

## 14<sup>th</sup> AIRLIFT SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

14<sup>th</sup> Transport Squadron constituted 20 Nov 1940  
Activated, 4 Dec 1940  
Redesignated 14<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, 4 Jul 1942  
Inactivated, 31 Jul 1945  
Activated, 30 Sep 1946  
Redesignated 14<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 1 Jul 1948  
Redesignated 14<sup>th</sup> Troop Carrier Squadron, Heavy, 15 Aug 1948  
Redesignated 14<sup>th</sup> Military Airlift Squadron, 8 Jan 1966  
Redesignated 14<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron, 1 Jan 1992

#### STATIONS

Duncan Field, TX, 4 Dec 1940  
Augusta GA, 12 Jul 1941  
Pope Field, NC, 24 May 1942  
Lockbourne, OH, 10 Sep 1942  
Dalhart AAFld, TX, 9 Oct 1942  
Pope Field, NC, 27 Feb–1 May 1943  
Lourmel, Algeria, 14 May 1943  
Kairouan, Tunisia, Jun 1943  
Licata, Sicily, 6 Sep 1943  
Sicacca, Sicily, 6 Oct 1943–12 Feb 1944

Barkston, England, 18 Feb 1944  
Abbeville, France, 13 Mar–19 May 1945  
Waller Field, Trinidad, 29 May–31 Jul 1945  
Eschborn AB, Germany, 30 Sep 1946  
Rhein-Main AB, Germany, 15 Jan 1947–21 Jul 1950  
McChord AFB, WA, 26 Jul 1950–16 Nov 1951  
Tachikawa AB, Japan, 16 Nov 1951–1 Dec 1952  
Larson AFB, WA, 1 Dec 1952  
Donaldson AFB, SC, 25 Aug 1954  
Hunter AFB, GA, 1 Apr 1963  
Norton AFB, CA, 1 Apr 1967  
Charleston AFB, SC, 1 Apr 1992

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

61<sup>st</sup> Transport (later, 61<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier) Group, 4 Dec 1940–31 Jul 1945  
61<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Group, 30 Sep 1946  
63<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier Group, 8 Oct 1959  
63<sup>rd</sup> Troop Carrier (later, 63<sup>rd</sup> Military Airlift) Wing, 18 Jan 1963  
63<sup>rd</sup> Military Airlift Group, 1 Oct 1978  
63<sup>rd</sup> Military Airlift Wing, 1 Jul 1980  
63<sup>rd</sup> Operations Group, 1 Jan 1992  
437<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, 1 Apr 1992

### **ATTACHMENTS**

62<sup>nd</sup> Troop Carrier Group, 5 Dec 1950–16 Nov 1951

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

C-33, 1941  
C-39, 1941–1942  
C-47A, 1942–1945  
C-47, 1946–1948  
C-54D, 1948–1952  
C-124C, 1952  
C-141, 1967

### **COMMANDERS**

Maj Noel B. Reddick, #1953  
LTC John D. Hauck, Jr.  
LTC Paul M. Neiheisal, 29 Jan 1993

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

World War II  
American Theater

## **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

Sicily

Naples-Foggia

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Central Europe

Korea

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1952

## **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

Panama, 1989–1990

## **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations: Sicily, 11 Jul 1943

France, [6–7] Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1957–10 Dec 1962

1 Jul 1968–30 Jun 1969

1 Jul 1970–30 Jun 1971

1 Jun 1978–31 May 1980

1 Jan–31 Dec 1983

1 Jan–31 Dec 1987

1 Jan 1990–30 Apr 1991

1 Jul 2011–30 Jun 2012

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

[16 Nov 1951–1 Dec 1952]

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Apr 1966–28 Jan 1973

## **EMBLEM**



14 TCS H



On a Blue disc fimbriated White bordered Yellow, a caricatured troop-carrying pelican in flight, bends sinisterwise, Light Blue and White, wings slotted to represent ailerons, beak Orange, having three windows and a door, from which two paratroopers proper, have emerged and are floating earthward in lower base. (Approved, 28 Dec 1942)

#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

Pelicans

#### **OPERATIONS**

Included airborne assaults on Sicily, Normandy, Holland, and Germany; aerial transportation in MTO and ETO. Berlin Airlift, 1948–1949.

7 January 1949 A C-54G 45-0543, en route to RAF Burtonwood from Rhein-Main AB Germany for a 200-hour inspection, crashes at 1645 hrs. in bad weather at Stake House Fell, Lancashire, England, killing all six on board. KWF are pilot 1st Lt. Richard M. Wurgel, co-pilot 1st Lt. Lowell A. Wheaton Jr., engineer Sgt. Bernard J. Watkins, radio operator Cpl. Norbert H. Theis, and passengers Capt. W. A. Rathgeber and Pvt. Ronald E. Stone. Investigation showed that a commercial radio signal N of Burtonwood interfered with aircraft's radio compass, giving a false reading.

Korea: Aerial transportation from US to Japan and between Japan and Korea, 16 Nov 1951–1 Dec 1952.

Worldwide airlift beginning 1953. Aerial transport missions to Southeast Asia, 1966–1973, and evacuation of South Vietnam, Apr–Jun 1975.

Supported operations in Grenada, Oct–Nov 1983; Panama, Dec 1989–Jan 1990; and Southwest Asia, Aug 1990–Dec 1991.

ST. THOMAS, U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (AFNS) -- Members of the 14th Airlift Squadron at Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina, the Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency completed a humanitarian mission in support of Hurricane Maria to St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, Sept. 23, 2017. The mission provided the islands with an FAA mobile air traffic control tower with an instrument landing system and FAA air traffic controllers. Additionally, the mission delivered 13,000 pounds of food and water. "This mission is providing humanitarian support to areas in the Virgin Islands affected by multiple hurricanes," said Senior Airman Mark Darnell, 14th AS loadmaster. "Missions like this one are what I signed up for. Its an incredible feeling to bring relief to people in need."

Hurricane Maria sustained winds in excess of 90 miles per hour when it passed west of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, Sept. 21, causing flooding throughout the islands. The air traffic control tower at the Cyril E. King Airport in St. Thomas was damaged due to the flooding. "The existing tower sustained quite a bit of water damage, and at this point, it is not a safe environment for the controllers to utilize," said Bruce Williams, FAA electronic engineer. "This tower facilitates air traffic control and directs aircraft on the ramp and airspace. The advantage of having a tower instead of sitting at a table tracking everything is the improved communication between controllers and pilots." Members of the 161st Air Refueling Wing, an Air National Guard unit from Phoenix, are ensuring operations continue in St. Thomas. They are working to load and unload aircraft and manage the airfield so aircraft can get in and out as efficiently as possible. FEMA staff members distributed food and water to those on the ground supporting relief efforts after cargo was unloaded from the C-17 Globemaster III.

"When people are in trouble we are going to help if we have the resources," said Capt. Woody Sukut, 14th AS pilot. "We're all people. If I was in a similar situation, I hope someone would be coming to deliver the same critical supplies." The 437th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron keeps two C-17s on standby in the event an emergency mission is needed. The 437th AMXS had the aircraft ready to fly less than three hours after being alerted of the mission. "With all the recent hurricanes, we've been all hands on deck," said Darnell. "We're actively

working to make sure relief supplies get to where they need to go." Mobility Airmen work side-by-side with joint and international partners. Whether it's delivering humanitarian aid to people in need in the Virgin Islands or transporting coalition forces to dirt strips in Africa, Afghanistan and Iraq, they get the job done together. 2017

Members of the 14th Airlift Squadron from Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina delivered 17 pallets containing more than 129,000 pounds of food and water to St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in support of relief efforts after Hurricane Maria, Sept. 24, 2017. The mission to St. Croix was one of two humanitarian missions flown to the Virgin Islands within 48 hours. The air crew flew their first mission to the islands on Sept. 23, delivering a mobile air traffic control tower and 13,000 pounds of food. Nine pallets consisted of meals ready to eat, with more than 2,000 MREs per pallet. Eight pallets contained cases of bottled water, with more than 11,000 bottles per pallet. The Rhode Island Air National Guard's 143rd Airlift Wing was activated after Hurricane Irma to provide humanitarian aid to St. Thomas and St. Croix, Virgin Islands. Before Hurricane Maria, 143rd Logistics Readiness Squadron evacuated to St. Croix.

"When we left before the hurricane everything was green, lush and beautiful," said Staff Sgt. Andrew Manca, 143rd LRS cargo specialist. "When we came back it was completely different. Everything was brown, trees and telephone poles were flat. Houses had their roofs blown off. It looked like a bomb had gone off." Manca was in the Army and specialized in humanitarian relief prior to joining the Air National Guard. "I love it. It's why I joined the National Guard," said Manca. "When our unit was activated I think most of us were excited to help. We empathize with the people of St. Croix. When we were here as a staging area for St. Thomas after Hurricane Irma, the people were great and very supportive. To see them going through this is sad. I'm grateful we were able to come back and continue to help out."

The Federal Emergency Management Agency provided food and directed where supplies were being delivered. The Virgin Islands National Guard has processed pallets of supplies and distributed them throughout the island. "Having done countless combat operations with these aircraft, it's nice to use the aircraft in another role for which it is completely capable, namely, humanitarian relief," said Flight Lt. Matt Jenkinson, 14th AS British royal air force exchange pilot. "We've taken in supplies to help ease people's pain and make their life a bit more comfortable. I feel very privileged to play a part in the relief operations responding to Hurricanes Irma and Maria."

Mobility Airmen provide essential peacetime and contingency access to global areas of operations through partnerships built with allied nations. Jenkinson has been assigned to the 14th AS for three years during his first posting in the U.S. "We train together because we fight together," said Jenkinson. "The United States military is a strong ally of ours and has been for a long time. Working with the United States Air Force has been a proper privilege and will be for the years to come." 2017

---

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 23 Sep 2010

Updated:

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