



180TH FIGHTER WING

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

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“What makes my job extremely enjoyable is that I don’t have to advertise the greatness of the 180FW. Our reputation speaks for itself, and our state and national leaders highlight that reputation on a regular basis.

The high standard we set must be upheld, and we will continue to work to maintain it. With our reputation comes some responsibility, we will be the first called when combatant commanders need a high-speed unit to deploy or when they are looking for a wing to lead a training event or other effort, they are going to come to the 180FW, and we must be ready.”

~ Col. Chad E. Holesko

COMMANDER'S STATEMENT

ABOUT US

The 180FW is made up of more than 1,300 Airmen, supporting six main organizations within the wing, ensuring our continued mission success.

FIGHTER WING HEADQUARTERS

The FW/HQ section is made up of 65 Airmen supporting the functions of Commanders Support Staff, Judge Advocate, Comptroller, Chaplains, Command Post, Military Equal Opportunity, Human Resource Advisor, Director of Psychological Health, Sexual Assault and Prevention, Ground and Flying Safety, Inspector General and Public Affairs.



OPERATIONS GROUP

The Operations Group, including the 112th Fighter Squadron and the 180th Operations Support Squadron, is made up of 93 Airmen and fighter pilots supporting the offices of Commanders Support Staff, Airfield Management, Aviation Resource Management, Intelligence and Air Crew Flight Equipment. The OG establishes and manages the operations of the command and control centers and customer focal point of all aviation mission requirements.

MISSION SUPPORT GROUP

The Mission Support Group section is made up of 350+ Airmen supporting the functions of Commanders Support Staff, Mission Support Group Headquarters, Force Support Squadron, Civil Engineer Squadron, Logistic Readiness Squadron, Security Forces Squadron, Communication Flight, Airman and Family Readiness and Base Contracting.



MEDICAL GROUP

The Medical Group is made up of 56 Airmen supporting medical administrative functions including medical support, medical operations, force health management, force health protection and healthcare management. The Medical Group consists of Medical Administration, Aerospace Medicine, Medical Technicians and Nursing Services, Optometry, Public Health, Bio-environmental Engineering, Dental Services and the 112th Fighter Squadron Medical Element.

MAINTENANCE GROUP

The Maintenance Group is made up of 430+ Airmen supporting the functions of Commanders Support Staff, Fabrication, Quality Assurance, Munitions, Avionics, Propulsion, Aerospace Ground Equipment, Accessories, Phase Maintenance, Weapons, Maintenance Operations, F-16 Mechanics and Sortie Production.



AEROSPACE CONTROL ALERT

The 180FW Aerospace Control Alert mission is made up of 24 Airmen, supporting maintenance on the F-16 with Crew Chiefs, Weapons and Avionics personnel. The ACA team executes 24/7 operations, protecting the homeland in support of the NORAD Homeland Defense mission. Aerospace Control Alert continuously works with HHQ, FAA and Civil Air Patrol to maintain readiness in support of their homeland defense mission.



OUR LOCATION

Located at the Eugene F. Kranz Toledo Express Airport in Northwest Ohio, the 180FW is strategically positioned for future endeavors to include Total Force and joint-basing initiatives. As the U.S. transitions from more than 25 years of war into a world with an uncertain and changing future, the need for a joint, integrated military force will continue to be essential for success.

With nearly 60% of the U.S. population residing within a 600-mile radius of Toledo, including vital infrastructure, key centers of gravity and international airports, Northwest Ohio offers convenient access to a multi-modal transportation hub, including an extensive interstate highway system, one of the most active railroad centers in the country and one of the largest seaports on the Great Lakes.

The Port of Toledo is an important industrial, commercial and transportation center for the north-central U.S.

Situated on 135 acres, the 180FW base and infrastructure have been designed and constructed to support the current and future fighter aircraft needed for America's security and defense. The base is fully capable of supporting fighter aircraft operations and maintenance with little or no expansion.

The installation development plan has incorporated potential and future missions, while accommodating the current aircraft with minimal impact. In the event of future and joint missions, the base has the ability to accommodate additional functions within its existing footprint, but also has ample, suitable land available to expand.

YEAR IN REVIEW

2023 was a great year for the 180th Fighter Wing. All of the hard work and dedication from each of our Stinger Airmen contributed to our success.

When compared to other F-16 units, we continue to set the bar with our maintenance capabilities to maintain a healthy fleet of aircraft. 180FW Airmen are committed to mission readiness and continue to demonstrate these skills every day.

Throughout the year, we flew over 3,000 sorties totaling more than 5,200 flying hours, while also deploying over 400 Airmen to six countries around the globe. These deployments allowed Airmen to work in joint environments, enhance their skills, abilities and mission readiness.

Early in the year, upwards of 250 Airmen supported a home station Operation NOBLE EAGLE, a joint North American and Canadian Air defense mission. Throughout the three-month tasking, the 180FW flew over 130 sorties resulting in more than 730 flying hours in defense of our nation.

May brought the Medical Group to U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Marine Corps Base Camp Foster in Okinawa, Japan for annual training. While at Camp Foster, the Medical Group was able to complete necessary training requirements to maintain mission readiness, while also working in a joint environment to help fill in personnel gaps during prime Personal Change of Station season at the base. 180FW Airmen surpassed 2,400 clinical hours and provided over 450 patients with care ranging from dental needs to public health inspections to labor and delivery.

In August, more than 90 Airmen and six F-16s traveled to Volk Field Air National Guard Base, at Camp Douglas, Wisconsin to participate in Operation Northern Lightning. Northern Lightning is an annual event that spans two weeks with the focus of providing a joint training environment to replicate today's battle space with current and future weapons platforms. The 180FW flew 80 sorties resulting in over 100 flying hours, allowing Airmen to train with other units and services, integrating capabilities, sharpening skills and maintaining

readiness and lethality of all participants across the force.

More than 20 Airmen traveled to the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne, Indiana in November to culminate a year of Agile Combat Employment (ACE) training. ACE training prepared Airmen for rapid deployment with fewer people being present in austere environments. With ACE in mind, 180FW Airmen trained in areas outside of their primary skill sets to be able to recover, reload, refuel, relaunch and defend the aircraft. ACE also allowed Airmen to gain an understanding of other maintenance career fields. The training posed challenges for the Airmen, requiring them to step-up and grow into leadership positions, and train others in their specialized career field.

At home, maintenance personnel in the wing were able to address and navigate a significant maintenance issue, affecting all F-16s fleet-wide, the structural degradation of the canopy sill longeron (CSL). Over the year, maintenance teams have trained with engineers and earned certifications to conduct these repairs a home station. The 180FW is the first wing in the entire Air Force to achieve this manufacturer certification and have successfully repaired four CSLs to date.

The wing also hosted the second annual Stinger 5k, bringing more than 1,000 community members to our base to participate in a unique race down the aircraft tarmac, showcasing our Airmen, facilities and aircraft.

To round off the year, the wing and the Aircraft Maintenance Squadron earned the Ohio National Guard Award of Excellence. It is an all encompassing award that highlights mission readiness at the wing and squadron levels of the Ohio National Guard.

All of our accomplishments are a direct reflection of our Airmen who set the highest standard and continuously strive to go above and beyond.



ALWAYS ON MISSION

To provide for America; protection of the homeland, effective combat power and defense support to civil authorities, while developing Airmen, supporting their families and serving in the community.

The 180FW has access to multiple military operating airspace and air-to-ground gunnery ranges perfectly suited for the capabilities of the F-16 Fighting Falcon.

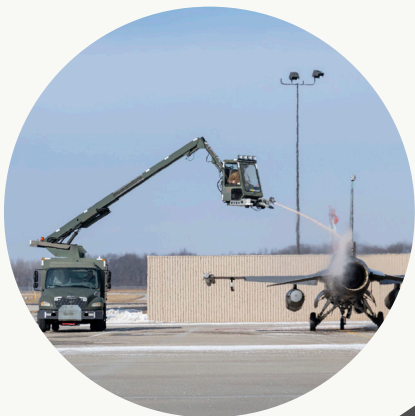
Centrally located with access to three major airspace complexes, the 180FW regularly uses the Buckeye/Brushcreek airspace in southern Ohio, the Alpena airspace complex in Northern Michigan, and the Indiana Air Range Complex in Southeast Indiana.

These locations afford our fighter pilots the opportunity to train and employ in flight regimes essential

for exploiting the full capabilities of the F-16 including supersonic, chaff/flare, and electronic attack training with full radar ground control intercept and Link-16 data link capability. The Alpena complex features two Joint Threat Emitters that simulate adversary surface-to-air missile sites.

This greatly enhances threat awareness training when coupled with the Sniper SE and Litening Gen4 advanced targeting pods and High-Speed Anti-Radiation Missile Targeting System.

Furthermore, the Stinger MOA utilized on an annual basis provides invaluable close-to-Toledo airspace for air combat basic training maneuvers and close air support tactics which increases training value by maximizing mission execution time and reducing transit costs.



With access to two aerial gunnery ranges in Michigan and Indiana, 180FW pilots are able to employ precision guided and ballistic air-to-ground munitions including rockets, gunnery, and all sizes of conventional bombs.

Access to these ranges ensures our fighter pilots remain proficient in employing the active electronically scanned array radar during the accomplishment of its air interdiction, close air support, and air defense missions.

To stay ready and razor sharp in its execution of the 24/7 aerospace control alert mission, the 180FW conducts monthly training exercises in the surrounding national airspace regions to enhance command and control and air traffic control integra-

tion with fighter escort for its alert intercept mission.

Utilizing airspace and ranges that are geographically separated with diverse weather patterns provide significant flexibility in daily operations. This varied airspace frequently allows the wing to find favorable weather conditions on short notice when the opposite location experiences poor weather, further enhancing training opportunities while ensuring mission requirements are met.

To further enhance realistic combat training scenarios, the 180FW opened the F-16 Mission Training Center in 2021, which serves as a fully operational 4-ship F-16 simulator designed to put pilots in simulated combat anywhere in the world while remotely connected to other aircraft and entities through the

CONT. MISSION



FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

The 180FW Fire & Emergency Services Department provides sole, 24-hour emergency response for the Eugene F. Kranz Toledo Express Airport and responded to 117 emergencies within their primary response district in 2023, including 52 medical calls, 18 structural responses, five Vehicle responses, 19 stand by, two service calls, 79 mutual aid and 21 aircraft related emergencies. The department also provides support to the community through mutual aid agreements, responding to 79 mutual aid emergency requests, including 37 medical emergencies, 25 rescues, 16 structural fires, and one wild land fire, for a total of 196 emergencies.



PROPULSION ELEMENT

The 180FW Propulsion Element was the first to implement a Pratt and Whitney 229 and 220 engine contract field team, providing war-ready engines to Combatant Commanders by rebuilding and testing 215 engines and modules since 2010, in support of the Air Force and Air National Guard. These engines have been delivered to coalition partners and U.S. Air Force installations worldwide.



PRIMARY FUNCTION MULTI-ROLE FIGHTER

BUILDER
LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP.

POWER PLANT
PRATT & WHITNEY
F100-PW-229

SPEED
1,500 MPH
MACH 2 AT ALTITUDE

THRUST
29,000 POUNDS

HEIGHT
16 FEET
10 INCHES

LENGTH
49 FEET
5.2 INCHES

WINGSPAN
32 FEET
10 INCHES

RANGE
> 2,100 NAUTICAL MILES,
2,425 MILES

MAX TAKEOFF WEIGHT
42,300 POUNDS



F-16 FIGHTING FALCON

F-16 CM
FIGHTING FALCON
BLOCK 42

ASSIGNMENTS
AIR COMBAT COMMAND
NORAD
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

CAPABILITIES
AIR DEFENSE
INTERDICTION
CLOSE AIR SUPPORT



ENERGY INDEPENDENCE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

The 180FW maintains an operational 1.6 megawatt solar field. Currently, the system produces nearly one-third of the installation's annual electrical requirements, in turn saving taxpayers an estimated \$200,000 each year. The solar field also reduces our dependence on coal by almost 600 tons, in turn, avoiding 1,700 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually. We continue to install energy-saving projects, including energy efficient heat pumps and LED lighting throughout our facilities.

In 2012, the 180FW became the first Air National Guard wing to fly routine training missions solely on bio-fuel as part of an Air Force testing plan to certify more than 40 aircraft models for bio-fuel use. Two 180FW aircraft were designated to test 100,000 gallons of bio-fuel as one of the final steps before taking the fuel main-stream and allowing the F-16 to use bio-fuel in unrestricted operations.

We have remained dedicated to the research, development and implementation of green energy programs at the base. Our sustainable energy projects have reduced our environmental footprint through a solar field, solar tracking arrays, roof mounted solar panels, bio-diesel and electric vehicles. Today, we are happy to report that it has achieved more than \$2 million in savings for the American taxpayer, minimizing our overall environmental impact.

The 180FW is committed to conducting its mission in a responsible manner to protect human health, natural resources and the environment.

This commitment goes beyond simply complying with the law; it encompasses the integration of sound

environmental information and practices into our daily decisions and activities. Our wing strives for full compliance with voluntary industry standards including International Standards Organization 14001 Environmental Management Systems. We continue to provide training on the Air Force Enterprise Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Management Information System, enhancing management, tracking and disposal of hazardous materials and waste, and universal wastes.

The Air Program Information Management System allows electronic record keeping for electrical generator usage, jet engine test cell usage, painting operations, above-ground storage tank inspections, refrigerant management and storm water management inspections, further ensuring the wing's compliance with Air Force, state and federal laws and regulations.

Our wing is continuing an investigation of the impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl compounds found in fire-extinguishing agents and will continue monitoring wells and testing soil samples to determine the presence or absence of these compounds at the installation.

The 180FW is committed to Air Force policy directives 90-8 and 32-70 priorities which include, environmental compliance: maintaining compliance with federal, state, local, Department of Defense and Air Force regulations and policy; risk management: preserving resources and preventing pollution; continuous improvement enhancing the mission while minimizing environmental risk.



ECONOMIC IMPACT



\$62 Million



\$26 Million



\$17 Million

During fiscal year 2023, the 180FW contributed more than \$100 million in both direct and indirect economic support to the overall economy.

More than \$37 million directly impacted the local economy through operational and construction expenses. More than \$62 million contributed to payroll expenses for our civilian and military personnel. The remaining balance was spent on new construction projects, supplies, maintenance and repair of existing facilities, support contracts and general base operations. The purpose of the Economic Impact Statement is to provide a brief summary of the wing's organization and resources.

This statement will provide an account of the contributions to the local economy for Fiscal Year 2023, Oct. 1, 2022 through Sept. 30, 2023.

Only 1.4% of the Ohio National Guard budget comes from the State of Ohio, the rest comes from federal funding. This money is essential to the maintenance of our facilities and helps secure

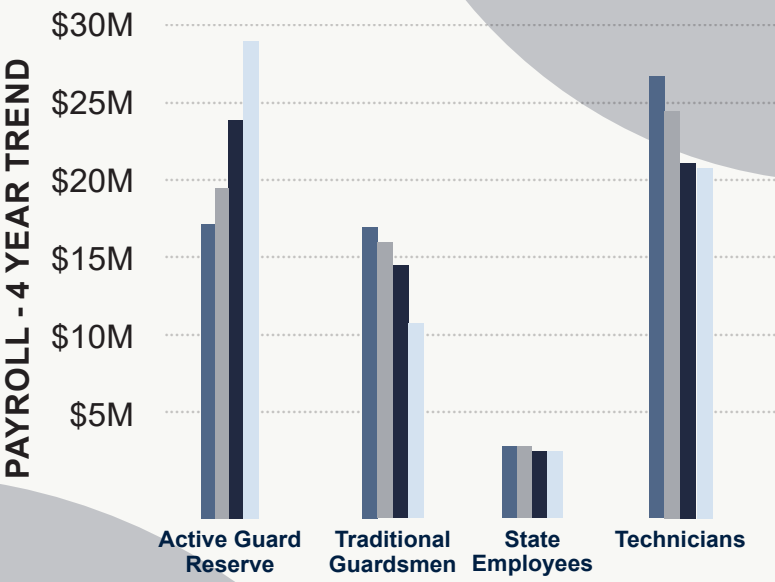
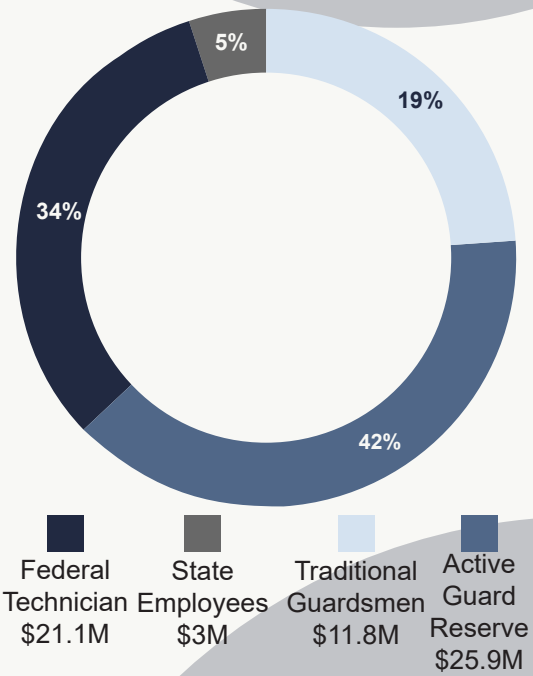
additional funds with a matching process from the federal government. The Ohio National Guard is a great deal, the annual state in-come tax revenue generated from the federal salaries of our traditional members and full-time employees offsets the amount of state funding we receive, meaning the ONG pays for itself!

The Department of Defense contributes billions of dollars to state economies through the operation of military installations.

This spending helps sustain local communities by creating employment opportunities, both directly and indirectly. Military and civilian employees spend their military wages on goods and services produced locally, while pensions and other benefits provide retirees and dependents a reliable source of income.

States and communities also benefit from defense contracts with private companies for equipment, supplies, construction and various services such as health care and information technology.

Personnel Classification	Number of Personnel	Payroll
Active Guard Reserve	278	\$25,950,000
Traditional Guardsmen	800	\$11,800,000
State Employees	36	\$3,123,300
Technicians	193	\$21,168,100
Total	1,307	\$62,041,400



PAYROLL CLASSIFICATION

OUR FACILITIES

The 180FW boasts a 10,600 foot primary runway, over 60,000 square yards of aircraft parking and ramp space and a fully renovated aircraft maintenance hangar with more than 63,700 square feet available for aircraft parking and maintenance.

In 2020, the wing completed construction of both a \$9 million aircraft hangar and the \$3.5 million Deployment Processing and Fitness Center. The wing also completed construction that re-purposed an aged facility, creating a \$4.3 million immersive flight simulator facility.

The 29,000 square foot aircraft hangar replaces the four temporary canvas hangars, erected in 2008, supporting the wing's NORAD Aerospace Control Alert and NORTHCOM Homeland Defense missions.

The 11,000 square foot Deployment Processing and Fitness Center will be used to support joint staging, troop reception and forward deployment movement and integration in support of overseas and domestic military operations.

Not only does the 180FW maintain more than 429,000 square feet of facilities, an aircraft arresting system for the runway and 135 acres of land with over than 200 acres available for future expansion.

In addition to the main, 63,700 square foot, aircraft hangar, the wing is seeking funding to construct a \$5.4 million Weapons Load Crew training hangar.

The 180FW also performs vehicle and Aircraft Ground Equipment, or AGE, maintenance and is seeking funding for a \$5.6 million combined AGE maintenance facility to consolidate and upgrade our current facilities.

The base and supporting infrastructure, have been designed and constructed to support the current fighter aircraft needs for America's security and defense. Our base master plan accommodates potential future missions (joint basing, emergency operations, etc) in addition to contemporary 180FW operations.



2023 DEPLOYMENTS

OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE, HOMESTATION
260 AIRMEN

VOLK FIELD CRTIC, WI
98 AIRMEN

CAMP FOSTER, JAPAN
32 AIRMEN

FORT WAYNE, IN
25 AIRMEN

TULSA, OK
5 AIRMEN

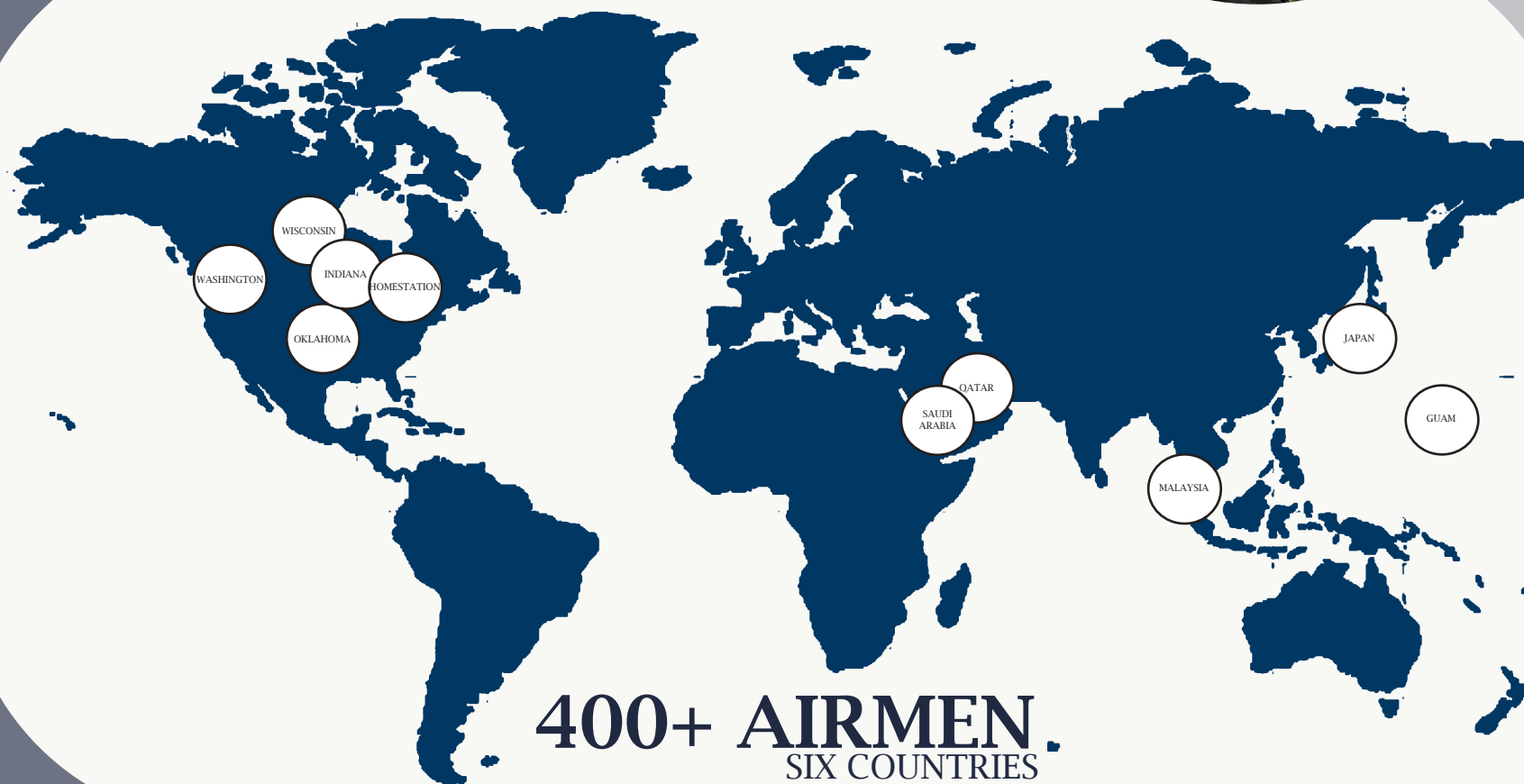
PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE, SAUDI ARABIA
5 AIRMEN

ANDERSON AIR BASE, GUAM
1 AIRMAN

FAIRCHILD, WA
1 AIRMAN

AL UDEID AIR BASE, QATAR
1 AIRMAN

SULTAN ABDUL AZIZ IAP, MALAYSIA
1 AIRMAN



400+ AIRMEN
SIX COUNTRIES

WING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2011

- Aerospace Control Alert Unit of the Year
- Chuck Smith Environmental, Safety & Occupational Health Award
- Air Force Reducing Energy Appreciation Award

2012

- Retention Manager of the Year | National Guard Bureau Region Five & Ohio National Guard

2013

- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation | Best seen-to-date & Benchmark Operations Identified
- Mission Ready - Alert Force Operational Assessment
- 99.6% Compliance Rating - Air Combat Command Combined Unit Inspection
- Excellent Rating - Logistics Compliance Assessment Program

2014

- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation | Best seen-to-date & Benchmark Operations Identified
- Mission Ready - Alert Force Operational Assessment
- Safety Office of the Year | Air National Guard
- First Sergeant of the Year | 1st Air Force
- 1st Place - Photojournalism | National Guard Media Awards

2015

- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Effective Rating | Air Combat Command Combined Unit Inspection | 29 Superior Performers & five Superior Performance Teams Identified
- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation | Best seen-to-date & Benchmark Operations Identified
- 3rd Place - Digital Publication | Air Force Media Awards
- 1st Place - Digital Publication | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Layout & Design | National Guard Media Awards

2016

- Mission Support Group of the Year | National Guard Association of the U.S.
- Effective Rating | Air Combat Command Sortie Production Assessment
- 3rd Place - Military Photographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Photo Story | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Operational Documentation | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Long-Form Video Production | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Feature Article | National Guard Media Awards

2017

- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Excellent Mission Capable Rate | Air National Guard
- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation | Template for all ACA units to follow
- Mission Ready - Alert Force Operational Assessment
- Outstanding Individual Occupational Safety Award | Air National Guard
- 1st Place - Journalist of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Training Video | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Digital Art | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Identity Design | National Guard Media Awards
- 3rd Place - Digital Publication | National Guard Media Awards
- 3rd Place - Training Video | Air Force Media Awards

2018

- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Excellent Mission Capable Rate | Air National Guard
- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation
- Mission Ready - Alert Force Operational Assessment
- Recruiting and Retention Manager of the Year | Ohio Air National Guard
- 1st Place - Journalist of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Feature Story | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Videographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards

2019

- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Mission Ready - 1st Air Force Alert Force Evaluation
- Mission Ready - Alert Force Operational Assessment
- Effective Rating | Air Combat Command Combined Unit Inspection | 20 Superior Performers & three Superior Performance Teams Identified
- 1st Place - Military Writer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Feature Story | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Photographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Videographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Video Spot | National Guard Media Awards
- Inspector General Gen. Flynn Award & Gen. Jones Award

2020

- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- 1st Place - Feature Photo | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photo Series | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photojournalism | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Video Documentation | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Multimedia Product | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Military Photographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Communicator/Writer of the Year | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Military Photographer of the Year | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Multimedia Product | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photo Illustration | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photo Series | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photojournalism | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Video Story | Ohio National Guard Media Awards

2021

- Meritorious Unit Award | U.S. Air Force
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
- Chief Albert Fitzpatrick Award for ANG Firefighter of the Year
- CMSgt Edward W. Wolbert Award, ANG Fire Chief's Association
- U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. John P. Flynn Inspector General Award
- Air National Guard's Maj. Gen. Junius W. Jones Inspector General Award
- Lt Gen Howard W. Leaf Inspector General Award
- Lt. Gen. Loh with the Director of Safety Special Achievement Award
- 2nd Place - Feature Photo | National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Photo Illustration | National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Feature Photo | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Military Photographer of the Year | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - News Photo | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photo Illustration | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - Photo Series | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Video Documentation B-Roll | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Video Story | Ohio National Guard Media Awards

2022

- 1st Place Feature Photo | National Guard Bureau Media Awards
- 3rd Place Military Photographer of the Year | National Guard Media Awards
- Director of Safety Special Achievement Award | Air National Guard
- "Valid Yes" Rating | ACC Readiness Exercise
- "Mission Ready" Rating | Alert Forces Evaluation

2023

- Wing Award of Excellence | Ohio National Guard
- Maintenance Award of Excellence | Ohio National Guard
- 3rd Place - Feature Photo | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Photojournalism | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 2nd Place - Video Documentation B-Roll | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- 1st Place - News Photo | Ohio National Guard Media Awards
- Tech. Sgt. Austin Bly State Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year | Ohio National Guard



WING HISTORY

The 180th Fighter Wing was formed in October 1995, but its origins stretch back to Aug. 18, 1917 when the 112th Aero Squadron was organized as a supply unit at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas. Later, in 1927, the 112th moved to the Cleveland Hopkins Airport, Ohio, where they became known as the 112th Observation Squadron, flying a wide range of aircraft throughout the late 1920s and 1930s including the PT-1, BT-1, the O-2 and the O-11.

In 1940, the unit was regrouped as the 112th Liaison Squadron. During that time, the 112th was activated in support of World War II and Lt. Col. Addison Baker, a B-24 Liberator pilot received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions during the raids on the oil fields at Ploesti, Romania. After the war, the unit was reorganized as the 112th Bombardment Squadron (Light), flying Douglas A-26 Invaders and activated at Lawson Field, Georgia, in support of the Korean Conflict in 1950. After the conflict ended, the unit returned to Ohio as an Air National Guard Fighter Bomber Squadron flying F-51 Mustangs at the Akron-Canton Airport.

Several more reorganizations and aircraft conversions took place over the next 20 years. The unit moved to Toledo as a Fighter Interceptor Squadron and converted to the F-84 E/F Thunderjet model aircraft in 1958. Then, the unit became the 112th Tactical Fighter Squadron in 1958 and was activated for the Berlin Crisis in 1961. The following year, the 112FS became part of the newly formed 180th Tactical Fighter Group. In 1970, the 180th TFG transitioned from the F-84 to the F-100 Super Sabre and then to the A-7 Corsair in 1979. In 1992, the 180th received its first F-16 Fighting Falcon just before being renamed the 180th Fighter Wing in 1995.

Over the years, members of the 180FW and the 112FS have answered the call to duty, supporting several contingencies including Operation Just Cause in 1989, Operations Desert Storm and Desert Shield in 1991. In 1994, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 unit members volunteered to enforce no-fly-zones over Iraq in support of Operation Provide Comfort, Operation Northern Watch and Operation Southern Watch.

Following the horrific events of Sept. 11, 2001, unit members volunteered to support both Operation

Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in 2005 and Operation Iraqi Freedom again in 2007 and 2008. In 2013, the wing deployed for the first time to Djibouti, Africa, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In 2016, the wing deployed more than 250 Airmen, along with our F-16 fighter jets, to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, to promote stability and security throughout the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and safeguard our national interests abroad by providing influence and deterrence through force presence. In 2018, nearly 300 Airmen and 12 F-16s deployed to Amari Air Base, Estonia as part of a Theater Security Package, in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve. The Airmen of the 180FW helped build readiness, increase interoperability and enhance the bonds between ally and partner militaries with multinational training events, allowing for a faster response in the event of any aggression by a regional adversary against NATO sovereign territory. In 2019, the 180FW deployed more than 360 Airmen and 180 tons of equipment to nine locations throughout the world to include: Afghanistan, Antarctica, Qatar, Serbia, South Korea, Alaska, Florida, Georgia and Utah.

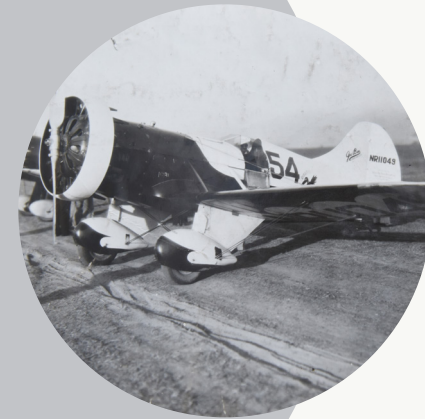
In 2020, we deployed more than 400 Stinger Airmen to six countries around the world, including a 300 person, 12 aircraft combat package to support an Aerospace Expeditionary deployment to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. The deployments were in support of Operation Resolute Support, enhancing our nation's national security objectives.

In 2021, over 130 Airmen deployed to three countries around the world including Morocco, Saudia Arabia and the United States in support of Exercise African Lion, Operation Spartan Shield, Operation Allies Welcome and Annual Training missions. In 2022, nearly 270 Airmen deployed to seven countries across the world to support missions in Guam, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan, Italy, Germany, and the United States.

Activated in October 2008, the Air Sovereignty Alert mission became the latest mission at the 180FW. Today, the mission is known as Aerospace Control Alert, after the mission underwent an official name change in July 2011, to more accurately depict the

mission. Directly supporting Operation Noble Eagle, the 180FW aids in the protection of the continental U.S. and Canada under the direction of the North American Air Defense Command, or NORAD. Since the activation of the mission at the 180FW, ACA has responded to more than 1,257 events, totaling more than 3,441 flying hours in support of ONE.

The ACA team continues to excel at the nation's number one priority, our 24/7 mission, year after year, earning the highest possible "Mission Ready" NORAD Command inspection ratings for both Alert Forces Evaluations and Alert Forces Operational Assessments in 2009, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2017, 2019 and 2021. The 180FWACA was the first unit to ever win the 1st Air Force ACA Unit of the Year title, two consecutive years in a row, in 2010 and 2011. Our ACA team has produced several 1st Air Force level individual award winners over the years, to include Pilot of the Year in 2011, Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in 2009, Noncommissioned Officer of the Year in 2009 and 2011, Maintainer of the Year for 2010 and Command Post Controller of the Year in 2010, 2011 and 2012. Additionally, a 180FW Airman was selected as the 1st Air Force First Sergeant of the Year for 2014. In 2015, a 180FW Airman was selected as the 2015 Security Forces Aerospace Control Alert Airman of the Year. In 2017, the team earned the Air National Guard Outstanding Individual Occupational Safety Award. The team's continued excellence has earned them the full confidence of the continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command Region Commander when he stated "the 180FW is the benchmark for these operations." In the future, the 180FW and the 112FS will continue to be major contributors to the nation's air superiority. Proving that the 180FW remains the first choice for the fight, our Stingers remain dedicated to enhancing their skills by conducting realistic training in realistic environments, guaranteeing the wing is always ready when called.





FOLLOW US

 180TH FIGHTER WING

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