



NEWS RELEASE

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Combined Force Air Component Command Airpower Statistics

Highlighted Decisive Airpower article:

U.S., Danish Air Forces makes history with joint airdrop mission

by Senior Airman Scott Saldukas

451st Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

3/6/2013 - KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- The U.S. and Danish Air Forces made history when the two nations came together for an airdrop over the skies of Southern Afghanistan Feb. 25.

While airdrop missions have been going on from the beginning of operations in Afghanistan, this mission marked the first that U.S. and Danish aircraft flew together to drop supplies.



U.S. and Danish Air Forces made history when the two nations came together for an airdrop over the skies of Southern Afghanistan Feb. 25. (Contributed photo)

"It's awesome that we finally got to do this with the Danish," said Maj. Marcus Lewis, 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130J pilot. "We didn't want to get overly excited because we tried to do this two times, but both missions were cancelled."

Lewis explained how the joint mission made perfect sense since both the U.S. and Danish Air Forces are taught and trained in the joint coalition atmosphere.

"Since I began pilot training in 1995, I've always been around and trained with the Danes," Lewis said. "We established these relationships long ago, so when we flew this mission it only felt natural. I thought it was flawless."

The Danish aircrew also felt the mission was a success and the "icing on the cake" in terms of their deployment coming to an end, said Lt. Col. Claus Caspersen, Danish Air Force pilot.

"We have done the airdrops, but this one was the best because we got to do it together before we leave soon," Caspersen said. "We go to the U.S. two times a year for training so this was easy. It's smooth when we work together because we both know what to expect from each other."

Maj. Daniel Hilferty, 771nd EAS Tactics chief, noted how the familiarity of working together builds strong ties.

"It's important to build strong coalition relationships because it translates to increased trust on the battlefield," Hilferty said. "Coalition training develops a mutual respect for each other's knowledge and capability, enabling us to execute combat missions with greater confidence."

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

<http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123338716>

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2008-2013 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED


As of 28 February 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	3,308	2013	209

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	193	292											485

- 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	5,002
Airlift Sorties	51,945	52,905	63,324	58,914	37,611	3,880
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	251,738	264,839	298,079	230,230	240,656	37,400
Airlift Passengers	1,269,710	1,301,740	1,369,002	1,114,376	730,358	93,500
OEF Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	16,576,297	32,267,606	60,400,000	75,956,235	36,365,283	3,600,000
Tanker Sorties	18,361	17,465	17,296	19,469	16,007	1,737
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	1,106	1,076	1,050	1,095	980	103
Aircraft Refuelings	86,288	82,095	82,603	90,476	67,020	7,378
Casualty Evacuation Sorties	-	-	3,712	2,959	2,171	85
Saves	-	-	1,888	1,611	1,187	40
Assists	-	-	2,964	2,121	1,646	61

- Data not available

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