

62 AERIAL PORT SQUADRON



MISSION

The 62 Aerial Port Squadron operates a major aerial port and commercial extension for passenger/cargo movement on channel and contingency airlift missions worldwide, in which 370 personnel support all facets of air transportation. serves as the primary port for passenger and cargo shipments in the Pacific Northwest region and supports U.S. Transportation Command/Air Mobility Command missions for major exercises and deployments spanning the globe. The 62 APS administer contract oversight for both the aerial delivery mission, including the rigging, loading and recovering of airdrop equipment, as well as the Patriot Express mission from Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. The squadron develops and deploys mission-ready Airmen to establish non-fixed terminals at airfields in remote locations supporting overseas contingency operations. Rigs drop platforms in support of wing's unilateral airdrop training mission. Provides all DoD traffic management services.

LINEAGE

62 Air Terminal Squadron
Redesignated 62 Aerial Port Squadron, Jul 1964

STATIONS

McChord AFB, WA, 18 Jun 1960

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Maj Thomas C. Hammond

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

On 18 June 1960, the 62d Air Terminal Squadron was established to replace the 1705 ATS at McChord AFB, WA. The 62 ATS was assigned under the 62d Troop Carrier Wing, transporting United Nations troops and supplies to the Congo in 1960. The Wing also supported scientific stations in the Arctic Ocean by air landing and airdropping supplies on the drifting ice through 1962.

In 1963 the 62d Troop Carrier Wing assumed responsibility for worldwide airlift of nuclear weapons and associated equipment. In Jul 1964, the 62 ATS was designated as the 62 APS and was assigned to the Deputy Commander for Operations.

The squadron has been involved with:

- 1964: Aerial Delivery (AD) mission.
- 1971: Airlift responsibilities for the Minuteman missiles from the depots to operating sites.
- 1972: Supported Presidential trips to China and the Soviet Union.
- Feb - Apr 1973: Transported former prisoners of war from North Vietnam to the Philippines and US.
- 1973: Transported UN troops from Indonesia to Israel and Egypt for peacekeeping efforts.
- 1975 – 1977: Supported a detachment of C-130Es in the Panama Canal Zone to support USAF needs in Central and South America.
- 1983: Airlifted troops and supplies during and after the invasion of Grenada and airlifted university students to safety.
- 1988: Inspected and loaded equipment used by nuclear arms inspectors to the Soviet Union under terms of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.
- 1988: Transported firefighters and supplies to Wyoming to combat major forest fires in Yellowstone National Park.
- 1989: Participated in the airdrop of heavy equipment and personnel during military action in Panama.
- 1991: Supported Operation DESERT SHIELD, moving personnel and equipment to Southwest Asia. 62 APS Airmen also forward deployed to Zaragoza, Spain, directing cargo and personnel destined for Saudi Arabia

- 1991: Facilitated the evacuation of Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Station following the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines.
- 1992: Loaded relief supplies for: Guam following Typhoon Omar; Hawaii following Hurricane Iniki; Florida following Hurricane Andrew; Somalia; the former Yugoslavia; and the former Soviet Union.
- 1994: Dispatched personnel to deliver equipment and supplies in support of Operation SUPPORT HOPE in Rwanda.
- 1995: Deployed to the US Virgin Islands following Hurricane Marilyn and to Bosnia in support of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.
- 1997: delivered relief supplies to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, following torrential rains spawned by Typhoon Linda.
- 1998: Delivered relief supplies for: Guam following Super Typhoon Paka; Papua New Guinea following tidal waves; Changsha, China following severe flooding; and Nairobi, Kenya following the bombing of the US Embassy.
- 2001, Following the September 11, 2001 attacks, the Eagle Port has been heavily deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF), Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF), Operation NOBEL EAGLE, and Operation INFINITE JUSTICE.
- 2004-2005: Dispatched to load emergency relief supplies to areas throughout Southeast Asia in response to the tsunami that struck on 26 December 2004.
- 2005: Aided in relief efforts of Hurricane Katrina, helping evacuate more than 1,100 people from New Orleans and delivering more than 550 tons of equipment, water, food, and medical supplies.
- 2011: Instrumental in providing aid for: Operation TOMODACHI, the Japanese tsunami relief efforts; and Operation PACIFIC PASSAGE, the repatriation of 2,600 family members stationed at military bases throughout Japan to safe-haven locations in the US
- 2012: Loaded and transported electrical utility vehicles and the Army's 227th Preventative Medicine Medical Detachment to the US East Coast, aiding in Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

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. 62 Troop Carrier Wing, McChord AFB, WA, 1962. Army and Navy Publishing Co., Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1962.