



## FACT SHEET

### UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

## 934th AIRLIFT WING

The 934th Airlift Wing, also known as the “Global Vikings,” is Minnesota’s only Air Force Reserve unit. It is a combat-ready Air Force Reserve Command flying unit, which serves as the Department of Defense’s host for Army, Navy, Marine and Air National Guard units at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

**Mission:** The wing’s mission is to fly C-130H3 cargo aircraft, both airdropping and airlanding cargo and people. Aeromedical evacuation of patients within the theater of operations is another facet of the mission. The 934th Airlift Wing supports the Air Force mission on a daily basis, providing airlift both in the United States and around the world. Upon mobilization orders, the 934th Airlift Wing would deploy to become part of the active duty Air Force’s Air Mobility Command.

**Units:** To accomplish its mission, the 934th Airlift Wing is made up of 14 units, including a headquarters section. They are: the 96th Airlift Squadron, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron, 934th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 934th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 934th Maintenance Squadron, 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, 934th Force Support Squadron, 934th Security Forces Squadron, 934th Communications Flight, 934th Maintenance Operations Flight, and 934th Operations Support Squadron.

**Command:** The 934th Airlift Wing reports to 22d Air Force at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga. It is responsible for more than 300 acres around the airport, and directly or indirectly supports approximately 5,000 members of the Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command, Minnesota Air National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve and Civil Air Patrol.

**People:** To assist the wing commander in his day-to-day responsibilities, the base has both Air Reserve Technicians and federal civil service employees assigned to various wing units. About 1,400 reservists from primarily a five-state area are assigned to the 934th Airlift Wing.

**Impact:** The 934th Airlift Wing obligated more than \$56 million in Air Force Reserve and civil servant salaries in fiscal year 2009. It spent more than \$37.8 million in operations, maintenance and other service contract and indirectly created more than \$32.8 million in jobs for the community. Add all these facets together and that is more than \$126 million economic impact the 934th Airlift Wing coordinated to the Twin Cities area in 2009.

**Aircraft:** In January, 1970, the first C-130A Hercules cargo transport aircraft were delivered to the 934th Tactical Airlift Group. In 1986 the squadron converted to the C-130E and used this aircraft until 2003 when the unit began flying the C-130H2. After an aircraft swap with Niagara Air Reserve Station, N.Y. in June 2008, the unit now flies eight C-130H3 models.



**History:** The military has had active units at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport since 1948.

- May 25, 1943: 96th Airlift Squadron constituted at Baier Army Air Field, Ind.
- 1948-1978: 934th Troop Carrier Group (consists of 934th Material, 934th Combat Support and the 96th Troop Carrier Squadrons) placed under the command of the 440th Troop Carrier Wing, Milwaukee, Wis.
- Feb. 11, 1963: 934th Tactical Airlift Group activated at Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport.
- June 1970, Group moved to its present location on the north side of the airport.
- April 1, 1978: Group placed under the command of the 442nd Tactical Airlift Wing, Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Mo.
- Oct. 1, 1981: Group transferred to the 433rd Tactical Airlift Wing, Kelly AFB, Texas.
- April 1, 1985: Group placed under command of the 302nd TAW, Peterson AFB, Colo.
- Dec. 31, 1987: Group placed under command of the 403rd TAW, Keesler AFB, Miss.
- June 1, 1992: Group placed under the 302nd TAW again
- Oct. 1, 1994: Group designated a wing

**Operation Support:** In February 2007, more than 150 members were deployed to Southwest Asia as part of Air Expeditionary Force 5/6. Currently, 934th aircraft and people deploy for Operation CORONET OAK to perform missions from Puerto Rico to the entire SOUTHCOM theater. Other operations the unit has supported include:

- JUST CAUSE -- *Panama*, 1989
- DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM -- *Persian Gulf, England, Spain and United States* (provided aircrew, aeromedical, aircraft maintenance, medical, aerial port and support people), 1990-1991
- PROVIDE PROMISE -- *Bosnia-Herzegovina*, 1992-1994
- RESTORE HOPE -- *Somalia*, 1993
- SAFE HAVEN -- *Guantanamo Bay, Cuba* (provided one of the first aircraft for airlift of Cuban refugees to Howard Air Force Base, Panama) August 1994
- SOUTHERN WATCH -- *Saudi Arabia*, 1996
- JOINT GUARD -- *Bosnia*, 1996-1997
- SOUTHERN WATCH -- *Southwest Asia*, 1998
- ENDURING/IRAQI FREEDOM -- *Southwest Asia*, March 2003-March 2005, January-August 2009
- IN-CONUS MOBILITY OF PATIENTS
- AIR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
- OPERATION CORONET OAK
- OPERATION JOINT ENTERPRISE
- OPERATION NEW DAWN--IRAQ

#### **Recent Unit Awards:**

2012: AFRC Outstanding Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight  
2011: AFRC Installation Excellence Award  
2010: AFRC Port Dawg Challenge  
2009: 22nd Air Force's Aerial Port Roundup winner  
2008: AFRC Airman, Family Readiness Program of Year Award  
2008: Services Wartime Assessment Training Comp. winner  
2008: AFRC Air Transportation Unit of the Year Award  
2007: Earned its sixth Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (previous AOUA awarded for 1988-1990, 1981-1983, 1994-1996 and 1999-2000)  
2006: Innkeeper Award for the best lodging facility in the Air Force -- the North Country Lodge  
2006: Air Force Reserve In and Out Award for the best consolidated clubs in the Air Force Reserve  
2005: Air Force Reserve Command Gen. Thomas D. White Environmental Quality Award  
2003: Air Force Reserve Command Installation Excellence Award

(Current as of Jan. 2013)