



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Air Forces Central Command Public Affairs

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Combined Forces Air Component Command Airpower Statistics

Highlighted Defend the Region article:

Deployed father controls airspace over son in Afghanistan

by Senior Airman Bryan Swink

379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

12/3/2012 - SOUTHWEST ASIA -- Air Force Maj. Christopher Gering worries like any other parent whose child deploys downrange. It can be gut wrenching knowing his child operates outside the wire, working to clear and dispose of improvised explosive devices.

Since August, this proud parent has had an advantage most parents are not afforded when their child is deployed and in harm's way. He provides a birds-eye view while maintaining a watchful eye over the surroundings of his son's unit and assists them with accomplishing their mission safely.

As a mission crew commander for the 71st Expeditionary Air Control Squadron, Gering provides battle management and command and control over the skies in Afghanistan and air defense of the Arabian Gulf.

The squadron provides the Combined Air and Space Operations Center with a real-time view of the air picture, handing commanders valuable information on the ground while also supporting the fighters in the field by coordinating close air support for troops in contact, and aircraft deconfliction for forces in Afghanistan.

"My crew provides constant air support and surveillance to the region of Afghanistan where my son is currently deployed," Gering said, deployed from Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. "We also make sure the right aircraft and unmanned aerial vehicles are in the right airspace at the right time based on mission needs. Sometimes our priority is to provide intelligence for what's going on, and other times the priority is to make sure close air support attack aircraft can reach ground targets to protect our troops under attack."

Gering's son, Army Private 1st Class Marshal Gering, is assigned to the 584th Mobility Augmentation Company, 223rd Engineering Battalion assigned to Forward Operating Base Walton in Eastern Afghanistan.

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

<http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123327450>



(Left) Air Force Maj. Christopher Gering swears in his son, Marshal, at a Military Entrance Processing Station before Marshal enlists with the U.S. Army. Currently, Maj. Gering provides battle management and command and control over the skies of Afghanistan while Marshal conducts route clearance in and around the Kandahar Province and Panjwey District. Both are currently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Courtesy photo)

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2007-2012 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED

As of 30 November 2012

United States Air Forces Central Command
Combined Air and Space Operations Center

Afghanistan

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/International Security Assistance Force

Close Air Support

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2009	27,815	2009	1,733
2010	32,928	2010	1,817
2011	34,286	2011	1,983
2012	27,085	2012	1,505

Number of Weapon Releases

Less Activity  More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	163	203	364	465	456	442	384	445	254	541	238	208	4,163
2010	157	154	175	197	300	457	325	413	740	1,043	866	272	5,099
2011	405	341	337	339	426	610	695	516	597	663	308	174	5,411
2012	170	116	227	252	406	521	507	588	394	414	291		3,886

Number of Weapons Releases from Remotely Piloted Aircraft

2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
257	279	294	447	1,273

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

Combined Data

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	11,202	16,193	18,898	28,747	38,198	32,267
Airlift Sorties	56,179	51,945	52,905	63,324	58,914	35,044
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	270,007	251,738	264,839	298,079	230,230	221,589
Airlift Passengers	1,177,533	1,269,710	1,301,740	1,369,002	1,114,376	686,461
OEF Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	8,182,066	16,576,297	32,267,606	60,400,000	75,956,235	33,771,283
Tanker Sorties	15,875	18,361	17,465	17,296	19,469	15,033
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	946	1,106	1,076	1,050	1,095	924
Aircraft Refueled	79,798	86,288	82,095	82,603	90,476	63,465
Medevac Sorties	-	-	-	3,712	2,959	3,865
Saves	-	-	-	1,888	1,611	1,150
Assists	-	-	-	2,964	2,121	1,598

- Data not available

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