



The Fightin' Fifty-Fifth

The Warhawks of the 55th Wing have a proud heritage of defending the United States and making significant contributions for our national leaders, combatant commanders, warfighters, and other decision makers, preparing for, or engaged in, conflict. Since its establishment in January 1941 as the 55th Pursuit Group at Hamilton Field, California, the common denominators behind our success have been our Airmen, partnerships and unwavering commitment to mission excellence.

The men and women of the 55th Wing provide dominant intelligence, surveillance and recon-naissance, employ electronic warfare capabilities, deliver secure and survivable command and control, and enable national treaty verification, as well as conduct agile combat support – any time, any place. Additionally, we embrace our responsibility as the host unit on Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, supporting more than 50 mission partners including the U.S. Strategic Command, the 557th Weather Wing, the 595th Command & Control Group, as well as 44,000 family members and retires in the local area.

Headquartered at Offutt AFB, the wing executes missions from our home base and operating locations throughout the world. Over 7,800 Airmen comprise the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth, the largest wing in Air Combat Command and the second largest in the United States Air Force. The airborne mission is conducted with six variants of C-135 and C-130 totaling 40 aircraft, while the wing's 24/7/365 nuclear command, control and communications support to STRATCOM is provided through a dedicated strategic communications squadron.

This wing is unique, made so by its mission complexity, organization, size and variety of aircraft. Our dedicated Airmen, however, are the true special attribute of the wing. Past and present 55th Wing members embrace our legacy of superior performance across all of our mission sets. Typically, anywhere from 500 to 1,000 of our Airmen are in the deployment cycle at any one time: either deployed, just returning, or getting ready to deploy (again). Some of our deployments are launched with only hours of notification. Our Airmen's technical expertise, operational brilliance, resilience and teamwork are cornerstones of impressive mission success.

External to the wing, the 55th Wing is now part of the Air Force's first information warfare Numbered Air Force (NAF) -- Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber). This new NAF combined Twenty-Fourth Air Force and Twenty-Fifth Air Force into a single organization. Its goal is to provide Department of Defense leaders with integrated global intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyber, electronic warfare and information operations.

The 55th Wing also has external partnerships with the Nebraska Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command, BIG SAFARI, the national intelligence community and the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force, to name only a few. We value our partners' unique contributions and recognize their importance to our mission execution and success.

Fighting today's wars or preparing for the next, our Airmen are disciplined and innovative and will continually answer the nation's call. We will continue to be great wingmen and uphold our Air Force's core values. It's our responsibility to ensure the next generation of 55th Wing Warhawks are positioned to succeed; just as those before us enabled our own success. I am sincerely proud to lead such a fine organization of Airmen. World class is our standard.



Col. Gavin P. Marks
Commander, 55th Wing



MISSION

Provide dominant intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, electronic attack and nuclear command and control to national leadership and warfighters any time, any place.

VISION

Innovative, resilient leaders delivering information dominance across the full spectrum of conflict.

PRIORITIES

REVITALIZE our combat capability and lethality

For nearly 30 years, the 55th Wing served the longest continuous deployment in U.S. Air Force history. This combined with the installation flood in March 2019 has stretched our combat capability and lethality to the brink. It is imperative that we focus our efforts on the 55th Wing's overall restoration and rejuvenation to ensure our long-term ability to provide support to the National Defense Strategy.

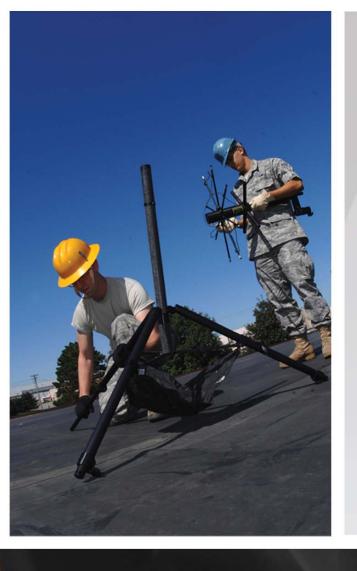
EVOLVE our mission execution

From the merger of 24th and 25th Air Force, cyber transformation, evolving medical services, to the upcoming year of integrated base defense, there is no better time than now for the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth to leverage changes in the environment to optimize our capabilities and enhance our organizational efficiencies. We need to create a culture where our Airmen are constantly challenging themselves to be innovative while accomplishing the mission more effectively and more efficiently. In the end, this will drive organizational change within the 55th Wing and enable us to emerge as the tactical manifestation of Sixteenth Air Force's concept of operations while providing combatant commanders with a dynamic, agile, force multiplier that is able to support effects or create effects in the operating environment at the speed of relevance.

DEVELOP our leaders

To ensure mission success now and in the future, the 55th Wing must build leaders (across all ranks) who are resilient. This process should include Airmen from all career fields, including not only our active duty corps, but also our Guardsmen and civilian teammates. This effort includes not only supporting and providing traditional professional education avenues, but also non-traditional means that give Airmen the knowledge to tackle difficult situations and are not risk averse so they have the confidence to try solutions that are outside of the box. We cannot afford to fall behind as our current and future adversaries evolve. We need to properly execute training opportunities to build units and leaders ready to win tomorrow's conflicts.





Provide superior command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and national-level nuclear command and control capability to the 55th Wing, U.S. Strategic Command, partner units and the Department of Defense, globally.

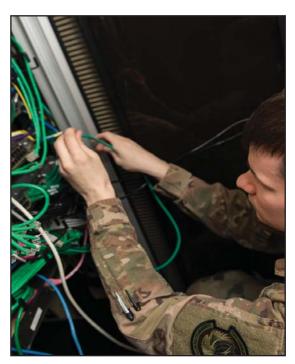
Organization

Presents more than 400 military, civilian and contractor cyberspace professionals to defend, operate and maintain one of the Air Force's most diverse array of cyber systems spanning multiple military satellite and radio communications platforms, secure and non-secure voice, data networks and defensive cyber operations. The diverse work force of cyberspace professionals continue to grow and evolve functional knowledge, skills, abilities and experience by proactively searching and seizing developmental opportunities to enhance technical acumen for our nation's security.

Operations

In addition to ensuring world-class cyber security and capability to strategic partners, national leadership and warfighters, the 55th CG annually deploys more than 100 cyber Airmen to numerous locations each year.

55th Communications Group







Provides combat-ready EC-130H Compass Call aircraft, crews, maintenance and operational support to the unified combatant commanders. Plans and executes information operations and electronic warfare for contingency operations. Conducts EC-130H aircrew initial qualification and difference training for 11 aircrew specialties. Supports operational and force development testing and evaluation for new aircraft systems.

Organization

The 945-member strong 55th ECG operates 11 EC-130H Compass Call aircraft valued at \$1.7 billion. As the only dedicated Electronic Combat Group with assigned aircraft in the Air Force, the 55th ECG is solely responsible for training, maintaining and employing airborne electronic attack in support of combatant commanders. To accomplish this mission, the ECG is comprised of five squadrons: 41st ECS, 42nd ECS, 43rd ECS, 755th OSS and 755th AMXS.

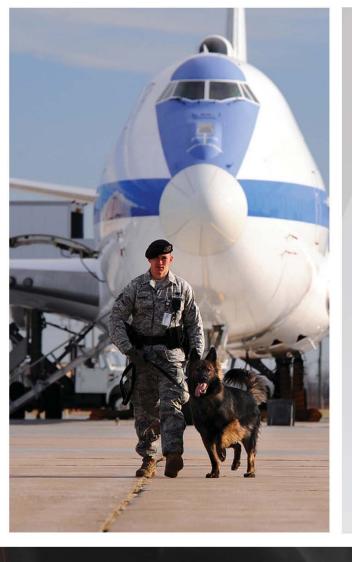
Operations

The 55th ECG has deployed to 12 locations since 9/11, becoming Air Combat Command's and the Air Force's most utilized C-130. Currently, the ECG is deployed in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel and since 2002, has flown more than 88,000 combat hours during more than 14,400 sorties. The ECG also played significant roles in Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Willing Spirit, Odyssey Dawn, Unified Protector, Inherent Resolve and other classified missions of international significance.

55th Electronic Combat Group







To provide mission support through infrastructure, security, contracting, mobility processing, personnel, services and logistics to enable dominant intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, electronic warfare and nuclear command and control to national leadership and warfighters any time, any place.

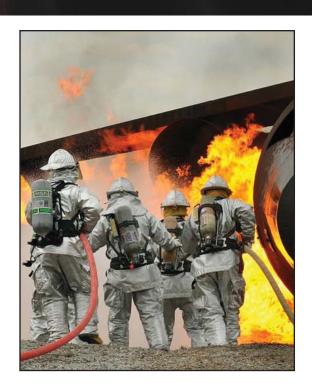
Organization

The 55th MSG's team of five squadrons totaling 1,600 military, civilian and con-tractor personnel provide dedicated support to Air Combat Command's largest wing and 50 partner units (including U.S. Strategic Command and the 557th Weather Wing) as well as a community of 44,000 active duty personnel, family members and retirees.

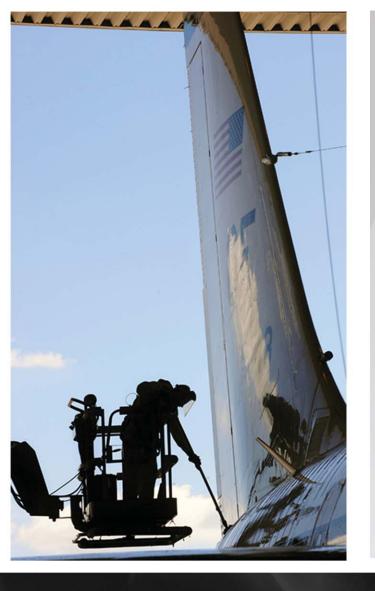
Operations

The 55th MSG provides around-the-clock support at home and abroad for the longest continuously deployed wing in the Air Force. The Installation Deployment Readiness Cell works with unit deployment managers to ensure wing personnel and equipment are ready for deployment at a moment's notice. On average, nearly 13% of wing personnel are deployed at any given time supporting operations around the globe. The 55th MSG deployed 207 of its own Airmen this year alone to accomplish missions across seven different combatant commands. In addition to deploying, the group develops and cares for our Airmen and families daily through an array of quality programs and services, enabling our Airmen to focus on the mission while strengthening relationships with our surrounding community. Furthermore, the MSG provides a safe and secure environment for Offutt's operations by delivering exceptional integrated base defense, a \$5 billion contracting portfolio, fuels, supply, fire and emergency services and civil engineering support.

55th Mission Support Group







We are the 'World's Greatest Maintainers' who are 'Proud to Provide' safe, efficient and compliant maintenance as well as a lethal and capable fleet in support of global intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance operations.

Organization

The 55th MXG is comprised of 1,200 military, civilian and contractor technicians responsible for fleet health and sortie generation for combat command operational taskings. To accomplish the mission, the 55th MXG is comprised of two squadrons: 55th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and the 55th Maintenance Squadron and a Maintenance Operations Flight along with the MXG staff supporting the commander's Quality Assurance and Maintenance Training responsibilities.

Operations

The 55th MXG executes an annual budget of \$18 million and 13,000 hour flying-hour program. The focus of our operation is to maximize fleet health and aircraft availability for 17: RC-135V/W Rivet Joint; 3: RC-135S Cobra Ball; 2: RC-135U Combat Sent; 2: WC-135C/W Constant Phoenix; 2: OC-135B Open Skies; and 3: TC-135 aircraft valued at \$6.3 billion. Personnel from the 55th MXG were continuously deployed to the Middle East for more than 29 years as well as to Asia and Europe in support of the National Security Strategy.

55th Maintenance Group







Ensure medically ready forces, develop expeditionary medics and deliver trusted care.

Organization

The 55th Medical Group is comprised of 621 members divided into four highly-capable squadrons. The MDG boasts approximately 385 personnel that are deployment ready. The remaining personnel are a combination of mission oriented federal civilians and contract employees who help sustain the day-to-day healthcare operations.

The MDG also operates Air Combat Command's only Personnel Reliability and Assurance Program clinic supporting more than 1,000 members across the 55th Wing, U.S. Strategic Command and the 595th Command & Control Group, ensuring nuclear command and control fidelity and dominant intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability.

Operations

The 55th MDG provides healthcare to approximately 44,000 Department of Defense beneficiaries. This care includes: 149,000 annual medical and dental appointments, 319,000 annual prescriptions, 112,000 labs and 35,000 diagnostic images. The MDG also provides post-graduate education and training for 80 medical and dental personnel annually. Operational duties include advising the 55th Wing on medical, environmental, public health, and readiness issues impacting wing assets and Team Offutt's partner units.

55th Medical Group







Deliver flexible and unmatched airborne intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capability to national leadership, intelligence community, partners and warfighters wherever and whenever required.

Priorities:

- Combat **READY** to execute the mission safely and effectively
- Active and RESPONSIVE care for the entire team
- Improve lethality and focus on tomorrow to remain **RELEVANT**

Organization

The 2,339-member strong 55th OG operates 17 RC-135V/W Rivet Joint, 3 RC-135S Cobra Ball, 2 RC-135U Combat Sent, 2 WC-135C/W Constant Phoenix, 2 OC-135B Open Skies and 3 TC-135 trainer aircraft valued at \$6.3 billion.

The 55th OG is comprised of 12 squadrons and 2 Detachments: 38th RS, 45th RS, 343rd RS, 82nd RS, 95th RS, 95th RS Det. 1, 338th CTS, 55th OSS, 97th IS, 390th IS, 488th IS, 488 IS Det 1 and 55th ISS.

Operations

The 55th OG is responsible for training aircrews, flying global airborne missions in support of Combatant Commanders, treaty monitoring, for the President of the United States and Secretary of Defense and conducting intelligence analysis and reporting.

55th Operations Group





























RC-135V/W RIVET JOINT





General Characteristics

Primary Function: Reconnaissance
Power Plant: 4 F-108 Turbofans
Thrust: 21,600 lbs. per engine
Wingspan: 133 feet, 3.5 inches
Length: 133 feet, 7.7 inches
Height: 43 feet, 1.3 inch
Max Gross Weight: 322,500 lbs
Fuel Capacity: 145,000 lbs
Speed: 420+ miles per hour
Range: 3,200 NM (unrefueled)
Crew: 30+ (varies with mission)

IOC: January 1964



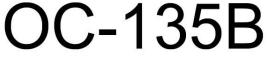






- Identify terrorist/anti-coalition militia intentions
- Identify enemy operations and intentions
- Identify and locate ground-based and airborne threat systems
- Conduct Sensitive Reconnaissance Operations





OPEN SKIES















General Characteristics

Primary Function: Treaty Support Power Plant: Pratt/Whitney TF33 Thrust: 16,050 pounds per engine Wingspan: 130 feet, 10 inches Length: 134 feet, 6 inches Height: 41 feet, 8 inches Max Gross Weight: 299,000 lbs Fuel Capacity: 130,000 lbs Speed: 400+ miles per hour

Range: 3,900 NM(unrefueled)

Crew: 7+ (varies with mission) **IOC:** October 1993



Replacement

- 2020 NDAA allocated resources for a full, openly competitive recapitalization program
- Replacement aircraft can be a new production line or recently manufactured aircraft
- Market research ongoing to determine a suitable commercial aircraft to modify



- Conduct non-provocative aerial observation
- Enhance global peace, stability and cooperative security
- Promote openness and transparency of military forces
- Conduct photographic damage assessment after national disasters























RC-135S

COBRA BALL







General Characteristics

Primary Function: Reconnaissance
Power Plant: 4 F108 Turbofans
Thrust: 21,600 pounds per engine
Wingspan: 130 feet 10 inches
Length: 139 feet, 11 inches
Height: 41 feet, 8 inches
Max Gross Weight: 322,500 lbs
Fuel Capacity: 130,000 lbs
Speed: 420+ miles per hour
Range: 3,900 NM(unrefueled)
Crew: 17+ (varies with mission)

IOC: October 1969







- Conduct Sensitive Reconnaissance Operations
- Conduct reconnaissance of ballistic missile performance
- Measure and characterize level of missile technology possessed by a foreign nation























RC-135U COMBAT SENT





General Characteristics

Primary Function: Reconnaissance Power Plant: 4-F108 turbo-fans Thrust: 21,600 lbs. per engine Wingspan: 135 feet, 3 inches

Length: 140 feet Height: 43 feet, 1 inch Max Gross Weight: 322,500 lbs Fuel Capacity: 130,000 lbs Speed: 420+ miles per hour Range: 3,900 NM(unrefueled) Crew: 25+ (varies with mission)

IOC: April 1964









- Premier Scientific and Technical Electronic Intelligence Collector
- Conduct Sensitive Reconnaissance Operations
- Support operational test and evaluation of weapon systems















WC-135C/W

CONSTANT PHOENIX





General Characteristics

Primary Function: Air sample/collect Power Plant: 4 Pratt/Whitney TF33 Thrust: 16,050 lbs each engine Wingspan: 130 feet, 10 inches Length: 135 feet, 1 inch Height: 41 feet, 8 inches Max Gross Weight: 300,500 lbs Fuel Capacity: 130,000 lbs Speed: 400+ miles per hour Range: 4,000 NM (unrefueled) Crew: 5+ (varies with mission) IOC: December 1965



- Three upgraded KC-135Rs to replace two current WC-135C/Ws
- New WC-135Rs include glass cockpit avionics, new mission system equipment
- First aircraft slated for delivery in April 2022
- Additional aircraft allows more atmospheric sampling missions



- Conduct low to medium altitude, long-range atmospheric sampling
- Support the 1963 Limited Nuclear Test Ban Treaty













EC-130H COMPASS CAL







General Characteristics

Primary Function: Electronic Attack
Power Plant: 4 Allison T56-A-15
Thrust: 4,910 prop SHP
Wingspan: 132 feet, 7 inches
Length: 97 feet, 9 inches
Height: 38 feet, 3 inches
Max Gross Weight: 155,000 lbs
Fuel Capacity: 41,000 lbs
Speed: 300 miles per hour
Range: 1,450NM(unrefueled)
Crew: 13+ (varies with mission)

IOC: 1983



Replacement

- 10 EC-37Bs are scheduled to replace entire EC-130H fleet
- Gulfstream 550 aircraft receiving military mods in Savannah, Ga.
- EC-37B testing begins at Davis-Monthan in January 2022
- Air Combat Command begins flying first five EC-37Bs in 2023



- Conducts electronic warfare in support of U.S. and allied air, ground, naval and special ops
- Deny, degrade and disrupt enemy command and control functions as U.S. Air Force's sole airborne enemy communications jammer
- Provide support for Troops-In-Contact with "tip-offs" of enemy intentions



Mission Partners

In addition to Air Combat Command and Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), the Fightin' Fifty-Fifty relies on a whole host of mission partners in order to execute its worldwide mission. This includes units directly located on Offutt Air Force Base like the Nebraska Air National Guard to our long time allies from across the pond, the Royal Air Force.

The **170th Group** is the U.S. Air Force's premier Total Force Associate Unit providing personnel, resources and support to 55th Wing's federal mission and to the Governor of Nebraska for state domestic operations. They are comprised of highly experienced Guardsmen in two squadrons, the 238th Combat Training Squadron and the 170th Operations Support Squadron.

BIG SAFARI is the U.S. Air Force's premier rapid acquisition organization supporting multiple agencies, to include ACC, with solutions to intelligence/operational shortfalls. Established in 1952 as the single focal point for airborne reconnaissance, BIG SAFARI acquires materiel solutions to satisfy requirements and provides nose-to-tail capabilities for the 55th Wing's RC-135V/W/S/U, WC-135W and EC-130H aircraft.

The **National Security Agency** is the our nation's cryptologic organization, protecting U.S. National Security information systems and collecting and disseminating foreign signals intelligence. Because of the extreme sensitivity of signals collection, the 55th Wing must abide by a series of national directives governing the signals intelligence collection of our platforms.

The **Defense Threat Reduction Agency** serves an important role in controlling the world's arms supply – verification. The information gathered by DTRA's arms control inspectors allows U.S. government to establish whether or not a nation is in compliance with treaties. The 55th Wing's OC-135 Open Skies mission gives DRTA inspectors the ability to fly a limited number of unarmed observation flights over any part of any signatory nation.

The U.S. Air Force and the **Royal Air Force** have teamed on a cooperative Rivet Joint program, which is unprecedented in terms of scope and potential operational impacts. The 55th Wing and our RAF counterparts are executing cooperative training and manning concepts, while exploring future employment strategies and capabilities development.



Offutt Partners

As host unit for Offutt Air Force Base, the 55th Wing provides infrastructure support to more than 50 partner units. Over the last few years, more than \$125 million has been invested in construction and renovation projects across the installation, not including \$1.3 billion on the new U.S. Strategic Command headquarters facility.



U.S. Strategic Command is a Department of Defense functional Combatant Command. Its mission is to detect, deter and prevent attacks against the U.S. and our allies, and join with other COCOMS to defend the nation should deterrence fail.



The **557th Weather Wing** is the only weather wing in the entire U.S. Air Force. Its mission is to maximize America's military power through the exploitation of timely, accurate and relevant weather information anytime and everywhere on the globe.



The **595th Command & Control Group** is a geographically separated unit of Eighth Air Force. Established in 2016, the group consolidates all of the Air Force's Nuclear Command and Control Communications into one unit.



The **Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency** conducts global search, recovery and laboratory operations to identify unaccounted-for Americans from past conflicts in order to support DoD's personnel accounting efforts.



The **Navy Operational Support Center** includes computer training classrooms, conference rooms, general and medical storage areas, office space, showers and an assembly area. NOSC Omaha has a full-time staff and regularly hosts roughly 400 Navy Reservists throughout the year.



The **20th Intelligence Squadron** provides target and geospatial intelligence to enable precision engagement across the globe. The 20th IS processes and analyzes raw electronic intelligence data to prepare operational or technical electronic intelligence reports or studies.



Since 1943, the **U.S. Air Force Heartland of America Band** has delighted audiences with outstanding military professionalism and world-class musicianship. The band's three diverse ensembles perform throughout Nebraska and Southwestern Iowa.



Unmatched Support

Offutt Air Force Base is one of the largest employers in Nebraska and has a huge economic impact on the local community. That same impact is reciprocated through incredible support from a variety of organizations throughout the Bellevue and Omaha communities.

LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS

The **Greater Bellevue Area Chamber** is a vital part of the community and continually promotes Offutt to its business partners in the city. It annually hosts the Salute to the Bellevue-Offutt Community Luncheon, Defense Network Breakfast, Annual Dinner and Silent Auction, Nebraska Veterans Day Parade and Operation Holiday Cheer.

The **Greater Omaha Chamber** is very proactive and has sponsored multiple legislative initiatives and spearheaded efforts to purchase land outside of base to preserve the viability of the wing's mission. In 2011, it was awarded the Active Base Community of the Year by the Association of Defense Communities.

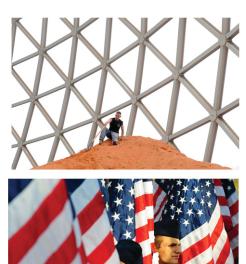
Since 1992, the **Offutt Advisory Council** educates the local community on the mission and needs of the 55th Wing while promoting the morale, welfare and education of the personnel and families of the wing. Each year they host the Appreciation Day Picnic for more than 12,000 people as well as a spring fundraiser.

Formed in 2010, the **Nebraska Military Support Committee** is a non-profit organization comprised of community and area business leaders who work to ensure necessary resources and investments support the personnel and missions at Offutt.

The **Wings Over The Heartland** is a non-profit organization that raises funds for the Offutt Defenders of Freedom Open House and Air & Space Show. Since 1998, this group of local business professionals has ensured the open house remains one of the top air shows in the Midwest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The impact of the relationship between Offutt and its surrounding communities can be measured in economic terms. In Fiscal Year 2018, direct payroll spending was more than \$742 million, while total expenditures was more than \$508 million. Overall, Offutt had a \$2.3 billion economic impact to the Omaha Metro area.











The Future

Fort Crook and Offutt Air Force Base have played an integral role in the defense of our nation for more than 100 years now. As the 55th Wing looks to the future, it is planning to ensure the base remains an important part for the next 100 years as well.



In March 2019, an historic flood covered one-third of Offutt Air Force Base with nearly 720 million gallons of flood water. More than 3,000 feet of Offutt's runway was submerged, 137 facilities were flooded and more than 3,200 personnel were displaced from their work centers.

In response to the flood, 55th Wing leadership established a team to oversee the rebuilding of nearly one-third of the installation over the next five-to-ten years. Charged with prioritizing and synchronizing the base's requirements, the team is consolidating related functions into eight different campuses that will allow for more efficient operations in the years ahead.

This 'smart rebuild' effort optimizes functional capabilities, enhances organizational efficiencies and mission assurance, while providing a resilient, multi-use and multi-purpose infrastructure with cost saving features. In the end, the rebuild will decrease maintenance and security requirements, improve safety and traffic flow while ensuring the 55th Wing and its mission partners are properly prepared to meet 21st century demands.



In the fall of 2020, work is projected to begin to replace Offutt's runway. Sections of Offutt's current runway are more than 70 years old and increasing maintenance efforts are required to sustain safe flight conditions. The replacement, which is projected to cost approximately \$190 million between efforts at Offutt and Lincoln, sets up the 55th Wing's global intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance mission to continue from Offutt for at least 20 years before any major maintenance is required.

Changes to the current all concrete runway will include concrete landing zones with an asphalt center and shoulders, optimization of taxiways to meet mission requirements, reduced life cycle maintenance costs, improvements to lighting, drainage, communication and power infrastructure, and addressing latitudinal grading issues on the airfield. The finished product will be the same length but is planned to conform to current Air Force standards and will be built slightly narrower.

During the replacement, the wing plans to move flight operations to Lincoln Airport which is just under 50 miles away. The runway is expected to reopen by October 2022.





