

922 EXPEDITIONARY RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHT



MISSION

LINEAGE

22 Ferrying Squadron constituted, 6 Apr 1942

Activated, 21 Jul 1942

Redesignated 22 Transport Squadron, 19 Mar 1943

Disbanded, 13 Oct 1943

Reconstituted, and redesignated 22 Air Transport Squadron, Medium, 27 Nov 1953

Activated, 8 Mar 1954

Inactivated, 18 Mar 1958

922 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy constituted, 18 Aug 1959

Activated, 1 Dec 1959

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1975

Redesignated 922 Strategic Squadron, 13 Jun 1978

Activated on 1 Jul 1978

22 Air Transport Squadron, Medium and 922 Strategic Squadron consolidated, 19 Sep 1985.

Consolidated squadron retained designation, 922 Strategic Squadron

Redesignated 922 Reconnaissance Squadron, 31 Mar 1992

Inactivated, 30 Jun 1994

Redesignated 922 Expeditionary Reconnaissance Flight and converted to provisional status, 5 Oct 2007

STATIONS

Morrison Field, FL, 21 Jul 1942-13 Oct 1943
Charleston AFB, SC, 8 Mar 1954-18 Mar 1958
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, 1 Dec 1959-30 Sep 1975
Hellenikon AB, Greece, 1 Jul 1978
Souda Bay, Crete, 15 Apr 1991
RAF Mildenhall, England, 1 Feb 1992-30 Jun 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

15 Ferrying (later, 15 Transport) Group, 21 Jul 1942-13 Oct 1943
1608 Air Transport Group (later, 1608 Air Transport Group, Medium), 8 Mar 1954-18 Mar 1958
4043 Strategic Wing, 1 Dec 1959
17 Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 1 Feb 1963-30 Sep 1975
306 Strategic Wing, 1 Jul 1978
55 Operations Group, 31 Mar 1992
55 Wing, 1 Jun 1992
55 Operations Group, 1 Jul 1992-30 Jun 1994
Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 5 Oct 2007

WEAPON SYSTEMS

C-54, 1954-unkn
KC-135, 1960-1975
KC-135, 1978-1994

COMMANDERS

Unkn, 1942-1943
Maj Herman F. Hamilton, 8 Mar 1954-Unkn
1st Lt Terrence D. Baker, Dec 1959
Lt Col Robert M. Gorham, Feb 1960
Lt Col Donovan Kimbrough, 26 Jan 1961
Lt Col Carol E. Wildman, 15 Feb 1963
Lt Col Earl W. Spencer, Sep 1963
Lt Col Merle R. Jensen, Mar 1966
Lt Col Robert H. Tyndall, 31 Jul 1968
Lt Col Donald J. Bierman, 1 Oct 1969
Lt Col Howard R. Hardt, 2 Apr 1971
Maj George A. Chatfield Jr., 26 Mar 1973
Lt Col William L. Ernst, By Jul 1973
Lt Col George A. Chatfield Jr., 1 Jul 1974-31 Jul 1975
None (Not Manned), 1 Aug-30 Sep 1975
Col Walter E. Savage, 1 Jul 1978

Col Kent Montavon, 18 Jun 1980
Col Richard J. Beringson, 27 Oct 1981
Col Philip E. Daisher, 13 Jul 1984
Col Clifford E. Lambert, 21 Aug 1985
Col Jack O. Foley, 8 Aug 1987
Lt Col Michael J. Cook, 16 Aug 1989
Lt Col Stephen R. Popelka, 1 Feb 1992
Col Barney H. Clary Jr., 8 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1994

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1963-31 Mar 1964

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970

1 Jul 1971-30 Jun 1973

1 Jul 1979-30 Jun 1981

1 Jul 1985-30 Jun 1987

1 Jul 1990-28 Feb 1991

1 Mar 1991-31 Mar 1992

1 Jul 1992-30 Jun 1994

EMBLEM



922 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy

922 Strategic Squadron emblem: On a blue disc edged with a narrow yellow border, the neck and head of an eagle, white detailed black, in perspective with yellow beak and eye, black pupil wearing a brown headset highlighted white and detailed black, the neck surmounted in base by a light blue globe, rimmed and gridlined black with yellow land areas; issuing from the eagle's eye two yellow lightning bolts palewise extending over the globe outlined black. Attached above the disc a yellow scroll Motto: Attached below the disc a yellow scroll inscribed UNITED FOR PEACE in black letters. The primary colors of the patch are Air Force Ultramarine Blue and Air Force Golden Yellow. Ultramarine Blue represents the sky, primary theater of Air Force operations. Golden Yellow represents the sun and the excellence of Air Force personnel. The eagle's head eyeing the world globe represents a strong watchful and wary reconnaissance capability. The world globe shows that the entire world is within our area of responsibility. The headset on the eagle's head and the lightning bolts issuing from his eye, are indicative of being alert and the electronics communications aspect of this squadron. (Approved, 23 Oct 1980)



MOTTO

OPERATIONS

1942-1943, ferried aircraft from southern Florida to western Africa.

Conducted air transport operations of personnel, mail, and cargo for all US government agencies, 1954-1958.

Provided aerial refueling support for exercises, ground and airborne alerts, movement of aircraft overseas, and combat forces in Southeast Asia, 1959-1975.

Personnel participated in Persian Rug Operation of 5 Jan 62 when 922 AREFS provided KC-135 support for record/breaking flight of 15 AF B-52H from Kadena AB, Japan to Torrejon AB, Spain.

SAC inactivated the 15 UE air refueling squadron: the 922nd at Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, on 30 September 1975. The 15 KC-135s went to the Ohio ANG at Rickenbacker AFB, OH.

Supported reconnaissance operations throughout Europe, 1978-1994. The 922d Reconnaissance Squadron provides operations, maintenance, intelligence and administrative support for the conduct of worldwide reconnaissance and air refueling operations in both the European and Mediterranean regions.

USAF directives issued in early 1958 led to the signing of a joint tenancy agreement between the Air Materiel Command and the Strategic Air Command (SAC) for the support of SAC units at WPAFB. The location of a SAC B-52 strategic wing at Wright-Patterson was part of the SAC dispersal program initiated in 1958 to decentralize large concentrations of bomber aircraft and thus make SAC bases less attractive targets for enemy missiles. Under this USAF-mandated program, not more than 15 aircraft were to be stationed at each of 33 locations. A \$549 million construction bill was passed by the House of Representatives authorizing construction at 29 locations, including \$22.6 million for facilities at Wright-Patterson. Because of tight security requirements for strategic air operations and the existing layout of Wright-Patterson, it was decided that facilities for the new strategic wing would be constructed as a separate complex in Area C. The project started in August 1958 and was completed by mid-1960. The 4043rd Strategic Wing was activated at Wright-Patterson on April 1, 1959. Major components were the 42nd Bombardment Squadron and the 922nd Air Refueling Squadron assigned effective December 1959.

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Began receiving KC-135 crews in Jan 1960 from training location at Walker AFB, NM, and Castle APB, Calif. Received KC-135s beginning 3 Mar 1960, and became operational on 5 Jul 1960, In Oct 1960 the squadron began supporting deploying and redeploying Reflex Action B-52s and for the remainder of 1960 continued this support, flying six sorties a week between 1961 and 1964 the 922d provided aircraft and crews for ground and airborne alert, supported movement of tactical aircraft to overseas areas, furnished planes and crews for tanker task forces on a global scale, and participated in numerous evaluations, inspections, and special exercises. When the 17th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, replaced the 4043d Strategic Wing on 1 Feb 1963, the 922d shifted to the new parent wing without interruption in flying. From Jan 1965 through about May 1975, the squadron kept at least one aircraft and crew, and sometimes two or three planes and crews, in the Pacific, Far East, or Southeast Asia as part of Young Tiger aerial refueling operation in support of combat forces in SEA. During these years the 922d furnished planes and crews to tanker task forces in Alaska, Spain, Hawaii and elsewhere, and continued to maintain a specific number of planes and crew on either ground or airborne alert (or both). The 17th Bombardment

Wing moved to Beale AB, Calif, on 1 Oct 1975 to replace another wing. Not programmed to wove with the wing, the 922d began phasing down effective with the transfer of KC-135s beginning 10 Apr 1975, and became noncombat ready on 25 Jun. Became a paper unit on 1 Aug 1975, 2 months before it inactivated. Redesignated 922d Strategic Squadron, the 922d activated at Hellenikon AB, Greece, on 1 Jul 1978 as a component of the 306th Strategic wing.

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.

Unit History, *1608 Air Transport Wing (M), Charleston AFB, SC*, 1957.

Unit History, *17 Bombardment Wing (H), The Golden Griffins*. 1964.