

How will "Cyber Command" fit into the 25th Air Force?

"Cyber Command," or 24th Air Force, has been re-defined and will now be a numbered air force under Air Force Space Command. While we work with 24th AF, this re-alignment does not directly impact our mission.

Is the 25th Air Force a total force agency, meaning does it incorporate Active Duty, Guard, Reserve as well as Civilian Personnel?

25 AF has more than 27,500 active, Reserve and Guard military and civilian members serving at 71 locations worldwide. The outstanding collaborations between our Airmen allows us to maintain ISR superiority and successfully carry out missions worldwide.

What command does the 25th Air Force fall under?

The 25th Air Force now falls under Air Combat Command. This Numbered Air Force (NAF) is presenting globally integrated ISR forces/capabilities to Air Force Component Major Commands and Component NAFs, the national Intelligence Community, and Combat Support Agencies. 25 AF enhances ACC's force presentation by integrating globally integrated ISR, nuclear treaty monitoring, Electronic Warfare, airborne national command and control, and nuclear C2 to the existing ACC mission sets alongside of ACC's other NAFs (1 AF, 9 AF, and 12 AF).

What is the 25th Air Force and why are you here?

We provide America's warfighters and national leaders current and predictive battlespace awareness and all-source ISR through trained forces and effective capabilities.

Our mission is to provide full-spectrum decision advantage to warfighters and national leaders through globally integrated ISR, electronic attack, information operations, and strategic C2.

What is the difference between intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance?

Intelligence is the product resulting from the collection, processing, integration, evaluation, analysis and interpretation of available information concerning foreign nations, hostile or potentially hostile forces or elements, or areas of actual or potential operations. The term is also applied to the activities that result in the product and to the organizations engaged in such activity.

Surveillance is the systematic observation of aerospace, surface or subsurface areas, places, persons or things by visual, aural, electronic, photographic or other means.

Reconnaissance is a mission undertaken to obtain, by visual observation or other detection methods, information about the activities and resources of an enemy or adversary, or to secure data concerning the meteorological, hydrographic or geographic characteristics of a particular area.

While all different, the Air Force recognizes that intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance are tightly integrated. The 25 AF ISR capabilities can now be managed together, end-to-end in one organization.

What is the size of the 25th Air Force?

Our headquarters is at Joint Base San Antonio - Lackland, Texas, but we have nearly 27,500 active, Reserve and Guard military and civilian members serving at 71 locations worldwide.

How can I get a job working for the 25th Air Force?

Military officers need to ensure their Airman Development Plans are properly completed to indicate a desire to work for the NAF. Duty history and experience must also be up to par to be competitive for a position here. Enlisted military need to apply through the normal Air Force assignment channels, e.g., Equal and Equal Plus. Government civilians interested in jobs need to review USA Jobs or the Air Force Personnel Center listings for job openings.

What kind of training do 25th Air Force personnel undergo?

Our members are among some of the most highly trained ISR experts in the world. The type and location of training varies depending on specific career field, time in service, rank and operating location. While Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, is home to a large portion of Air Force intelligence training, intelligence experts only comprise one portion of our larger team.

What languages do intelligence analysts speak?

Air Force linguists speak a wide variety of languages in order to communicate with and understand both foreign adversaries and allies. Linguists work worldwide in support of both wartime operations and military operations.

Do the 25th Air Force Airmen perform deployed duties from stateside bases, and if so, how?

Yes, many of our Airmen perform duties that support deployed forces. By using the Distributed Common Ground System weapon, Airmen are able to work at any of the many sites within the DCGS architecture to collect, analyze and provide actionable intelligence to warfighters. The DCGS is operated by the Airmen of the 480th ISR Wing, which has its headquarters at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

Does the 25th Air Force work with intelligence agencies from other branches of the armed forces?

Yes, we partner with our national ISR counterparts to research and develop projects that further our global ISR capabilities. We also execute multi-discipline, all-source intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions on behalf of the Air Force, combatant commanders, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office and the National Intelligence Council.

How does the 25th Air Force help in the war on terrorism?

We provide America's warfighters and national leaders current and predictive battlespace awareness and all-source intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance through trained forces and effective capabilities.

How often does the 25th Air Force deploy forces?

Airmen within the NAF deploy to support operations, depending on the specialty, about once every 12 to 18 months. In addition to these who are forward deployed, we have many Airman who conduct theater operations from their home station daily.

What is the 25th Air Force's relationships to the CIA, DIA, NSA, etc.?

We do not just support the Air Force mission; we are also a member of a larger intelligence community. As that community changes to meet the threat, we also change to meet the threat. In order to maintain intelligence superiority at home and abroad, we constantly collaborate with other U.S. intelligence agencies including the intelligence components of sister services.

What is the Distributed Common Ground System, and how is it used?

The DCGS collects and processes vast amounts of intelligence and imagery from manned and unmanned reconnaissance sources including the U-2, MQ-1 Predator, MQ-9 Reaper and RQ-4 Global Hawk, and provides data to joint and coalition forces anywhere on the planet.

Every reconnaissance aircraft collects data, but only the DCGS turns the data into warfighting information. The Air Force DCGS is truly a net-centric system. It is one system with many nodes, each operating together. During the last 15 years, it has grown from two original nodes at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and Beale Air Force Base, Calif., to a system stretching from Asia to Europe, with pieces operated by the 25th Air Force, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve Command and Air Force Special Operations Command in a true total force manner. As an enterprise, DCGS today involves more than 2,300 people in 15 states and three countries.

What platforms does the 25th Air Force operate on?

We specialize in collecting, analyzing and providing intelligence instead of physically operating the associated platforms. The common platforms we use to collect and exploit such data are the RC-135, U-2, MQ-1 Predator, MQ-9 Reaper and RQ-4 Global Hawk. We provide the analyzed data to joint and coalition forces anywhere on the planet.

Who tasks the 25th Air Force's missions?

The 25 AF reports to Air Combat Command as a Numbered Air Force.

Why did the 25th Air Force stand up a new human intelligence detachment?

We re-established the field of human intelligence, known as HUMINT, in May 2007 as part of the Air Force's ISR transformation efforts. This was the first HUMINT unit in the Air Force since 1995. The 25th Air Force reintegrated HUMINT into our arsenal to meet the warfighting requirements.

What does AFTAC do?

The Air Force Technical Applications Center, with headquarters at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., performs nuclear treaty monitoring and nuclear event detection. AFTAC provides national authorities quality technical measurements to monitor nuclear treaty compliance and develops advanced proliferation monitoring technologies to preserve our nation's security.

What does the 361st ISR Group do?

The 361st ISR Group, with headquarters at Hurlburt Field, Fla., provides specialized ISR capabilities to the Air Force Special Operation Command. They train, equip and present more than 250 Airmen to provide specialized ISR forces for worldwide employment.

What does the 480th ISR Wing do?

The 480th ISR Wing, with headquarters at Langley Air Force Base, Va., is the Air Force leader in globally networked ISR operations. The wing operates and maintains the Air Force Distributed Common Ground System, or DCGS, also known as the "Sentinel" weapon system, conducting imagery, cryptologic, and measurement and signatures intelligence activities to meet Air Force needs and deliver valuable ISR information and analysis to U.S. warfighters across the globe. The 480th ISR Wing has five groups in locations around the world from South Korea to Germany.

What does the 70th ISR Wing do?

The 70 ISRW, with headquarters at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, executes global ISR operations in air, space, and cyberspace. The Wing's far-reaching set of ISR capabilities include Lead Wing designation for Air Force National to Tactical Integration; as well as national cryptologic partnership, Distributed Common Ground System and non-DCGS SIGINT, space ISR, cyber ISR, expeditionary ISR, tactics analysis, information technology/services, information assurance, and deployable alteration and installation services. The Wing's mission set spans across nine CCMDs and integrates organic and national ISR capabilities into the full spectrum of CFACC combat and other military operations, ensuring Air Force dominance in air, space and cyberspace.

How may I contact the 25th Air Force?

You may contact the 25th Air Force public affairs office at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, by either calling (210) 977-2166 or by using our [Contact Us](#) page.

How may I contact the 480th ISR Wing?

You may contact the 480th ISR Wing public affairs office at Langley Air Force Base, Va., by calling (757) 225-5084 or by using our [Contact Us](#) page.

How may I contact the 70th ISR Wing?

You may contact the 70th ISR Wing public affairs office at Fort George G. Meade, Md., by calling (301) 677-0421 or (301) 677-0419, or by using our [Contact Us](#) page.

How may I contact the Air Force Technical Applications Center?

You may contact the AFTAC public affairs office at Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., by calling (321) 494-7688 or by using our [Contact Us](#) page.