

379th EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS GROUP



LINEAGE

379th Operations Group established, 29 Aug 1991

Activated, 1 Sep 1991

Inactivated, 31 Dec 1992

Redesignated 379th Expeditionary Operations Group, and converted to provisional status, 4 Dec 2001

STATIONS

Wurtsmith AFB, MI, 1 Sep 1991-31 Dec 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

379th Wing (later, 379th Bomb Wing), 1 Sep 1991-31 Dec 1992

Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 4 Dec 2001

WEAPONS SYSTEMS

B-52, 1991-1992

KC-135, 1991-1992

COMMANDERS

Col Hugh E. Smith, 1 Sep 1991

Col Michael G. McConnel, 7 Aug-31 Dec 1992

Col James Dittus

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Awards

1 Sep 2003-31 May 2004

1 Jun 2005-31 May 2006

1 Jun 2006-31 May 2007

EMBLEM

Per bend Azure and Gules, on a lightning flash per bend throughout Or, seven stars per bend Argent; all between a dart, with three stars arched and an atomic symbol encircled by nine stars, all of the last, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "379TH EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS GROUP" in Blue 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 significance of the emblem is the manner in which it portrays the expeditionary mission. The upper portion of the shield, together with the dart-like air vehicle represents expeditionary airpower capabilities. The lightning flash illustrates the great speed with which the power of the Group can be unleashed. The lower portion of the shield is symbolic of the historic valor of the Group's personnel, past and present. The atomic symbol commemorates the Group's operational heritage dating from the atomic era. The stars are grouped to depict the Group's numerical designation. In the end, the emblem is a symbol of peace, since the power of force is dedicated to protect the free peoples of the world.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Controlled the flying operations of the wing; air refueling operations until assets transferred on 1 Jun 1992 and bombardment training until Dec 1992.

Before the start of Operation Freedom's Sentinel on Jan. 1, combat aircraft operating with the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing from al Udeid AB, Qatar, conducted their final missions supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, the US combat mission in Afghanistan since 2001. Assets from al Udeid flying over Afghanistan during the final days of OEF included B-1 bombers from the 9th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, E-8 JSTARS ground-surveillance platforms of the 7th Expeditionary Airborne Command and Control Squadron, C-130 transports from the 746th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, KC-135 tankers from the 340th Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, and RC-135 Rivet Joint electronic eavesdropping aircraft from the 733rd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, according to a base release. With the dawn of OFS, wing operations are transitioning to support the post-combat US advisory role in Afghanistan. While the US ground footprint is smaller there

now, "our airpower need remains," said Col. Jim Dittus, 379th Expeditionary Operations Group commander. 2015

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 16 Feb 2012

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.