



FACT SHEET

U.S. Air Force Fact Sheet 128th Air Refueling Wing

Mission

The mission of the 128th Air Refueling Wing is to maintain a professionally trained and equipped military organization, supporting aerial refueling, airlift, and the interests of the nation, state, and community. Our principal mission is aerial refueling. This unique asset greatly enhances the USAF's capability to accomplish its primary missions of Global Reach and Global Power. It also provides aerial refueling support to Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps aircraft as well as aircraft of allied nations.



Federal Mission

The 128th Air Refueling Wing's federal mission is to maintain well-trained, well-equipped units available for prompt mobilization during times of war. During peacetime, the 128th Air Refueling Wing is assigned to the Air Mobility Command to carry out such missions compatible with training, mobilization readiness and contingency operations. In addition to being assigned to the Air Mobility Command, the 128th Air Refueling Wing is also assigned to the Aerospace Expeditionary Force. The AEF concept is to provide rapidly responsive, tailored-to-need aerospace force capability on scheduled rotations. This dual concept of the AEF provides guardsmen and airmen with a deployment schedule, while providing worldwide coverage in contingency theaters.

State Mission

When the 128th Air Refueling Wing is not mobilized or under federal control, it reports to the governor of Wisconsin. The 128th Air Refueling Wing is supervised by the state Adjutant General, located at the Guard's state headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. Under state law, the Air National Guard provides protection of life property and preserves peace, order and public safety and maybe called up to provide assistance during national emergencies (such as natural disasters or civil disturbances.). These missions are accomplished through emergency relief support during natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and forest fires; search and rescue operations; support to civil defense authorities; maintenance of vital public services and counterdrug operations.

Force Structure

The Wing is comprised of approximately 900 military members. The primary sources of full-time support for the 128th Air Refueling Wing are 205 dual-status military technician and 67 Guardsmen on active duty. These Guardsmen perform day-to-day management, administration and maintenance. By

law, dual-status military technicians are civil service employees of the federal government who must be military members of the unit that employs them. Technicians train with the unit and are mobilized with it when it's activated. Active-duty members serve under the command authority of their respective state governor until mobilized for federal duty.

Flying Functions and Capabilities

There are nine KC-135 Aircraft assigned to the 128th Air Refueling Wing. The KC-135R four-jet engine tanker is the military version of the Boeing 707. It can carry 31,275 gallons of fuel and off load 6,500 lbs. (1,000 gallons) of fuel per minute. It can carry 83,000 lbs. of cargo or 54 passengers. It carries a crew of three: pilot, co-pilot, and boom operator.

The KC-135R has a takeoff weight of 322,500 pounds and a top speed of 530 miles per hour. The four-CFM International 56-2 jet engines provide 22,224 lbs. of thrust each. The KC-135R has a maximum range of 11,000 miles with 120,000 lbs. of transfer fuel and can attain an altitude of 50,000 feet.

The 128th Air Refueling Wing is scheduled to receive 3 additional KC-135 aircraft bringing the Wing to its maximum available capacity of 12 aircraft, increasing both effectiveness and unit capability.

Support Functions and Capabilities

Support units are essential to the Air Force mission. The 128th Air Refueling Wing has a staff of support personnel to meet the needs of our operational mission. Support units include; 126th Air Refueling Squadron, 128th Wing Headquarters, 128th Mission Support Group, 128th Operations Group, 128th Maintenance Group, 128th Medical Group, 128th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 128th Security Forces Squadron, 128th Civil Engineering Squadron, 128th Communications Flight, 128th Mission Support Flight, 128th Services Flight and the 126th Weather Flight.

Point of Contact

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