

# United States Air Force

## FACT SHEET

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### 600th Air Base Group

Activated May 4, 1992, at Torrejon Air Base, the 600th Air Base Group is the largest U.S. Air Force unit remaining in the Kingdom of Spain. The unit is part of U.S. Air Forces in Europe's 16th Air Force, located at Aviano AB, Italy.

The 600th ABG was activated the day the 401st Fighter Wing departed for Aviano AB. The wing, which had conducted fighter operations at the base for more than 25 years, left as agreed to in the new U.S.-Spanish Agreement on Defense Cooperation signed in 1988.

The group's primary mission is:

to support the 625th Airlift Support Squadron, stationed at Torrejon, and other Air Mobility Command operations in NATO's critical Southern Mediterranean Region.

It is also tasked to provide infrastructure and programs to support a reasonable standard of living for people stationed at the base and military community in and around Madrid.

And it is also charged with planning and implementing the deactivation of the group by Oct. 1, 1994 in a manner that will retain Spanish good will.

The 600th ABG is scheduled to be deactivated by Oct. 1, 1994. Thereafter, a small cadre of about 10 AMC members will remain at the base to provide AMC the capability to use Torrejon on an as required basis.

Current as of August 1993

In the early 1960s, Tactical Air Command began supporting NATO strike commitments at forward operating bases in NATO's Southern Region by rotating fighter squadrons from the United States to bases in Italy and Turkey. By 1966, because of its obligation to the Vietnam War, TAC could no longer support those deployments. Air Force decided to reassign one of TAC's fighter wings to Torrejon to continue the commitment.

Also in the mid-1960s, due to the closure of U.S. bases in France, Torrejon became the main airlift access point to the Southern Region Mediterranean bases.

For the next 25 years, the 401st TFW operated and deployed out of Torrejon.


Then, in 1988, a new U.S. Agreement on Defense Cooperation was signed. As a result the 401st TFW (which became the 401st Fighter Wing in 1991) departed the base May 4, 1992.

Another chapter of the base history began that same day with the activation of the 600th Air Base Group, the largest U.S. Air Force, with headquarters located at Aviano AB, Italy.

The group's primary mission is to support the 625th Airlift Support Squadron, stationed at Torrejon, and other Air Mobility Command operations in NATO's critical Southern Region.

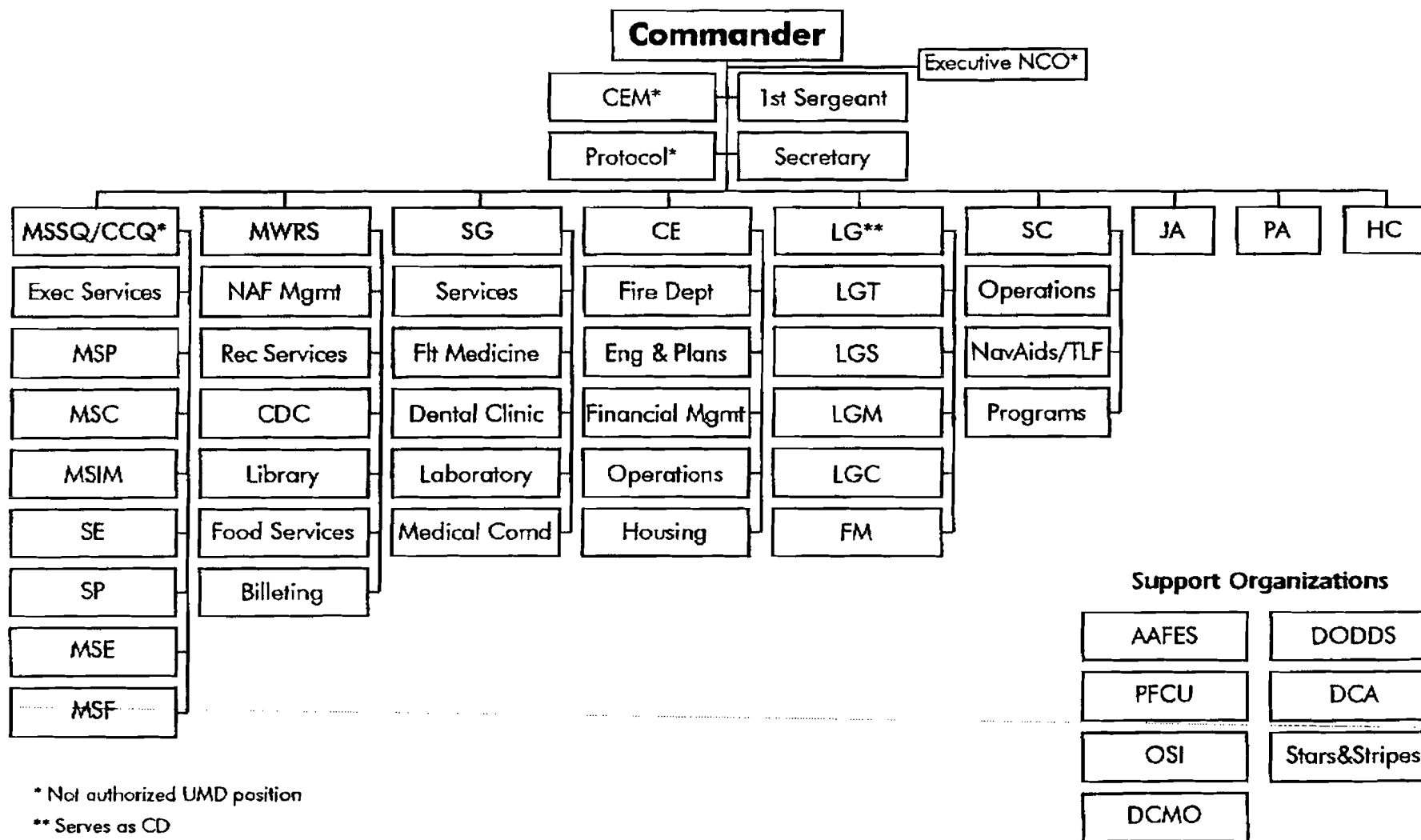
It is also tasked to complete the drawdown of combat forces and conduct an orderly turnover of excess American facilities and equipment to the Spanish Air Force in a manner that retains the goodwill of the Kingdom of Spain.

The 600th ABG is scheduled to be deactivated by Oct. 1, 1994. Thereafter, a small cadre of about 10 AMC members will remain at the base provide AMC the capability to use Torrejon on an as required basis.

 **Current as of August 1993**



# 600th Air Base Group Organization



\* Not authorized UMD position

\*\* Serves as CD

AS OF: 29 Dec 93

KEY PERSONNEL

600 ABG - TORREJON AB, SPAIN

<u>INCUMBENT</u> <u>DUTY TITLE</u> <u>(PREVIOUS POSITION)</u>	<u>DATE</u> <u>ASSIGNED</u> <u>DUTY</u>	<u>DEROS</u>	<u>DATE</u> <u>ASSIGNED</u> <u>THEATER</u>	<u>SPOUSE</u>
COL JOHN R. ROBINSON II (John) Commander (Dir, Current Issues USAFE/XP, Ramstein AB, GM)	Oct 92	Oct 95	84	Pamela