



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Air Forces Central Command Public Affairs

Feb. 6, 2013

Release Number 1-2-13

Combined Forces Air Component Command Airpower Statistics

Highlighted Defend the Base article: FAST members provide much needed security at remote airfields

by Tech. Sgt. Raymond Hoy

U.S. Air Forces Central Command Public Affairs

2/4/2013 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- An aircraft commander has plenty to worry about while flying in potentially hostile environments: What are the landing conditions like; is there security at the landing site; are my crew and the aircraft safe; do I have enough fuel; do I have any mechanical issues?

Thanks to U.S. Air Forces Central Command fly-away security teams, or FAST, at least a couple of those concerns can be put to rest.

The FAST program was established in 2007 and is designed to provide discreet, low-visibility, fly away security for additional protection when needed aboard aircraft transiting the AFCENT theater of operations where security is unknown.

"On these missions, we are security police, ambassadors and humanitarians all at the same time," said Master Sgt. Chad Eagle, fly away security manager for the 609th Air Operations Center in Southwest Asia. "Many of the areas the teams fly into may have never had Americans and U.S. military aircraft in them, so what the Airmen do or how they act can make or break an area's perception of the United States."

"My favorite part about what I do would probably be getting to see all the different places around Afghanistan," said Senior Airman Bambi White, a FAST member assigned to the 451st Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. "It's great to be able to experience the different cultures."

The FAST program has teams on standby throughout the AFCENT theater, ready to go when called upon. Members provide security for the plane and its crew, in addition to distinguished visitors who sometimes travel aboard the aircraft. Based on the mission tasked, there could be a two-, three- or four-person team involved, according to Eagle.

"On average, I have about 10 teams projected to perform missions each day," said Eagle, a Warrenton, Va., native deployed from the 86th Security Forces Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. "They are important because without their presence, some missions wouldn't be able to succeed."

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

<http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123334925>



Senior Airman Bambi White provides security for a C-130J Super Hercules Dec. 5, 2012, at a forward operating base in Afghanistan. When an aircraft lands at locations with little to no security on the landing strip, fly-away security teams come along to provide additional protection for the aircraft and crew. White is with the 451st Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jonathan Snyder)

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2008-2013 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED

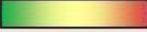
As of 31 January 2013

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/International Security Assistance Force

Close Air Support

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2009	27,815	2009	2,050
2010	32,928	2010	2,517
2011	34,282	2011	2,678
2012	28,640	2012	1,974
2013	1,677	2013	94

Number of Weapon Releases

Less Activity  More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	163	203	362	461	454	438	381	445	254	541	238	207	4,147
2010	156	154	175	197	300	457	325	416	739	1,043	866	272	5,100
2011	405	341	337	339	426	610	695	516	597	663	308	174	5,411
2012	170	116	227	252	406	521	504	588	385	414	297	202	4,082
2013	192												192

- Some figures may have changed due to data re-calculation and re-verification

Combined Data

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	16,193	18,898	28,747	38,198	34,937	2,723
Airlift Sorties	51,945	52,905	63,324	58,914	37,611	2,100
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	251,738	264,839	298,079	230,230	240,656	20,800
Airlift Passengers	1,269,710	1,301,740	1,369,002	1,114,376	730,358	51,700
OEF Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	16,576,297	32,267,606	60,400,000	75,956,235	36,365,283	2,000,000
Tanker Sorties	18,361	17,465	17,296	19,469	16,007	868
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	1,106	1,076	1,050	1,095	980	51
Aircraft Refuelings	86,288	82,095	82,603	90,476	67,020	3,542
Casualty Evacuation Sorties	-	-	3,712	2,959	2,171	58
Saves	-	-	1,888	1,611	1,187	25
Assists	-	-	2,964	2,121	1,646	41

- Data not available

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

For more information, click [here](http://www.afcent.af.mil) for the AFCENT web site (http://www.afcent.af.mil). Click [here](http://www.dvidshub.net) for the Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System web site (http://www.dvidshub.net). Call U.S. Air Forces Central Public Affairs Media Operations at commercial 011-974-4458-9555, then connect to DSN 436-1624, or email mu_afformediaops@afcent.af.mil.