, Algeria, 29 Mar 1943
Matemore, Algeria, 18 May 1943
Goubrine, Tunisia, 25 Jun 1943
Gela, Sicily, 7 Sep 1943
Catania, Sicily, 18 Oct 1943
Ponte Olivo, Sicily, 27 Feb 1944 (operated from bases in India, 12 Apr–11 Jun 1944)
Gaudo Airfield, Italy, 8 May 1944
Galera Airfield, Italy, 29 Jun 1944
Malignano Airfield, Italy, 3 Oct 1944
Tarquinia, Italy, 9 Jan 1945
Rosignano Airfield, Italy, 26 May 1945
Marcianise, Italy, 28 Sep 1945
Naples, Italy, c. Oct–13 Dec 1945
Bergstrom Field, TX, 7 Sep 1946
McChord Field (later AFB), WA, 20 Jul 1947–28 Nov 1950
Ashiya AB, Japan, 1 Dec 1950
Tachikawa AB, Japan, 25 Jul 1951–16 Nov 1951
McChord AFB, WA, 16 Nov 1951
Larson AFB, WA, 11 May 1952
McChord AFB, WA, 13 Jun 1960

ASSIGNMENTS

Rockwell Air Depot, 8 Jul 1935
10th Transport Group, 20 May 1937
62nd Transport (later, 62nd Troop Carrier) Group, 10 May 1941–14 Nov 1945
Unkn, 14 Nov–13 Dec 1945
62nd Troop Carrier Group, 7 Sep 1946
62nd Troop Carrier (later, 62nd Air Transport; 62nd Military Airlift) Wing, 15 Jan 1960
62nd Operations Group, 1 Dec 1991

ATTACHMENTS

64 Troop Carrier Group, 3 Apr–19 Jun 1944
Attached to various elements of FEAF for operations during period 1 Dec 1950–16 Nov 1951

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-27, 1935–1937
C-33, 1936–1941
C-39, 1938–1942
C-47, 1942–1945
C-47A
C-46, 1946–1947
C-82, 1947–1949
C-82A
C-54, 1949–1951

C-54D

C-124, 1951-1969

C-141, 1966-2000

C-17, 2000

COMMANDERS

Maj Harold H. Carr, 15 Jul 1935

Capt Charles G. Brenneman, 22 Jun 1936

Maj Lionel H. Dunlap, 25 Jun 1937

Unknown, 20 Mar 1940-7 Dec 1941

Maj Aubrey J. Hurrion, Jan 1942

Maj Alphonse L. Coenan, 27 Mar 1943

Maj William J. Burke, 11 Jul 1944

Maj Oliver K. Halderson, 14 Aug 1944

Maj Lester A. Brinkerhoff, 19 Nov 1944

Maj Oliver K. Halderson, Mar 1945

Maj Thomas E. Hallifax, 4 Jun 1945-15 Dec 1945

Col Paul W. Stephens, 7 Sep 1946

Lt Col Richard Jones, Mar 1949

Lt Col Richard W. Etter, 16 Nov 1951

Lt Col Jerome M. Triolo, Dec 1952

Maj Milton W. Byrn, Jun 1954

Lt Col Harry M. Odren, Dec 1955

Maj Jack W. Weaver, Jun 1956

Lt Col Burgess Gradwell, Jun 1957

Maj Thomas J. Upton, Jun 1960

Lt Col Clarence I. Shuman, 20 Jan 1961

Lt Col Maurice A. Erickson Jr., 30 Jun 1962

Lt Col George B. Demmon, #Dec 1965

Lt Col Donald W. Feuerstein, #Dec 1966

Lt Col James H. Newton, 14 Aug 1967

Lt Col Dale E. Borgen, 15 Jul 1968

Lt Col Clifford J. Horkans, 1 May 1970

Lt Col Robert B. Downs, 6 May 1971

Lt Col Forrest G. Johnson, 8 Jun 1972

Lt Col John H. Billings, 26 Aug 1974

Lt Col Robert E. Baltzell, 9 Sep 1974

Lt Col David R. Vance, 17 Apr 1978

Lt Col Charles Z. Ridgway Jr., 29 Mar 1979

Lt Col John S. Baughman, 16 Jan 1981

Lt Col John S. Rogers, 7 Jun 1982

Lt Col Thomas A. Mikolajcik, 17 Aug 1983

Lt Col Joseph L. Castonguay, 8 Oct 1985

Lt Col Peter J. Bein, 21 Nov 1986

Lt Col Charles A. Royce, 23 Jun 1988
Lt Col Thomas F. Watson, 11 Jun 1990
Lt Col John L. Strube, 1 May 1992
Lt Col Jeff Cain, 20 May 1993
Lt Col Brian L. Sutter, 17 Apr 1995
Lt Col Henry W. Mauer, 7 May 1996
Lt Col James L. Schneller, 1 Aug 1997
Lt Col William J. Bender, 8 Sep 1998
Lt Col Balan Ayyar, 10 Jul 2001
Lt Col David D. Blomberg, 1 Jul 2002
Lt Col Mark Camerer, 15 Sep 2003
Lt Col James Regenor, 15 Jun 2004

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Tunisia

Sicily

Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno

Southern France

North Apennines

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

India-Burma with Arrowhead

Korea

Chinese Communist Forces Intervention

First UN Counteroffensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Panama, 1989–1990

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

China-Burma-India Theater, 7 Apr–15 Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

19 Apr–5 May 1954

1 Jan 1961–1 Nov 1962

1 Jul 1965–15 Jul 1966
1 Jul 1969–30 Jun 1970
1 Jul 1973–30 Jun 1974
1 Jul 1981–30 Jun 1983
1 Jul 1983–30 Jun 1985
14 Jun–3 Jul 1991
Jul 1994–30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996–30 Jun 1997
1 Jul 1997–30 Jun 1999
1 Jul 2000–30 Jun 2001
11 Sep 2005–10 Sep 2006

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation
1 Jul 1951–[15 Nov 1951]

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm
1 Apr 1966–28 Jan 1973

EMBLEM





4 Airlift Squadron emblem: On a disc Gules, a hurt surmounted within by a cloud formation Argent detailed Azure and a mule, wings extended throughout, Silver Gray detailed Sable, eye and tongue of the first, teeth and pupil of the second, packing a cargo box Or strapped with a

belt of the fifth; all within a narrow border Black. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "4 AIRLIFT SQ" in Black letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** 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 clouds represent the unit's global airlift mission capability. The red circle signifies the courage, pride, and distinction of spirit of the men and women of the unit to deliver cargo anywhere, anytime. The winged mule symbolizes the Army Air Corps service heritage. The cargo box on the back of the mule is significant to the cargo, passenger, and aero-medical transportation capability and flexibility. (Approved, 17 Sep 1942)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Constituted in the Regular Army on 1 October 1933, assigned to the 1st Transport Group, and allotted to the Fifth Corps Area. Organized by March 1934 with Organized Reserve personnel as a RAI unit at Bowman Field, KY. Authorized to be partially organized as the 4 Provisional Transport Squadron on 1 March 1935 and assigned to the San Antonio Air Depot. Fully activated, less Reserve personnel, 15 July 1935 at Rockwell Field, CA. Assigned on 20 May 1937 to the 10th Transport Group.

4 Transport Squadron (the Post Exchange). On March 15, 1939, the Detachment Quartermaster Corps was established, consisting originally of 14 enlisted men. Records of its function are limited, it was commanded by Captain William J. Gainey, Post Quartermaster. Gainey also served as McClellan's Fire Marshal, Police and Prison Officer, Provost Marshal, Quartermaster Sales Officer, and Transportation Officer. As busy as that position sounds, an arguably more important function for the life of the base was provided by the depot's 4 Transport Squadron (4 TS), commanded by Major L. H. Dunlap. The 4 TS was one of four squadrons forming the 10th Transport Group, with headquarters at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. The squadron was organized on July 8, 1935 and consisted of 10 officer pilots, three non-commissioned officer pilots, and 75 enlisted men. They had two C-33 transport ships, each capable of moving a 2000-pound load at a cruising speed of 150 miles per hour. The function of the squadron was to carry supplies to all Air Corps stations within the depot's service area. The squadron also carried freight to the other repair depots in Texas, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. With perfect weather, the 2000-mile run from Sacramento to San Antonio could be made in 24 hours. The most frequent journey was the so called "loop trip" to Hamilton Field, Moffet Field, Oakland, and back to Sacramento. On February 3, 1939, 4 TS opened up its so called "Squadron Exchange" for business. Under command of Captain Alexander P. Couch, it's facilities were made available to both military and civilian personnel. The exchange included a barbershop, tailor shop, and boot black stand. A haircut cost 30 cents, a shave 15 cents, a shampoo 20 cents, and shoe shine for 10 cents. An adult paid 75 cents for an unlimited number of shoeshines per month, while children had to pay only 50 cents for the same service.

Included airborne assaults on Sicily, on Myitkyina, Burma, and on Southern France; support of

partisans in Northern Italy and the Balkans; aerial transportation in MTO and, briefly, in CBI.

Aerial transportation from US to Japan, and subsequently between Japan and Korea in the period 1 Dec 1950–16 Nov 1951.

Airdrop of heavy equipment and personnel during the invasion of Panama on 20 Dec 1989.

Assisted in the evacuation of US personnel from Philippine Islands following the Jun 1991 eruption of Mt Pinatubo.

Conducted aerial delivery of rations to Afghani towns and villages during Global War on Terrorism operations in 2001.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 23 Sep 2010

Updated: 29 Nov 2023

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit yearbook. *Larson AFB, WA, 62 Troop Carrier Wing, 1953*. Army and Navy Publishing Company. Baton Rouge, LA. 1953.

Unit yearbook. *McChord AFB, WA, 62 Troop Carrier Wing, 1962*. Army and Navy Publishing Co., Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1962.