

PROVEN

News From the World of the C-130

A month to remember and honor the fallen.

*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.*



250 and counting: C-130 program hits another milestone

On November 2 Lockheed Martin celebrated the rolling out of the 250th C-130J Super Hercules. This C-130J is destined for Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, which is scheduled to receive a total of 28 C-130Js. This aircraft is the 2,404th C-130 of all makes and models to be built in Marietta.

“The C-130 Hercules has been setting aviation records for nearly 60 years,” said Lorraine Martin, Lockheed Martin vice president for C-130 programs, at yesterday’s ceremony. “As the longest continuously operating military aircraft production line in history, the C-130 has

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*The 250th C-130J leaves the B-1 production building after the ceremony.
(Photo by Damien Guarneri)*

RAAF team wins international award

Team responsible for the coordination of the RAAF’s fleet to various disasters



Passengers board a RAAF C-130 Hercules aircraft on the all-weather concrete runway at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot in Southern Afghanistan. (Photo by LS Paul Berry)

A section of the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) has been honored with a top international aviation award for its response to flood and earthquake emergencies.

The Air Mobility Control Centre (AMCC), based at RAAF Richmond, west of Sydney, has been awarded the London-based Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators Grand Masters’ Australian Medal.

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Task Force Canuck completes mission in Kandahar

CC-130J Hercules journeys across Asia for friendly visit

By Lt. Christopher Daniel

8 Wing Public Affairs Officer

In a dusky twilight at Kandahar Airfield (KAF) on Nov. 16, airmen and airwomen of Task Force Canuck proudly stood on parade in front of the CC-130J Hercules aircraft as they completed their mission of transporting Canadian Forces personnel and equipment in and out of KAF and throughout Afghanistan in support of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

“The departure from Kandahar of the last remaining CC-130 Hercules aircraft after 10 years of continuous service in support of coalition forces in Afghanistan is a monumental milestone in Canadian Air Mobility Operations, as it marks the close-out of the longest continuous Tactical Airlift operation in the Royal Canadian Air Force history,” said Colonel Sean Friday, Commander 8 Wing.

The CC-130J Hercules, flown by 436 Transport Squadron (Sqn), departed Kandahar early in the morning of Nov. 17 and flew to India to pay tribute to 436 Sqn’s historical roots. “India was where 436 Squadron was formed as a Tactical Air Transport unit and where it conducted its first operational missions as an RCAF squadron,” said Lieutenant-Colonel Colin Keiver, Commanding Officer 436 Sqn. “It is fitting that it returns from its most recent and significant mission through the place where it began 67 years ago.”

During the visit, RCAF personnel met with their counterparts in the Indian Air Force for an enriching cultural exchange. Also, the visit allowed Canadian airmen and airwomen to pay tribute in a solemn ceremony of remembrance to the 15 RCAF veterans, who are interred at the Delhi War Cemetery. Delegations from 435 and 436 Squadrons, both formed in India during WW II in support of the China-Burma-India theatre, were in attendance as well as Canada’s High Commissioner, representation from other defence staffs, and the Indian Air Force.

On its way back home, the CC-130J Hercules aircraft, crew and passengers stopped in Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei,



Mr. Mackenzie Clugston, Canadian Ambassador to Indonesia, LCol Adrian Damanik, Head of Training and Operational Division at Halim Perdana Kusum Air Force Base, Col Michel Latouche, Canadian Defense Attache to Indonesia, and LCol Colin Keiver, CO 436 Squadron, share a light conversation in front of the CC-130J Hercules aircraft during the recent friendly visit of the Royal Canadian Air Force to Indonesia. (Photo courtesy Canadian Embassy, Indonesia)



Members of the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) and Indonesian Air Force pose together with Canadian Ambassador Mackenzie Clugston in front of the CC-130J Hercules aircraft during the recent friendly visit of the RCAF to Indonesia. (Photo courtesy Canadian Embassy, Indonesia)

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and the Philippines to meet with their air force counterparts in the region to help further boost the existing vibrant relations between our forces.

“We have dynamic and vibrant relations in Southeast Asia with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations,” said Colonel Michel Latouche, Canada’s Defence Attaché in Southeast Asia. “Canada welcomed this opportunity to have a Canadian aircraft visit in order to demonstrate its commitment to enhancing our cordial relations with the region.”

Canada’s relations with Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, and the Philippines have a long history of engaging in the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy, governance and pluralism. Counter-terrorism cooperation and capacity building is another key pillar of the bilateral relationship with those countries as well as their participation in Canada’s Military Training Cooperation Program (MTCPP).

The team is expected to arrive at CFB Trenton on Nov. 30 after its journey across the world.

“We take pride in having served in Kandahar and are truly honoured to be the first in the Royal Canadian Air Force to fly the CC-130J around the globe,” said LCol Keiver.



CWO Doug Stone (436 Sqn), LCol Richard Pamplin (CO 435 Sqn), LCol Colin Keiver (CO 436 Sqn), and Hon Col John Smylie (436 Sqn), pay tribute Nov 19 to Canadian veterans interred at the Delhi War Cemetery.



CWO Doug Stone (436 Sqn), LCol Richard Pamplin (CO 435 Sqn), LCol Colin Keiver (CO 436 Sqn), Hon Col John Smylie (436 Sqn), Hon Col Loreena McKennitt, with Delhi-based foreign defence staff, and officials of the Indian Air Force at a solemn ceremony of remembrance for Canadian veterans interred at the Delhi War Cemetery, Nov 19.



Sgt Jay Perry from 436 Squadron exchanges patch with Lt Adhe Irmansyah from the Indonesian Air Force, during the recent friendly visit of the Royal Canadian Air Force to Indonesia. (Photo courtesy Canadian Embassy, Indonesia)



Lieutenant Colonel R. Pamplin (CO 435 Sqn) presents on Nov 19 a photograph of the CC-130J Hercules aircraft to Mr. Stewart Beck, Canadian High Commissioner to India.



The Royals remember

On November 11 the City of Marietta, home to the C-130 production facility, hosted its annual Veterans Day Parade. At this year's parade the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) contingent was joined, for the first time, by a representative from the Royal Air Force (RAF). The picture shows left Major Allan MacKenzie, RCAF Detachment Commander CC-130J Lockheed Martin and right Squadron Leader Paul Meeghan, RAF C-130J Technical Liaison Officer Lockheed Martin. "It was good to join the Canadians and fly the flag along with the schools, legionnaires and reservists on this important day" said Meeghan. "It was good to see the veterans at Marietta Square but, sadly, war is more prevalent now and our young generation understand more and more what it's all about, so it was equally good to see them lining the roads, as well as participating in the parade. My last posting was as the senior engineer at RAF Honington where we train all of our RAF Regiment Ground Defence Soldiers. Whilst I was there, over a 12 month period, we lost 12 soldiers at Kandahar in Afghanistan, either from direct combat fire, rocket attacks or IEDs. Veterans Day, or Remembrance Day as we call it, is always a reflective and poignant time for me, as most of our soldiers are the same age as, or younger, than my own son and daughters." (Photo by David Key)

Exercise over Mount Fuji



C-130 Hercules cargo aircraft fly in formation during a training mission near Mount Fuji, Japan, as part of exercise Samurai Surge, Nov. 2, 2011. (Air Force photo by SSgt. Samuel Morse)

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always been the benchmark for airlift around the world. High demand for the C-130J Super Hercules continues as it is able to demonstrate its proven, multi-mission capabilities on a daily basis."

The C-130J program continues to deliver new capability to new countries and existing operators. India and Qatar recently joined the global C-130J operator family, while the U.S. Air Force recently received HC-130J personnel recovery and MC-130J special

operations aircraft. Aircraft are currently in production for the U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps, Iraq, Israel, Republic of Korea, Kuwait, Oman and Tunisia. C-130Js are also flown by Australia, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Norway, the United Kingdom and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Lil' Bill rolls out for Veterans Day



Lil' Bill makes his way down Auto Mall Parkway in D'Iberville, Miss. during the Gulf Coast Veterans Day Parade Nov. 12. Lil' Bill is a scale model of the 403rd Wing's C-130J aircraft and is used by the 403rd's Recruiting Squadron during community and recruiting events. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Heather Newcomb)



Col. Jay Jensen, 403rd Wing commander, salutes the crowd as he pilots Lil' Bill in the Gulf Coast Veterans Day Parade Nov. 12. Lil' Bill is a scale model of the 403rd Wing's C-130J aircraft and is used by the 403rd's Recruiting Squadron during community and recruiting events. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Heather Newcomb)



Tyler, Julien, Tyson, Alex and Jackson were the littlest passengers aboard Lil' Bill during the Gulf Coast Veterans Day Parade in D'Iberville, Miss. Nov. 12. Lil' Bill is the 403rd Wing's scale model of a C-130J aircraft. The boys are the children of 403rd Wing members: Tech Sgt. Brandon and Chiquita Goodloe, Senior Master Sgt. Neil and Shannon Sherman, Capt. Justin Pearce, and Maj. Heather Newcomb. (U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Heather Newcomb)

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The recognition comes for the AMCC's coordination of the Australian Defence Force's airlift responses to floods in Queensland and Victoria, the Christchurch earthquake and the earthquake and tsunami in Japan between December 2010 and April 2011.

Acting RAAF chief Air Vice-Marshal Neil Hart said it was hard-earned recognition for one of the air force's busiest agencies.

"Without their efforts, Defence would not have been able to respond as effectively to natural disasters this year, much less to our other standing commitments," Air Vice-Marshal Hart said.

"The AMCC plays a critical role all year round and is frequently confronted with complex problems of high national importance, to be solved in a short deadline.

"A wide number of Defence and external stakeholders rely on the missions that AMCC coordinates, making its efforts during times of crisis more extraordinary."

Equipment strengthens link between air, ground



A team of Marines from Marine Air Support Squadron 2 and Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152 test the Marine air-ground task force aerial palette system/special airborne response system while mid-flight over Okinawa Oct. 28. MASS-2 is part of Marine Aircraft Control Group 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and VMGR-152 is part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st MAW. (Photo by Sgt. Brandon L. Saunders)

By Sgt. Brandon L. Saunders
Marine Corps Bases Japan

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA, OKINAWA, Japan — Marines with 1st Marine Aircraft Wing tested new technology here Oct. 28, that improves direct air support to troops on the ground.

Marines with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st MAW, III Marine Expeditionary Force, tested the Marine air-ground task force aerial palette system/special airborne installation response system after receiving a week of instruction.

“The MAPS/SABIR system is a command and control system, which allows the Marines of the squadron to place a (direct air support center) in the air,” said Sgt. Steven M. Prats, an aviation communications system technician with MASS-2.

A DASC is a communications center that provides a direct link between troops on the ground conducting missions and support aircraft in the air.

The MASS-2 Marines worked alongside Marines with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st MAW, to seat the gear inside a KC-130J Hercules tanker aircraft, so they could train with the new equipment. The system can be seated in any KC-130J as long as the aircraft is wired for it.

“Our unit is the first in the Marine Corps to get this type of gear,” said Master Sgt. Charles D. Kines, the training and operations chief of MASS-2. “We’re definitely doing something big here.”

“This provides direct air support for (troops) on the ground. It strengthens our 911 force,” said Prats.

The system is set up on two palettes. The first is for equipment such as

servers and heavy-duty communication gear. The other palette is set up strictly for operators, allowing a team to communicate effectively with friendly forces on the ground and track their every move.

“This supports the mission by allowing faster response to whatever is going on,” said Prats. “It comes with eight, single-channel radios and incredible data capabilities.”

“(The system) was initially used for reconnaissance missions, but it can be beneficial to all forward-deployed units,” said Cpl. Jason L. Johnson, an airframes inspector with VMGR-152.

The MAPS/SABIR system will be tested in a real-world environment during upcoming exercises.

By doing so, system operators will be able to effectively work out any potential bugs within the new equipment, said Johnson.

Expeditionary Airlift Squadron provides air power to Afghanistan



Staff Sgt. Dave Hoffer, 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, gives a thumbs-up confirmation of a successful airdrop during a mission Nov. 7, 2011. Hoffer is a loadmaster deployed from Dyess Air Force Base, Texas. (Photo by Senior Airman David Carbajal)



Crew chiefs with the 772nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit observe the start-up procedures of a 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130J Nov. 7, 2011. The crew chiefs are deployed from Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark. (Photo by Senior Airman David Carbajal)

U.S. assists with Turkish earthquake relief



Members of the 37th Airlift Squadron, Norwegian Defense Logistic Organization, Norwegian Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Marine Forces Europe load a C-130J Super Hercules aircraft with pallets of humanitarian supplies for transportation at Stjordal, Norway, Nov. 14, 2011. The mission is in support of the Turkey-led relief efforts following the Oct. 23 and Nov. 9 earthquakes in Van province, Turkey. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Wayne Clark)

By Capt. William Russell

U.S. Air Force in Europe Public Affairs

ERZURUM AIRPORT, Turkey (AFNS) -- U.S. Air Forces in Europe sent a C-130J Super Hercules loaded with arctic relief supplies to south-eastern Turkey on Nov. 13 to aid victims of recent earthquakes there.

The Van region of Turkey is coping with the aftereffects of two earthquakes: a magnitude 7.2 quake that occurred Oct. 23 and a magnitude 5.7 tremor that occurred Nov. 9.

"First and foremost, our condolences



U.S. European Command is airlifting the supplies to Turkey. Turkey is leading relief efforts in the Van region of their country after the area suffered two earthquakes: a magnitude 7.2 quake that occurred Oct. 23 and a magnitude 5.7 tremor that occurred Nov. 9. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Wayne Clark)

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go out to the people of Turkey affected by these natural disasters,” said Capt. Bryan Swierenga, an aircraft commander with the 37th Airlift Squadron. “Turkey is a resilient country and the government will put these humanitarian supplies to good use.”

The C-130J is assigned to the 86th Airlift Wing’s 37th AS at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. As the air component

for U.S. European Command, USAFE, which is also headquartered at Ramstein AB, delivered more than 28,000 pounds of supplies to the region. These included 115 arctic tents, heaters and empty fuel canisters.

The relief supplies were provided by the Norwegian Defense Logistic Organization and Norwegian Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Stjordal, Norway.

“It is always a great feeling to help out one of our allies,” said Capt. Austin Rust,

a pilot with the 37th AS. “It has been a cooperative effort from the start with the State Department and EUCOM taking charge by delivering these cold weather supplies to the government of Turkey as they lead the relief efforts after two major earthquakes.”

The U.S. State Department working with the U.S. Embassy in Turkey and EUCOM through the U.S. Department of Defense responded by delivering humanitarian supplies to support the Turkey-led relief efforts.



At the request of the Turkish government, the Department of Defense has tasked U.S. European Command to airlift relief supplies to Van province following a magnitude 7.2 earthquake Oct. 23 and a magnitude 5.7 tremor Nov. 9. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Wayne Clark)



U.S. European Command is airlifting the supplies to Turkey. Turkey is leading relief efforts in the Van region of their country after the area suffered two earthquakes: a magnitude 7.2 quake that occurred Oct. 23 and a magnitude 5.7 tremor that occurred Nov. 9. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Wayne Clark)

Members of the 37th Airlift Squadron, Norwegian Defense Logistic Organization, Norwegian Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Marine Forces Europe load a C-130J Super Hercules aircraft with pallets of humanitarian supplies for transportation at Stjordal, Norway, Nov. 14, 2011. The mission is in support of the Turkey-led relief efforts following the Oct. 23 and Nov. 9 earthquakes in Van province, Turkey. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Wayne Clark)

The Rock airdrops in Kandahar



Pallets of cargo are loaded into a 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-130J Hercules at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. A parachute is attached to each pallet allowing a 99 percent accuracy of the airdropped cargo to be recovered undamaged by ground troops needing the supplies.



Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Campbell situates a C-130J Hercules after an airdrop, Nov. 7, 2011. Campbell is assigned to the 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron as a loadmaster.



Staff Sgt. Derek Johnson, 451st Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron joint airdrop inspector, ensures pallets of cargo are fastened properly on a C-130J Hercules at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The 36,000 pounds of cargo on the pallets will be airdropped to a remote forward operating base.

(Photos by Senior Airman Corey Hook)



Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Campbell, 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron load master, looks out the bay of a C-130J Hercules before releasing pallets of cargo during an airdrop Nov. 7, 2011. Aerial delivery of critical supplies decreases the total number of resupply convoys conducted in high threat areas.



Airman 1st Class William Lambert, 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron loadmaster, configures a mechanism that will release pallets of cargo during a airdrop from a C-130J Hercules at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, Nov. 7, 2011. Aerial delivery of critical supplies decreases the total number of resupply convoys conducted in high threat areas.



Tech. Sgt. Gabriel Campbell, 772nd Expeditionary Airlift Squadron load master, configures a mechanism that will release pallets of cargo during a airdrop from a C-130J Hercules at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan, Nov. 7, 2011. Aerial delivery of critical supplies decreases the total number of resupply convoys conducted in high threat areas.



Pallets of cargo fly out of a C-130J Hercules, Nov. 7, 2011. A parachute is attached to each pallet allowing a 99 percent accuracy of the airdropped cargo to be recovered undamaged by ground troops needing the supplies.

(Photos by Senior Airman Corey Hook)

EC-130H squadron hits major milestones

By Master Sgt. Mary Davis

455th Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- Maintainers of the EC-130H Compass Call at Bagram Airfield have a lot to be proud of. Not only does the squadron maintain the Air Force's only EC-130H aircraft fleet, it facilitated several significant milestones while in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 41st Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Unit enabled the modified C-130 airborne tactical weapons systems to fly more than 24,000 hours on 4,000 sorties, enabling the capture of 600 high-value individuals, 4,500 detainees and 340 weapons caches.

"Making these milestones happen with an aging fleet and a steady deployment rotation is challenging," said Capt. Lisa Stokey, 455 EAMXS EC-130H officer in charge. "I can honestly say this is one of the most impressive aircraft maintenance squadrons I've ever been a part of. The mission is unique, and the maintainers I work with are selfless miracle workers."

Coordinating aircraft maintenance to keep the mission going is Master Sgt. Patrick Dougherty's job. As the production superintendent, Dougherty has the difficult task of orchestrating repairs on the EC-130H fleet from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

"Since the aircraft are constantly flying sorties, our technicians have to be good at what they do," said Dougherty, a St. Cloud, Fla., native. "We provide aircraft to operators that support International Security Assistance Force ground forces. They depend on us to do our jobs, so they can do theirs and keep people safe."

These unique aircraft keep people safe by performing tactical command, control and communications countermeasures.

On his first deployment, Staff Sgt. Brandon Bell, EC-130H aerospace propulsion craftsman, is the lead engine technician.

"Whenever an aircraft comes down with an engine discrepancy or scheduled engine maintenance, we make sure it's repaired," said the mechanic from Plano, Texas. "Doing our job can sometimes be



Senior Airman Christopher Scott, 455th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron aerospace propulsion journeyman, conducts an inspection on an EC-130H Compass Call propeller at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Nov. 23, 2011. After installing the propeller, Scott inspects to ensure all parts are installed correctly before to avoid malfunctions. (U.S. Air Force photo/ Senior Airman Krista Rose)

challenging because sometimes we won't have certain pieces of equipment, which we have to borrow from other shops."

For example, the team recently performed a propeller change and didn't have a crane or a hangar to perform the maintenance in, Bell said.

"We had to borrow a crane and change the propeller outside. This is the first time I've done that," said the staff sergeant, who is on his second deployment.

"Ideally, you would do this in a hangar, because you have more control of the situation. Using a crane outside is more difficult because you have a hard time trying to communicate."

Dougherty said he was pleased with Bell and the rest of the maintainers for their professionalism and hard work that

contributed to these milestones.

"I'm extremely proud of this team," the master sergeant said. "Some of these Airmen are on their first deployment and are really doing an excellent job out here. They work very hard and sometimes have to think outside the box to get things done. It's rewarding to know what we do contributes to the mission here."

Stokey agreed with her production superintendent.

"The diligence and technical skills of these maintainers are the only reason these aircraft are still in the air," said Stokey, who hails from Brooksville, Fla. "I'm reminded every day how dedicated and resourceful these men and women are, and I am lucky to be a part of this team."

THE LAST OF ITS KIND

2nd MAW receives KC-130J, completing its inventory



Marines from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252 made the trek to Marietta, GA to pick up a brand new KC-130J Hercules. The aircraft was the final piece of a puzzle needed to complete the squadron's mission. (Photo by David Key)

By Lance Cpl. Andrea Dickerson
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing & Marine
Corps Air Station Cherry Point

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT, N.C. - Marines from Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252 traveled to the Lockheed-Martin production complex in Marietta, Ga. Nov. 2 to retrieve a fresh-off-the-assembly-line KC-130J Hercules to fill out the squadron's arsenal.

The new Hercules is the last that to be assigned here and is one of the final the Corps needs to complete its overall aviation mission, said Lt. Col. Charles J. Moses, VMGR-252's commanding officer.

"It is important that people understand how valuable this aircraft is to the corps," said Maj. Gen. Jon M. Davis, the commanding general of 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing.

"This is one of the last aircraft the

Marine Corps has decided to buy to complete the requirements set forth by the Deputy Commandant of Aviation and the Commandant's planning guide," said Moses.

KC-130J's are primarily used to support Marine Corps expeditionary operations. The tanker is capable of refueling both fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft as well as conducting rapid ground refueling during the day, night, and in adverse weather conditions.

Moses said, "The aircraft will be used for operations as designated, to support Marines wherever they may be. If we are still in Afghanistan, it will go to Afghanistan. If we are supporting a Marine Expeditionary Unit as we usually do 24/7, 365, we will use it to support the MEU's."

"It helps increase our capacity," said Moses. "With this aircraft we are able to support more missions."

Now that the squadron's inventory is complete, they are shifting gears and moving to the next step, said Moses.

"We now have all our aircraft, so our next phase is sustaining these aircraft so they can meet the service life designed and required by Headquarters Marine Corps," he said.

Implementing the new aircraft will allow the squadron more time to focus on training, thus allowing them to be successful at accomplishing their goals, said Lance Cpl. Baise R. Conway, a VMGR-252 loadmaster.

"It is a great aircraft," said Staff Sgt. Richard T. Hakenson a VMGR-252 crew chief. "I previously worked on a legacy aircraft. The additional capabilities and the decreased maintenance man hours can't compare."

"Having this extra asset increases our capabilities," he said. "At one point, we were down to only two aircraft on our line.

Because of all the places we are deployed to, this aircraft gives us something extra to rely on. If something were to ever happen, we would be able to continue on the mission."

Toys for Tots 2011



By Stephanie Stinn
Lockheed Martin Communications

Think Santa's sleigh is powered by eight reindeer? Think again! This year, it is powered by four turbo-prop engines.

At least it was on Nov. 22, when Santa received a little help from the Blue Angels and the team's C-130 Hercules, known as Fat Albert. The Blue Angels kicked-off the holiday giving season by partnering with Lockheed Martin Aeronautics employees to deliver almost four pallets of toys to Birmingham, Ala., where toys were distributed to communities impacted by devastating tornados in surrounding communities in April 2011. The Fat Albert C-130 has been with the Blue Angels for over 40 years.

The all-Marine Fat Albert crew flew into Lockheed Martin's Marietta, Ga., site (where Fat Albert was built) on the morning of Nov. 22, and was greeted by employees and two pallets of toys. The team loaded up and the next stop was Fort Worth, Texas, where more toys waited at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics' headquarters. Final stop? Birmingham, where Fat Albert was greeted by hundreds of Toys for Tots volunteers, Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley and American Idol winner (and Alabama native) Taylor Hicks.

Toys were offloaded from the C-130 and sent to local Toys for Tots organizations for distribution to area families. One special family was at the event to receive toys from the Blue Angels: the Adams family of Cordova,



U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, Lockheed Martin and Toys R Us representatives line up in front of Fat Albert. (Photo by Damien Guarnieri)



The smile says it all as a Toys For Tots recipient receives her gift from a member of the Fat Albert crew. (Photo by John Rossino)

Ala. Their home was destroyed by this spring's tornados and the family, which includes nine children, is living in a mobile home as they work to rebuild their home on their property. The Blue Angels gave toys to the Adams children, including a lot of teddy bears, dolls and of course, an F-22 Raptor.

This is the second year Lockheed Martin Aeronautics partnered with the Blue Angels and Toys for Tots to support this mission. Last year, toys were distributed to families in the New Orleans/Gulf Coast area by the Blue Angels. This year's toys were purchased by Lockheed Martin Aeronautics on behalf of all employees at all sites.

This event could not have happened without support from employees. Across all sites, employees are donating funds to Toys for Tots through an online giving campaign. In Fort Worth and Marietta, employees did everything from load pallets with toys to help load toys onto Fat Albert when it arrived at both sites.

Maureen Hogan, a systems engineer in Fort Worth, was on the flight line when the Blue Angels arrived.



During the Toys For Tots collection route Fat Albert visited the Lockheed Martin facility in Fort Worth. Picture shows Fat Albert passing an F-35 hangar in which is JSF BF-08, a Marine Corps production aircraft. (Photo by Fred Clingerman)

“It’s great to see the wonderful work that the Blue Angels are doing for the community,” Hogan said. “It was a memorable experience and one that I truly enjoyed. It gets you in the spirit of the holidays and what they are all about – giving and helping others!”

Gary Waters, a driver with the Marietta Transportation team, was one of the many employees on the Marietta flight line when Fat Albert landed. Waters has

been a part of the Blue Angels/Toys for Tots project planning team for the past two years. It’s a mission that’s close to his heart.

“It’s an important mission because of what it stands for: giving back to community and children, especially needy children. There are so many children that are not as fortunate as others – I tell my own children this all the time. This really does mean something.”

New runway boosting safety



RAAF C-130 Hercules Captain, Flight Lieutenant Mitch Beck (left), and co-pilot, Flight Lieutenant Jerome Appleby, guide their aircraft onto the sealed runway at Multi National Base - Tarin Kot in southern Afghanistan. Mid Caption: MNB-TK's all weather runway has enhanced capability for Australian, Coalition and Afghan National Security Forces since its completion six months ago. Officially opened on April 14, 2011, the new runway boosts safety, logistics and significantly decreases maintenance issues for aircraft and vehicles operating on the strip. The US\$28 million upgrade from dirt strip to 2,225m concrete runway has also been one of the most significant infrastructure projects for Southern Afghanistan in recent times. (Photo by LS Paul Berry)

The Lockheed Martin C-130 Program Team says ‘thank you’ – you make us proud



The joint Rhode Island Air National Guard 143d Airlift Wing and California Air National Guard 146th Wing Air Expeditionary Force C-130J maintenance team prepares to come home from Bagram. This AEF deployment was called the “Islands AEF” as it was Rhode Island and Channel Island. During the deployment the AEF racked up the following amazing statistics: 700 missions, 3,475 sorties, 2724.5 flight hours, 15,000 tons of cargo, 47,000 troops carried, 2181 airdrops, 3,013,231 pounds dropped and an 88.9% mission capable rate. (Photo courtesy of 143d Airlift Wing)

Four on the floor

The four aircraft that will complete Canada’s current order for 17 CC-130J Super Hercules are nearing the end of the production line at the company’s facility in Marietta. These aircraft will be delivered in the first half of next year with the final delivery in June. Canada’s new CC-130J fleet has already seen operational use for a wide range of missions including the support of deployed forces, emergency evacuation and search and rescue. (Photo by John Rossino)



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