

95 AIRLIFT SQUADRON



MISSION

The 95 Airlift Squadron has twelve C-130H Hercules transport aircraft assigned to it. The C-130 is designed for the transport or airdrop of people, supplies and equipment to airfields or undeveloped areas anywhere in the world. The Flying Badgers practice to accomplish their air drop and transport missions during the day and at night with the help of night vision goggles. The 95 was one of the first unit tactical airlift units in the Air Force Reserve Command to qualify on night vision goggles. The unofficial motto for the Flying Badgers is, "On Time, On Target."

LINEAGE

95 Troop Carrier Squadron constituted 25 May 1943
Activated, 1 Jul 1943
Inactivated, 18 Oct 1945
Activated in the Reserve, 9 Apr 1947
Redesignated 95 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 27 Jun 1949
Ordered to Active Service, 1 May 1951
Inactivated, 4 May 1951
Redesignated 95 Fighter-Bomber Squadron, 26 May 1952
Activated in the Reserve, 15 Jun 1952
Redesignated 95 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium, 8 Sep 1957
Ordered to Active Service, 28 Oct 1962

Relieved from Active Duty, 28 Nov 1962
Redesignated 95 Tactical Airlift Squadron, 1 Jul 1967
Redesignated 95 Airlift Squadron, 1 Feb 1992

STATIONS

Baer Field, IN, 1 Jul 1943
Sedalia AAFld, MO, 9 Jul 1943
Alliance AAFld, NE, 7 Sep 1943
Pope Field, NC, 4 Jan 1944
Baer Field, IN, 14-21 Feb 1944
Bottesford, England, 8 Mar 1944
Exeter, England, 26 Apr 1944 (operated from Ombrone Airfield, Italy, 18 Jul-24 Aug 1944)
Reims, France, 13 Sep 1944
Le Mans, France, 28 Sep 1944
Orleans, France, 4 Nov 1944-18 Oct 1945
Wold-Chamberlain Field, MN, 9 Apr 1947-4 May 1951
Minneapolis-St. Paul Intl Aprt, MN, 15 Jun 1952
General Mitchell Field (later, General Billy Mitchell Field; General Mitchell Intl Aprt;
General Mitchell IAP-ARS), WI, 16 Nov 1957

ASSIGNMENTS

440 Troop Carrier Group, 1 Jul 1943-18 Oct 1945
Second Air Force, 9 Apr 1947
440 Troop Carrier Group, 3 Sep 1947-4 May 1951
440 Fighter-Bomber (later, 440 Troop Carrier) Group, 15 Jun 1952
440 Troop Carrier Wing, 14 Apr 1959
933 Troop Carrier (later, 933 Tactical Airlift) Group, 11 Feb 1963
440 Tactical Airlift (later, 440 Airlift) Wing, 1 Sep 1975
440 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-47, 1943-1945
C-46, 1947-1951
T-11, 1949-1951
T-6, 1949-1950
T-7, 1950
T-6, 1952-1955
C-46, 1952-1957
F-51, 1953-1954
TF-51, 1954
T-33, 1954-1957
F-80, 1954-1957
C-47, 1955
TC-47, 1955-1957

C-119, 1957-1971

C-130, 1971

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Irvin G. Anderson, 1 Jul 1943

Unkn, Aug-18 Oct 1945

Unkn, 9 Apr 1947-Jul 1950

Maj Alfred F. Hein, By Aug 1950-4 May 1951

Unkn, 15 Jun 1952-Jul 1953

Maj R. L. Callaway, By Aug 1953

Lt Col William B. Spengler, 14 Nov 1957

Col Earl W. Steinke, 16 Apr 1963

Lt Col Donald Haase, 21 Dec 1968

Lt Col Henry R. Schieble, 25 Mar 1970

Lt Col Robert D. Hoffman, Feb 1972

Lt Col Francis T. Schmitz, 21 Jan 1973

Lt Col Douglas B. Phillips, By Dec 1974

Lt Col Donald W. Carll, Sep 1978

Col William H. Roewer, By Nov 1981

Lt Col Ross R. Bowen, By Oct 1984

Col Heinz F. Poellet, 7 Feb 1987

Lt Col Robert S. Rick, By Feb 1988

Lt Col Henry J. Liebeck, 20 Jan 1990

Lt Col George W. Kohn, 7 Nov 1992

Lt Col Kevin M. Wentworth, 20 Aug 1994

Lt Col Michael J. Byers, 1 Jan 1996

Unkn, 13 Jan-28 Feb 1998

Lt Col James D. Webb, 1 Mar 1998

Lt Col Peter C. Maynard, 3 Oct 1998

Lt Col Bret Larson

Lt Col Glenn Collins

Lt Col Dennis Beatty

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia 1990-1991

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

France, [6-7] Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Oct 1985-30 Sep 1987

1 Oct 1990-30 Sep 1992

2 Oct 1992-2 Oct 1993

1 Jun 1997-30 Sep 1998

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

14 Feb 1968-6 Nov 1972

EMBLEM



On a disc Azure, the caricature of a flying badger bendwise Argent, space helmet of the like, flight suit Vert all detailed Sable, attached to the space suit a rocket of the fourth emitting flames Tenné and Or, the badger's dexter arm raised above his head with the index finger pointing into space. To dexter base, a terrestrial globe of the third, land masses of the fourth, in sinister chief an increscent moon and twelve mullets throughout of the sixth, all within a narrow border Blue and an inner border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "FLYING BADGERS" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "95 AIRLIFT SQ" 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 badger represents the unit's spirit in completing the mission. The globe symbolizes the unit's worldwide capability. The moon and stars suggest space. (Approved, 5 Jan 1961)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

Flying Badgers

OPERATIONS

Airborne assaults on Normandy, Southern France, Holland, and Germany; relief of Bastogne; transportation of cargo and personnel in European and Mediterranean theaters of operation (ETO and MTO) during World War II.

Trained in the Reserve for airlift missions, 1952-1957; for fighter-bomber operations, 1952-1957; and reverted in 1957 to an airlift mission.

Tragedy struck the squadron on June 5, 1965 when a C-119 (Flight Number 680) under the command of Maj. Louis Giuntoli was lost without a trace in the infamous Bermuda Triangle area. Nine other wing members were on the plane.

The low point of the 1980s occurred on Jan. 22, 1985 when C-130A (#56501) commanded by Maj. Mike Durante crashed in the sea off the northern coast of Honduras while trying to land at Trujillo, Honduras. The plane carried a seven-man crew and 14 passengers. There were no survivors.

Flew airlift missions worldwide, including to Southeast Asia during the Vietnam conflict and to Southwest Asia during the Gulf War.

Participated in training exercises, some involving the dropping or landing of airborne troops, and flew numerous humanitarian airlift missions.

Shortly after returning from the global war on terrorism the Flying Badgers were called to support Hurricane Rita and Katrina relief missions in the Gulf of Mexico region.

The 440 Airlift Wing was one of many Reserve and Guard C-130 units that provided airlift support to NATO and U.S. operations in the Balkan region as part of Operation Provide Promise in 1993.

The next two years were a busy operational period for the wing. The 440 took part in Operation Uphold Democracy (Haiti) and Operation Safe Borders support of U.S. Army forces in Honduras.

Operation Joint Endeavor took elements of the unit back to the Balkans in 1995 and 1996.

Tragedy came to the squadron again in 1997 when a 440 C-130H (#88-4408) crashed while attempting to land at Tegucigalpa Airport in Honduras. Three members of the wing were killed in the accident.

Wing aircrews flew people and supplies into and out of embattled Bosnia. Flew relief supplies into Kosovo as part of Operation Shining Hope. The wing Balkan efforts were complimented by continued support of the Coronet Oak mission throughout 1999 – 2000. Flying operations had been moved from Panama to Puerto Rico but the mission continued.

Elements of the 95 were part of Operations Desert Shield in 1990 and Desert Storm in 1991. Aircraft, flight crews, maintenance specialists and a variety of support specialists deployed to operating locations in several Persian Gulf States where they provided airlift support to U.S. and coalition military forces.

The entire 95 AS was mobilized for two years of active duty just before Thanksgiving 2003 to support Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. The 95 flew its first mission into Iraq on Dec. 8, 2003. Fliers and maintainers from the 95 rotated into and out of the Central Command area until they were deactivated in November 2005. A 95 aircrew flew the first relief supplies into Iran after a major earthquake in late 2004. The members of another 95 aircrew were awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross after losing one engine to hostile ground fire over Iraq. The aircrew managed a safe landing on a closed airstrip with 57 soldiers on board. The soldiers were on their way back to the U.S. Nobody was injured and the plane was repaired.

USAF Unit Histories
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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.