



GLOBAL VIGILANCE, GLOBAL REACH, GLOBAL POWER

# USAFE-AFAFRICA

FORWARD, READY, NOW!



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The United States Air Force (USAF) is “the World’s Greatest Air Force – Powered by Airmen, Fueled by Innovation.” USAFE-AFAFRICA is America’s forward-based combat airpower, delivering the USAF Core Mission capabilities - Global Vigilance, Global Reach, and Global Power - in Europe, Africa and beyond. We provide responsive military presence that keeps our nation secure and underpins global security. USAFE-AFAFRICA is responsible for providing deterrence against potential threats across Europe and Africa, as well as rapid response capability in times of crisis.

Our **Forward** presence allows us to build new and deeper partnerships across Europe and Africa. **Forward** presence is our key advantage, contributing access, bases, beddown, communications, forces, logistics, mobility and throughput. A key component to our **Forward** presence is the ability of the command to be **Ready** to execute our core competencies in support of combatant commanders. Our **Ready** forces provide Airmen, command and control (C2), component, expeditionary capability, full-spectrum operations and partnerships to two combatant commands (COCOMs). Through our **Forward** presence and **Ready** forces we are able to execute missions **Now** supporting regional and global operations that provide Global Vigilance, Global Reach, and Global Power. These contributions enable us to execute our nation’s strategy and be forward-based combat airpower for America!





# FORWARD

Our **Forward**-based presence is the key advantage to the unique capabilities USAFE-AFAFRICA brings to the fight. Our specific contributions are:

**FORWARD ACCESS** – *Through relationships with our partners we are able to provide forward access in support of global operations. These relationships have allowed USAFE-AFAFRICA to successfully gain strategic access across Europe and Africa in support of humanitarian, contingency and daily operations.*

**FORWARD BASES** – *We operate six main operating bases, eight forward operating sites, and a number of expeditionary locations which enable full-spectrum global operations. In addition, we also maintain nearly 100 geographically separated units which support our warfighters spread across the theater.*

**FORWARD BEDDOWN** – *We provide forward operating contingency locations for joint, allied, and coalition forces to beddown and operate in support of contingency and current operations. During Operation ODYSSEY DAWN, our bases were responsible for the beddown of thousands of personnel and hundreds of joint and coalition aircraft in support of the Libyan no-fly zone.*

**FORWARD COMMUNICATIONS FOR GLOBAL OPERATIONS** – *We provide vital data links for worldwide communications, intelligence collection, and space operations. USAFE-AFAFRICA is also a critical entry and relay point for all cyber activities across EUCOM, AFRICOM and CENTCOM, to include 90% of all Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) feeds.*

**FORWARD FORCES** – *Our 34,000+ military and civilian Airmen and 175+ aircraft provide combatant commanders aerospace forces to execute current and contingency operations requiring a timely response. Our forces have the ability to fight from home station or quickly deploy forward in support of expeditionary operations.*

**FORWARD LOGISTICS** – *We provide aircraft maintenance, munitions, and logistics support to assigned and supported forces. USAFE-AFAFRICA personnel are key to maintaining a safe, secure, and effective full-spectrum weapons capability through storage, sustainment, and inspection of US munitions.*

**FORWARD MOBILITY** – *Our assigned mobility forces enable theater support by moving supplies, personnel, response teams, and medical assets. USAFE-AFAFRICA C-130, C-21, and KC-135 aircraft fly mobility missions including airlift, airdrop, air-refueling, and aeromedical evacuation throughout the African and European theaters.*

**FORWARD THROUGHPUT** – *Our bases and infrastructure enable global throughput of personnel, supplies, and forces supporting multiple commands and operations. We are responsible for providing the throughput for over 48% of all global airlift missions.*



# READY

The forces at the core of our **Forward** presence are **Ready** to execute the full-spectrum of operations from humanitarian assistance/disaster relief to kinetic strikes. Training, common tactics, techniques and procedures, and exercises prepare our Airmen and partners to execute any tasked mission. Our contributions are:

**READY AIRMEN** – *Our Airmen are trained and ready to execute the full-spectrum of missions regionally and globally. From 10 distinct wings, our Airmen execute daily operations including C-130, F-15, F-16, HH-60, KC-135, and other air support operations. Combat rescue, battlefield weather, combat communications, and aeromedical evacuation are just some of the additional capabilities possessed by USAFE-AFAFRICA Airmen.*

**READY C2** – *We provide command and control of theater air assets daily. The command performs vital C2 functions for Ballistic Missile Defense forces in support of U.S. and NATO interests. The 603rd Air Operations Center (AOC) provided aerospace C2 of more than 2,000 sorties during Operation ODYSSEY DAWN alone. The no-fly zone was enforced, and planners identified more than 1,400 targets.*

**READY COMPONENTENCY** – *Through our Component-MAJCOM and the AOC we provide aerospace planning and operations execution for daily and contingency operations to both EUCOM and AFRICOM. More than 10 named operations are normally supported at any given time, ranging from presidential support to ISR missions and combat operations.*



**READY FOR EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS** – *Our forces not only support theater operations but are tasked to support global expeditionary commitments. These forces are critical to our ability to support expeditionary operations in the theater. Year after year, 8-10% of USAFE-AFAFRICA Airmen are deployed to worldwide locations.*

**READY FULL-SPECTRUM** – *Our forces have the ability to respond to any contingency, often while operating from home station, resulting in quicker response times and increased support capability compared to CONUS-based forces. Over the past 10 years, our forces participated in 13 major combat operations.*

**READY PARTNERSHIPS** – *Our 60+ year alliance is a cornerstone of operations that allows partners to contribute to security, and export security operations globally. These relationships encourage interoperability and promote multi-national responses to crises across the globe. Combat operations in Afghanistan, Libya and Mali are prime examples of the power of Ready partnerships.*





# NOW

With our **Forward**-based, **Ready** forces and partnerships, USAFE-AFAFRICA is executing missions **Now** across Europe and Africa and provides timely, decisive airpower to meet emerging challenges across the full range of missions supporting regional and global COCOMs. Our assigned forces can respond within hours versus days, and mitigate the “Tyranny of Distance and Time” our CONUS-based forces face. What we contribute **Now**:

***CONTINGENCY SUPPORT NOW** – In austere locations, primarily in Africa, we support various contingency operations through base support and resupply with our forces and mobility assets. USAFE-AFAFRICA forces provide force protection, airfield construction, and many other critical requirements on a daily basis. Our Airmen execute operations on the ground and in the air in support of expeditionary and contingency operations across the globe.*

***ENGAGEMENT NOW** – Over the past few years, USAFE-AFAFRICA averaged over 1,800 annual partner-building events in allied and partner nations across Europe and Africa. These relationships encouraged our European partners to contribute 90% of the non-U.S. forces in Afghanistan, thus significantly reducing required U.S. troop numbers. Also, in Mali, our African partners provided a 6,000-member, African-led force to help restore democracy and stabilize the northern half of the country.*

***FORCES NOW** – Our forces are ready to respond in support of current operations and in times of crisis. Last year, we flew more than 37,500 hours in support of operations. USAFE-AFAFRICA forces are responsible for supporting global operations, while also conducting combat deployments at the same or higher rate than U.S.-based air forces.*

***NEW NORMAL NOW** – USAFE-AFAFRICA fighter aircraft, mobility assets and personnel are postured to provide embassy protection and contingency response. We also support our joint partners, enabling them to rapidly deploy to support embassy reinforcement, tactical recovery of aircraft, and personnel evacuation operations.*

***PERSISTENT ISR NOW** – Our ISR assets deliver a decisive advantage by providing and operating continual integrated, cross-domain ISR capabilities in concert with service, joint, national and international partners. We partnered with multiple European allies to increase ISR burden sharing and interoperability, especially with those partners who acquired US ISR platforms.*

***THEATER BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE NOW** – USAFE-AFAFRICA executes command and control of the Theater Ballistic Missile Defense (TBMD) mission defending U.S. forces and installations in the theater, as well as the territory, populations, and forces of our European allies and partners. In coordination with our joint and European partners, we are deeply involved in the fielding and beddown of TBMD capabilities in Europe.*



# USAFE-AFAFRICA: A COMMAND UNIQUELY POSITIONED TO DEFEND THE NATION

Our contributions support the USAF core missions and enable Global Vigilance, Global Reach, and Global Power for America throughout our Areas of Responsibility (AOR) and in support of global operations.

Our permanent presence in Europe allows us to maintain and strengthen our strategic partnerships, especially within NATO, our bedrock alliance of more than 60 years. Remaining **Forward**, we maintain our readiness to execute NATO commitments and preserve our allied and partner interoperability. US presence in Europe assures our partners of our commitment to our shared interests. In both AORs, these partnerships help maintain regional stability and relationships for future access in support of allied and coalition operations. In Africa, we will continue to aid our partners in developing self-sustaining aviation capabilities to enable aerospace support for operations.

Our **Ready** Airmen are prepared and positioned to deter aggression, prevent crisis, and support the full-spectrum of operations with a response time that allows us to be first to the fight. We are able to project airpower **Now**: anytime, anywhere across our AORs and in support of global operations. The combination of our contributions, capabilities, and competencies make USAFE-AFAFRICA **Forward, Ready, Now!**