

# **36<sup>th</sup> CONTINGENCY RESPONSE GROUP**

## **MISSION**

The mission of the 36th Contingency Response Group is to train, organize, equip and lead cross functional forces providing initial Air Force presence potentially austere forward operation location as directed by commander Pacific Air Force.

The 36th CRG incorporates more than 30 different jobs into one close-knit team. It is a rapid-deployment unit designed at the initiative of Air Force leadership to be a "first-in" force to secure an airfield and establish and maintain airfield operations. The 36th CRG was created specifically to respond to the growing number of fast-moving contingency deployments today's Air Force experienced in the Western Pacific.

Although typically tailored for a specific mission, the CRG is postured to deploy all or part of a 120-person team of more than 30 specialties with no more than 12 hours notice. The 36th CRG is designed to be a multidisciplinary, cross-functional team whose mission is to provide the first on-scene Air Force forces trained to command, assess, and prepare a base for expeditionary aerospace forces. The cross-functional design under a single commander provides a unity of effort while also minimizing redundant taskings or personnel. This in turn allows the unit to be trained to task and ready to deploy rapidly--all with minimal equipment and personnel.

The 36th Contingency Response Group includes the following squadrons: 736th Security Forces Squadron and the 36th Mobility Response Squadron.

## **LINEAGE**

36<sup>th</sup> Contingency Response Group

## **STATIONS**

Andersen AFB, Guam

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Kevin G. Kersh  
Col Lee Anderson

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Mobility Airmen Active at Talisman Saber The United States and Australia on Monday concluded Exercise Talisman Saber 2013, a 21-day training event that brought together more than 28,000 US and Australian military personnel at locations across the Australian continent. Among the activities, on July 23, US and Australian C-17s conducted their first mission, executing a joint cargo airdrop from RAAF Base Amberley. Also, airmen from the 36th Contingency Response Group at Andersen AFB, Guam, collaborated with the RAAF's 382nd Expeditionary Combat Support Squadron from Amberley to carry out an air base opening and sustainment exercise. The CRG airmen and their Australian counterparts helped open up an initial "airhead;" an area secured in hostile territory. Arriving on an Australian C-130J, the CRG airmen helped assume control of the airfield from the US Army airborne troops who had seized it. Exercise activities took place in Queensland and Australia's Northern Territory as well as over the Coral Sea. 2013

Pacific Air Forces has directed two teams to support humanitarian operations in the Philippines, following the destructive path of Typhoon Haiyan on the island nation. A Four-member advance team from the 36th Contingency Response Group, at Andersen AFB, Guam, has forward-deployed to Villamor Air Base in Luzon, Philippines. The 36th CRG is a rapid-deployment unit designed to secure and prepare an area to establish a base for expeditionary air and space forces. The second team, a three-member air component coordination element team, deployed to Manila, the nation's capital, Torango said. The ACCE will assist in planning air component requirements. US Marine Corps Forces, Pacific, is coordinating all Defense Department relief efforts, with assets already on the scene. 129,000 pounds of relief supplies has been distributed as of Nov. 12, "and hundreds of displaced persons" have been relocated to Manila. The Air Force also has activated an accountability and assessment system to monitor the status and location of airmen and their families who may be affected by the typhoon. 2013

Andersen AFB, Guam-AirSea Battle may have gotten a new name earlier this year, but the concept is still alive in the Pacific, although its execution remains a bit nebulous. "We do things out here twice a year that are truly joint, with Cope North and Valiant Shield every other year, but a lot of other times the joint training we do is, quite frankly, a pick-up game," said Col. Reid Langdon, commander of the 36th Operations Group. For example, Langdon said Pacific Air Forces requested that crews who rotate to Andersen as part of the Air Force's continuous bomber presence "focus on AirSea Battle-specific" tactics, techniques, and procedures. But, "they haven't given us those yet." Col. Lee Anderson, commander of the 36th Contingency Response Group, referred to it as the "bumper sticker" effect. "It's a great War College paper; it's a great operational concept, but there hasn't been a lot of 'so what' yet," said Anderson. Valiant Shield-US Pacific Command's largest exercise, which is hosted by Andersen "is becoming a movement toward that 'so what,'" he added. Valiant Shield 2014 "was the largest one I'd ever seen," said Steve "Taz" Wolborsky, director of the 36th Wing plans, programs, and readiness. At its peak, 135 aircraft operated from Andersen and the total number of participants "was somewhere around 18,000." Wolborsky said, "We kind of call this the AirSea Battle laboratory2015

Airmen from the 36th Contingency Response Group, based at Andersen AFB, Guam, recently deployed to Saipan to provide humanitarian aid in the aftermath of Typhoon Soudelor. Six personnel from the CRG, along with two all-terrain forklifts and a 60K aircraft loader have worked to unload water, food, generators, and electrical supplies to help Saipan's recovery. Some of the equipment the airmen took with them allows unloading for larger aircraft or movement of larger cargo pallets than wouldn't be possible otherwise, said MSgt. Corey Long, the evaluator loadmaster for the 36th Mobility Response Squadron. "The work we are doing here is essential to the recovery operations," he said. The typhoon destroyed hundreds of homes on Saipan and knocked out the island's power and water lines. In July, the 36th Contingency Response Group worked with members of the 353rd Special Operations Group to open the airfield at Wake Island after Typhoon Halola. The group also assisted with relief efforts in Nepal after the May earthquake. 2015

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Air Force Order of Battle

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#### Sources

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

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.