

571st MOBILITY SUPPORT ADVISORY SQUADRON



MISSION

571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron mission is to employ teams of expeditionary air mobility air advisors throughout the Caribbean, and Central and South America to build relationships with partner air forces and help them increase their mobility capacity to respond to humanitarian crises and disasters.

LINEAGE

571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron

STATIONS

Travis AFB, CA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Gabriel Griess

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Award
29 May 2012-30 Sep 2012

EMBLEM

On a disc Gules, between a polestar in dexter chief Argent, highlighted Silver Gray, and a demi-globe in dexter base Azure, gridlined Or, a stylized bald eagle couped at the shoulder facing dexter, head of the second, beak Or, neck & eye Sable, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "571 MSAS" in Yellow letters. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "SABER ES PODER" in Yellow 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 star represents a tool used for centuries in navigating the world. It is being used by the bald eagle to navigate the world to ensure the Squadron finds their way in Building Partnerships. The bald eagle is a flying symbol of nobility and bravery. The world shows the global reach as the Squadron endeavors to build lasting partnerships. The Spanish motto, "Saber Es Poder," translates to "Knowledge is Power."

MOTTO

Saber Es Poder--Knowledge is Power

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Travis Wing activates Advisory Squadron: The 615th Contingency Response Wing at Travis AFB, Calif., last week activated the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron. The unit activated on May 20. By December 2012, the squadron will have more than 100 airmen; today, there are about 15. Travis' new squadron mirrors the 818th MSAS that began operations in April at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., to work with partner air forces in Africa. 2011

Twenty airmen assigned to two recently activated Air Mobility Command advisory squadrons graduated from Air Education and Training Command's inaugural air advisor basic course tailored for missions in Africa and South America. The course is taught at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. These airmen—members of the 818th Mobility Support Advisory Squadron at McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst and the 571st MSAS at Travis AFB, Calif.—learned how to train, advise, and assist partner nations' military personnel in the development of air mobility systems. With the course behind them, the airmen are scheduled to begin missions later this year. During the month-long course, the airmen learned skills like mentoring techniques and acquired foreign language skills and region-specific cultural knowledge. Course instruction also focused on building diplomatic skills needed to work in cultures where one-on-one relationships are highly valued. The airmen graduated last month. 2011

Air Mobility Command's two air advisor squadrons tasked with mentoring partner nation air forces recently declared full operational capability, announced command officials. "To date, our

role has been to train ourselves in the art of air advising," explained 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Gabriel Griess in a Jan. 8 release from Travis AFB, Calif., home of the unit. "Going forward, we will execute the mission . . . in conjunction with US military groups in each respective country," he added. To reach FOC, airmen of the 571st MSAS and 818th MSAS at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., completed air advisor and instructor courses, as well as survival, evasion, resistance, and escape training and language instruction, according to the release. Travis advisors completed studies in Spanish for assignment to Latin America, while the McGuire unit trained in French for assignment to Africa. Both of the squadrons report to the 621st Contingency Response Wing at McGuire. They attained the FOC milestone on Dec. 1. 2013

Air Advisors Reach Airdrop Milestone with Colombians Airmen with the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron at Travis AFB, Calif., wrapped up training with the Colombian Air Force earlier this month with a successful airdrop mission near Bogota, Colombia. The March 2 airdrop from a Colombian Air Force Casa 295 aircraft capped a month-long Air Mobility Command building partner capacity mission, part of 12th Air Force's engagement activities in US Southern Command. The 571 MSAS pilots and loadmasters observed five Colombian parachute jumpers and two pallets land in the target range in two passes of the Casa 295, marking the first air drop mission where the USAF advisors were allowed to fly on the aircraft with their Colombian counterparts. The MSAS airmen have taught seminars to the CAF twice a year since August 2012, but in the last six months the Colombian airmen have been able to get more airdrop missions from the Colombian Army. The Colombians are now taking their airdrop and jump skills learned with the MSAS advisors, and visiting additional exercises in South America to train others, 571st MSAS officials said. 2015

The 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron sent a 15 member mobility training team to the Republic of El Salvador to conduct training for two weeks. The MTT's mission was to train and advise the Latin American expeditionary forces to deploy in support of the U.N.'s peacekeeping efforts in the Republic of Mali, a landlocked country in West Africa. El Salvador is Central America's smallest and most densely populated country, but is the region's largest contributor to this U.N. peacekeeping mission. The 1st air brigade has been supporting the U.N. in Mali since 2014, but will soon undertake new responsibilities in firefighting, air traffic control, airfield management and weather operations.

The MTT executed more than 170 combined hours of instruction to 48 students that will be assigned to one of the new operational areas. However, the uncertainty of the scope of responsibility Salvadorans will face in Mali required the instructors to dynamically tailor their course material to the mission their students would face in a foreign geographical area. "As air advisors we want to provide our partner nations with the best quality training the (U.S.) Air Force can offer," said Capt. LaDarian Outsey, the MTT's mission commander.

"When we work with our partner nations, we seek to provide them with the most tangible training and enlighten them with current techniques and procedures. With their upcoming Mali deployment, we sought to tailor the course work to facilitate what they can expect to see in Mali. Doing this will have a direct impact on how the Salvadoran military conducts their contingency operations." This approach empowered the MTT's instructors to both train and

make observations that resulted in key recommendations to prevent potential downrange mission degradation.

The MTT's firefighting instructors, Master Sgts. Johnathan Hall and Golangia Jenkins, noticed a critical error in the Salvadoran firefighting team's purchase order. Their actions enabled the Salvadorans to repurpose \$10,000 in "not needed" purchases, and purchase critical lifesaving equipment. "Identifying the incorrect item on their purchase order early enabled them to cancel the order and request the proper equipment for safe emergency operations," Hall said. "Without this equipment they would not have been able to effectively perform their duties in Mali." "I'd like to thank the 571st MSAS air advisors for their dedication and for taking the time to prepare my team for the challenges it will soon face," said Lt. Col. Robert Baires Hernández, Salvadoran 1st air brigade unit commander.

The 571st MSAS is charged with strengthening partner nation's capabilities and the squadron trains, advises and assists partner nations in developing airpower capabilities. The unit includes Spanish-speaking Airmen and is aligned with the U.S. Southern Command area of responsibility "Air advisors are a key asset in the Air Force's enduring Building Partner Capacity mission," Outsey said. "Each successive engagement assists to achieve freedom, stability and prosperity in the region, and contributes to USSOUTHCOMM joint intermediate military objectives." 2018

Air Force Order of Battle

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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.