

## 41 AIR EXPEDITIONARY GROUP



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

Pacific Air Rescue Center constituted and activated, 2 Aug 1961

Organized, 8 Oct 1961

Redesignated Pacific Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Center, 8 Jan 1966

Redesignated 41 Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Wing, 8 Feb 1969

Redesignated 41 Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Sep 1975

Inactivated, 1 Aug 1989

Redesignated 41 Air Expeditionary Group, and converted to provisional status, 21 Oct 2005

### STATIONS

Hickam AFB, HI, 8 Oct 1961

McClellan AFB, CA, 1 Sep 1975-1 Aug 1989

### ASSIGNMENTS

Air Rescue (later, Aerospace Rescue & Recovery) Service, 8 Oct 1961

Twenty-Third Air Force, 1 Oct 1983-1 Aug 1989

Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 21 Oct 2005

### WEAPON SYSTEMS

HH-43, 1964-1975

HC-130, 1966-1989  
HU-16, 1966-1968  
CH/HH-3, 1967-1989  
CH/HH-53, 1967-1987  
UH/HH-1, 1975-1978  
WC-130, 1975-1989  
WC-135, 1975-1989

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Emil G. Beaudry, 8 Oct 1961  
Col Walter F. Derck, Jun 1962  
Col Donald T. Smith, 15 Jun 1965  
Col Thomas L. Shockley, 21 Dec 1968  
Col Frederick B. Sohle, 16 Jun 1971  
Col Cecil N. Muirhead, 12 Jan 1973  
Col Harold W. Wallace Jr., 7 May 1974  
Col James H. Gillard, 1 Sep 1975  
Col Morgan A. Downing, 28 Mar 1976  
Col John B. Schmidt, 7 Jul 1978  
Col Norman B. Kamhoot, 10 Jan 1980  
Col William J. Kornitzer Jr., 25 Jun 1982  
Col Robert A. Reichert, 30 Mar 1984  
Col James F. Hinkel, 17 Jul 1986  
Col Eric E. Wheaton, 28 May 1987-1 Aug 1989

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

U.S. Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation  
1 Jul 1967-26 Jul 1969

### **Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards**

1 Jul 1964-30 Jun 1966  
1 Jul 1966-31 May 1968  
1 Jun 1969-31 May 1971  
1 Jun 1971-31 May 1973  
1 Jun 1973-31 May 1975  
1 Sep 1975-1 May 1977  
16 Jul 1977-16 Jul 1979

17 Jul 1979-15 Jun 1981  
1 Apr 1984-31 Mar 1986  
1 Apr 1986-31 Mar 1988

## **EMBLEM**



41 Rescue and Weather Reconnaissance Wing emblem approved, 1976

## **MOTTO**

### **OPERATIONS**

Coordinated rescue and recovery resources and missions in western pacific and conducted rescue and recovery missions in western Pacific and Southeast Asia, Aug 1961-Aug 1975.

15 Apr-19 Apr 1969 Rescue units of the 41 ARR Wing responded within minutes after notification that a United States Navy EC-121 had gone down in the Sea of Japan about 50 miles from the North Korean coast. ARRS forces flew 33 sorties and 399 flying hours in an effort to locate survivors. On 17 April a United States destroyer recovered two bodies, identified as crewmen from the EC-121. The mission was suspended on 19 April.

Provided air recovery and search support for NASA manned space flights, including the Apollo missions, the last being Apollo 17 in the fall of 1972.

The mission changed in Sep 1975 to worldwide search, rescue and recovery, with the addition of weather reconnaissance, including flying into typhoons, until 1989.

41 ARRWg - PARC - Hickam AFB, HI  
Det. 1 Fuchu AS, Japan  
Det. 3 Tan Son Nhut AB, South Vietnam  
Det. 4 Taegu AB, Korea  
Det. 5 Suwon AB, Korea  
Det. 7 Misawa AB, Japan  
Det. 11 Kunsan AB, Korea  
Det. 12 Andersen AFB, Guam

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency, U.S. Air Force, Maxwell AFB, Alabama.  
Unit yearbook. *McClellan AFB, CA, A Pictorial History*. 1982.