

6th AIRLIFT SQUADRON



LINEAGE

6th Transport Squadron constituted, 1 Oct 1933
Activated, 14 Oct 1939
Redesignated 6th Troop Carrier Squadron, 4 Jul 1942
Redesignated 6th Troop Carrier Squadron, Heavy, 21 May 1948
Redesignated 6th Military Airlift Squadron, 8 Jan 1966
Discontinued and inactivated, 8 Jun 1968
Activated, 8 Apr 1970
Redesignated 6th Airlift Squadron, 1 Nov 1991

STATIONS

Olmstead Field, PA, 14 Oct 1939
Camp Williams, WI, 23 Mar 1942
Dodd Field, TX, 16–23 Sep 1942
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 13 Oct 1942
Garbutt Field, Australia, 2 Oct 1943
Nadzab, New Guinea, 26 Aug 1944
Biak, 20 Oct 1944
Tacloban, Leyte, 12 Mar 1945
Nielson Field, Luzon, 1 Jan 1946
Okinawa, 10 Jun 1946
Tachikawa AB, Japan, 13 Apr 1947
Harmon Field, Guam, 1 Dec 1947
Tachikawa AB, Japan, 5 Mar 1949
Hickam AFB, HI, 22 Jun 1964–8 Jun 1968
McGuire AFB, NJ, 8 Apr 1970

ASSIGNMENTS

10th Transport Group, 14 Oct 1939
60th Transport Group, 1 Dec 1940
61st Transport Group, 19 May 1941
315th Transport Group, Mar 1942
63rd Transport (later, 63rd Troop Carrier) Group, Jun 1942
374th Troop Carrier Group, 12 Nov 1942

403rd Troop Carrier Group, 15 May 1946
374th Troop Carrier Group, 15 Oct 1946
1503rd Air Transport Wing, 18 Nov 1958
1502nd Air Transport Wing, 22 Jun 1964
61st Military Airlift Wing, 8 Jan 1966–8 Jun 1968
438th Military Airlift Wing, 8 Apr 1970
438th Military Airlift Group, 1 Oct 1978
438th Military Airlift Wing, 1 Jun 1980
438th Operations Group, 1 Nov 1991
305th Operations Group, 1 Oct 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-33, 1940–1942
C-39, 1940–1942
C-53, 1941–1942
C-47, 1942–1945
C-46, 1945–1947
C-54, 1946–1952
C-124A, 1952
C-141, 1970

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

C-124A
51-0143

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

Red

COMMANDERS

Maj John R. Dunn, 14 Oct 1939
Maj George J. Cressey, 4 Nov 1939
Cpt John J. Keough, 28 Mar 1940
1Lt Hamisch McClelland, 10 Jun 1940
Maj John H. Lackey Jr., 17 Feb 1942
Cpt Frank W. Smith (acted as commanding officer of ground echelon while air and ground echelons were separated), 23 Sep-1 Dec 1942
Cpt William D. Wells, 22 May 1943
Cpt William A. Peterson, 3 Dec 1943
Maj Harry E. Rehrer, Feb 1944
Maj Isaac W. Smith, 15 Sep 1944
Cpt Donald K. Hartley, 15 May 1945
Col John L. Sullivan, unkn
LTC James L. Cole, 19 Jun 1946
Cpt Fred H. Towne, 7 Apr 1947

LTC Roland J. Barnick, 5 May 1947
LTC William R. Calhoun Jr., 25 Aug 1947
Maj Albert W. Brownfield, 30 Jun 1949
Maj Thomas R. Keeny, 26 Jun 1950
LTC Albert W. Brownfield, 14 Sep 1950
LTC Alexander D. MacNiven, Apr 1951
Maj Richard E. Becker Jr., Apr 1952
LTC Courtney L. Faught, unkn
LTC Charles G. Ferran, 1954
LTC Philip C. Sprawls, 1955
LTC Charles M. Mills, Jul 1957
Maj Haskell D. Coffey, 26 Aug 1958
LTC John D. Nichols, 20 Aug 1959
LTC William K. Smith, 23 May 1960
LTC Erich E. Shleier Jr., 15 Aug 1961
LTC Robert W. Denomy, 14 May 1964
LTC Joseph E. Nutt, 9 May 1966
LTC Louis F. Gessner, Jul 1966
Col Alva E. Nixon, 8 Aug 1966-8 Jun 1968
LTC Otto L. Marsh, 8 Apr 1970
LTC Richard G. Ohlheiser, 1 Jun 1971
LTC Kenneth E. Klein, 9 Dec 1972
LTC Bland B. Simmons, 1 Jun 1973
LTC Donald M. Taylor, 23 Oct 1974
LTC Richard W. Thompson, 15 Aug 1975
LTC Stanley A. Cooper, 9 Sep 1977
LTC William H. Sistrunk, 1 Dec 1978
LTC Paul E. Gallo, 29 Feb 1980
LTC David O. Williams, 18 Sep 1981
LTC Joseph A. Petrazio Jr., 20 Oct 1983
LTC William Welser III, 18 Dec 1985
LTC Barry F. Creighton, 22 Jun 1987
LTC Norman Schaule, 9 Jan 1990
LTC William T. Payne IV, 25 Jul 1991
LTC Robert L. Cambrell Jr., 18 Aug 1994
LTC Carl D. Evans, 1 Mar 1996
LTC Jack C. Gundrum, 9 Jun 1997
LTC John Brunhaver, 19 Apr 1999
LTC Robert D. Thomas, 2 Mar 2001
LTC Eric J. Wydra, 21 Jan 2003
LTC Mark D. Camerer, 20 Sep 2004
LTC Joseph L. Wolfer, 16 Jun 2006
LTC John F. Price, 30 Jun 2008
LTC William D. Hall, 9 Jun 2010

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Japan

Papua

New Guinea

Northern Solomons

Bismarck Archipelago

Western Pacific

Leyte

Luzon

Southern Philippines

Korea

UN Defensive

UN Offensive

CCF Intervention

First UN Counteroffensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1952

Third Korean Winter

Korea, Summer 1953

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Panama, 1989–1990

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Papua, [Oct] 1942–23 Jan 1943

Papua, 12 Nov–22 Dec 1942

Wau, New Guinea, 30 Jan–1 Feb 1943

Korea, 27 Jun–15 Sep 1950

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan–31 Dec 1961

1 Jul 1964–30 Jun 1966

23 Dec 1965–23 Jan 1966

1 Jul 1966–30 Jun 1967

1 Jul 1967–[8] Jun 1968
1 Jul 1982–30 Jun 1984

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation
1 Jul 1951–27 Jul 1953

EMBLEM

On a disc Blue, narrow bordered Black, over a representation of a tin "Bully Beef" White, edged Red, caricatured bull's head front face Brown, mouth and horns Yellow, beard Black eyeballs White, pupils Black, nose Red and with a fighting mad expression and snorting detail White from nose. (Approved, 1 Dec 1952; replaced emblem approved, 14 Apr 1942)

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Constituted in the Regular Army on 1 October 1933, assigned to the 2nd Transport Group, and allotted to the Fourth Corps Area. Organized by July 1934 with Organized Reserve personnel as a RAI unit at Shreveport, LA. Withdrawn from the Fourth Corps Area on 5 June 1936 and allotted to the Fifth Corps Area. Organized by August 1937 with Organized Reserve personnel as a RAI unit at Columbus, OH. Activated on 14 October 1939, less Reserve personnel.

Aerial transportation in the South, Southwest, and Western Pacific, during World War II and in the Far East during the Korean War and after to 1968.

29 May 1947 C-54D, 42-72553, of the 6th Troop Carrier Squadron, with 33 passengers and eight crew on board crashes into a mountain SW of Tokyo, Japan. An Army announcement said that it had not been determined whether or not there were any survivors. A revised count reported that there were 40 aboard the C-54, 28 enlisted, eight officers, and four civilians, all killed in the crash. They were reported to be burned beyond recognition. The flight, inbound from Korea, had apparently exploded as it approached Tachikawa Airfield for a landing.

1959 was the year of Operation Handclasp V, a joint US-Australian airpower display conducted to demonstrate the spirit of cooperation between the two countries through a mutual aerial display of military might. The exercise was held in conjunction with Australia's commemoration of the Battle of the Coral Sea and ANZAC day. The exercise, conducted from April 25 through May 7, saw C-124s from the 6th and 22nd Troop Carrier Squadrons deliver 72,000 pounds of communications equipment to various sites in Australia, to be set up prior to the arrival of RF-101S, RB-66s, KB-50s and C-130s which were used for aerial demonstrations, flybys and static displays throughout the operation. These activities took place in Brisbane, Sydney, Richmond, Amberly, East Sale and Melbourne.

In August, the 6th TCS suffered a major accident at Komaki Air Base. At just after 1 o'clock in the afternoon, on the 24th, the C-124 crashed while landing. There were no crew injuries or deaths.

Worldwide airlift operations, Apr 1970.

Resupplied scientific stations in the Antarctic during Operation Deep Freeze, 1971–1974.

Evacuated Vietnamese refugees during the fall of Saigon, Apr–Jun 1975.

Supported US forces in Grenada, Oct–Dec 1983; during the invasion of Panama, Dec 1989–Jan 1990; and during the Gulf War, Aug 1990–Mar 1991.

440122	C-47	41-18616	6TCS	62TCG		CRT	Warren, Lee H	Gioia de Colle
470529	C-54D	42-72553	6TCS	317TCG		KCR	Schieber, Hudson M	Yamakita/ 8mi N
460115	C-47B	43-49761	6TCS	322TCW		GL	Culver, Julian (NMI)	Laoag AAF
460412	C-46D	44-78337	6TCS	374TCG		LAC	Unum, Robert F	Naha AAF
500510	C-54D	42-72732	6TCS	374TCG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	LACW	Elissalde, Jean P.	Komaki AB
500529	C-54D	42-72591	6TCS	374TCG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	TAC	Cooper, Thomas E.	Tachikawa AB
500926	C-54D	42-72457	6TCS	374TCG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	KTOA	Ward, Walter W.	Ashiya AB
501119	C-54D	42-72662	6TCS	374TCG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	CLEFF	Haag, George B. Jr	Pyongyang AB
460917	C-46D	44-77931	6TCS	403TCG		TACW	Stoller, Harry F	Naha AS
420904	C-53	42-15533	6TCSq		Selfridge Field, Mt Clemons, MI	LAC	Weedin Wilbur H	Saginaw Airport, MI

510617	C-54D	42-72624	6CTS	314CTG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	TACMF	Teufel, Richard L.	K-46 Hoengsong AB
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510120	C-54D	42-72624	6CTS	374CTG	Tachikawa AB, JPN	TAC	Arnold, Albert K.	Tachikawa AB
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420222	C-33	36-85	6TS	63TG	Middletown AD, Olmsted Field, PA	TAC	Sartz, Jacob P	Morris Field, NC
430928	BT-13A	42-1307	6TS		Goodfellow Field, San Angelo, TX	KSSP	Merritt, Warren R	Robbins Aux Field, San Angelo, TX
411210	PT-19A	41-20193	6TS		Middletown Air Depot, OH	MACO	Tobiason, Stanley W	Pope Field, NC



Sources

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