



NEWS RELEASE

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Combined Forces Air Component Command Airpower Statistics

Highlighted Decisive Airpower article:

Americans, British long-time partners united in Operation Enduring Freedom

by Staff Sergeant Alexandria Mosness

Air Forces Central Command Public Affairs

8/29/2012 - KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- The 62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron has a unique role where Airmen from the British Royal Air Force and the U.S. work together to support the intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission for Operation Enduring Freedom.

The primary mission of the 62nd is to launch and recover remotely piloted aircraft before handing over control to other locations in the United States such as Creech Air Force Base, Nev., or Cannon Air Force Base, N.M.

The crews use satellite feeds which allow the transfer of control between the pilots at Kandahar Airfield, and the crews stationed in the United States.



Air Force members of the 62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron, a coalition squadron operated by U.S. and Royal Air Force forces, taxi an MQ-9 Reaper at Kandahar Airfield June 25. The 62nd ERS mission is to launch and recover remotely piloted aircraft before handing over control to Creech Air Force Base, Nev. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Clay Lancaster)

"Our mission is to perform take off and landings, and then we hand over the controls to aircrew in the CONUS (Continental United States)," said Lt. Col. Russ, 62nd ERS commander. "One strength of RPAs is the great reach back capability. The aircraft can be controlled from home station for the majority of the mission. The landing and take offs must be performed in theater through line-of-sight antennas because there is a small delay with the satellite links that would be unsafe for these critical phases of flight."

The squadron works with two different types of RPAs, the MQ-9 Reaper and MQ-1 Predator.

The Reaper and Predator are armed, multi-mission, medium-altitude, long endurance remotely piloted aircraft employed primarily as intelligence collection assets and secondarily in a hunter/killer role against dynamic execution targets.

For the full article or to download high resolution photographs, visit:

<http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123315921>

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2007-2012 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED

As of 31 August 2012

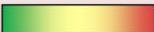
OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/International Security Assistance Force

Close Air Support

Sorties	
2009	27,815
2010	32,928
2011	34,286
2012	20,216

Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2009	1,733
2010	1,817
2011	1,981
2012	920

Number of Weapon Releases

Less Activity  More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	163	203	364	465	456	442	384	445	254	541	238	208	4,163
2010	157	154	175	197	300	457	325	415	740	1,043	866	272	5,101
2011	405	338	337	339	426	610	695	516	597	661	308	174	5,406
2012	170	116	224	251	404	521	503	409					2,598

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	11,202	16,193	18,898	28,747	38,198	23,546
Airlift Sorties	56,179	51,945	52,905	63,324	58,914	26,400
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	270,007	251,738	264,839	298,079	230,230	163,479
Airlift Passengers	1,177,533	1,269,710	1,301,740	1,369,002	1,114,376	521,865
OEF Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	8,182,066	16,576,297	32,267,606	60,400,000	75,956,235	27,262,283
Tanker Sorties	15,875	18,361	17,465	17,296	19,469	11,343
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	946	1,106	1,076	1,050	1,095	679
Aircraft Refueled	79,798	86,288	82,095	82,603	90,476	46,639
Medevac Sorties	-	-	-	3,712	2,959	3,489
Saves	-	-	-	1,888	1,611	940
Assists	-	-	-	2,964	2,121	1,351

-Data not available

POC: AFCENT (CAOC) Public Affairs – DSN 318-436-1624

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