



# FACT SHEET

## U.S. Air Force Fact Sheet 127<sup>th</sup> Wing, Michigan Air National Guard

Flying two aircraft and supporting three Air Force Major Commands, the 127th Wing is one of the most complex units in the U.S. Air Force. As a component of the Michigan Air National Guard, the Wing has a dual state and federal role and stands ready to serve both at home and abroad.

Based at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich, the 127th Wing is composed of approximately 1,700 Citizen-Airmen and provides highly trained personnel and aircraft and support resources to serve the community, state and nation. The 127th Wing operates KC-135 Stratotankers, providing global aerial refueling capability in support of Air Mobility Command, and the A-10 Thunderbolt II, flying the close air support mission in support of Air Combat Command. The Wing also supports the Air Force Special Operations Command with its 107th Weather Flight.



### Organization

The 127th Wing was created in 1996 by the merger of the 127th Fighter Wing and the 191st Airlift Group. The 127th Wing is broken into five groups, each of which are composed of various flights and squadrons.

- The 127th Air Refueling Group flies and maintains the KC-135T Stratotanker. The 127th ARG includes the 171st Air Refueling Squadron, 191st Operation Support Flight, 191st Maintenance Squadron, 191st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 191st Maintenance Operations Flight.
- The 127th Operations Group which flies the A-10C Thunderbolt II. The 127th OG includes the 107th Fighter Squadron and 127th Operation Support Flight.
- The 127th Maintenance Group, which supports the A-10 mission. The 127th MXG includes the 127th Maintenance Squadron, 127th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and 127th Maintenance Operations Flight.
- The 127th Mission Support Group, which includes 127th Civil Engineer Squadron, 127th Security Forces Squadron, 127th Logistics Readiness Squadron, 127th Force Support Squadron, 127th Communication Squadron and 171st Aerial Port Flight.
- The 127th Medical Group, which provides for the combat readiness of the wing and provides a variety of medical support capabilities to the Air Force. The 127th MDG includes the 127th Medical Operations Flight and the 127th Medical Support Flight.
- In addition to the five groups, the Wing includes the 107th Weather Flight, a highly-skilled Special Forces unit that has deployed to numerous contingencies and operations around the world.

### History

The 127th Wing includes one of the oldest existing units in the U.S. Air Force, the 107th Fighter Squadron. First organized as the 107th Aero Squadron in 1917, the unit was de-activated after World War I. After meeting in a garage in Detroit in 1925, the 107th Observation Squadron - consisting of 20 officers and 90 Airmen -- received federal recognition and has been in continuous operation since that time. During World War II, the unit was sent to England and flew combat support and reconnaissance during D-Day and through the end of the war in Europe. After the 2001 Terror Attacks, the Wing began flying air superiority patrols over the Detroit region and stood on 24-hour alert. In 2004, the unit was the first to fly the F-16 Falcon from a base inside Iraq. It began flying the A-10 in 2009.

The Wing's 171st Air Refueling Squadron traces its roots to World War II, when it was established as a unit flying the P-47 Thunderbolt in the European Command. During the Korean War it was activated to serve as a pilot training unit in the American Southwest. In the 1970s, it began flying the F-106 Delta Dart and the unit became known as the "Six Pack," a moniker it retains until this day. After many years of flying C-130 aircraft, the 171st transitioned to the aerial refueling mission in 2008. Since that time, the 127th ARG and its aircraft have supported operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and other locations.