

C-141 Starlifter aircrew and maintainers prepare for take off



Senior Airman Stephen Sutton, a hydraulics specialist with the 437th Aircraft Generation Squadron, prepares a roller conveyor in a C-141 for an upcoming presidential support mission.



(above) 1st Lt. Lee Guthrie, a pilot assigned to the 16th Airlift Squadron, double checks his map supply to make sure he has the ones he will need for a presidential support trip to the Grand Canyon in Arizona.



(left) Guthrie loads information into the fuel saving advisory system of a C-141 Starlifter prior to take off.

C-141 facts

- Charleston's C-141 squadron has accumulated more than 916,070 accident-free flying hours (best in Air Force)

- After the delivery of the first C-141 in 1965, they began almost daily flights to Southeast Asia, carrying troops, equipment and supplies and returning patients to U.S. hospitals

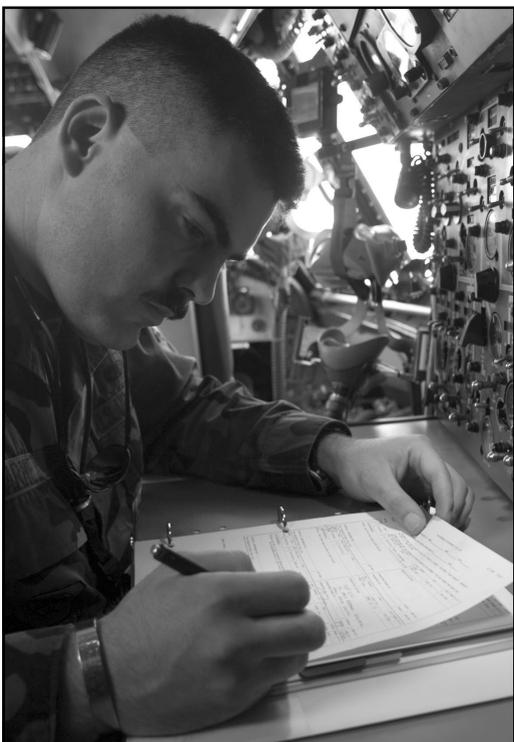
- During Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, a C-141 from Charleston AFB was the first American aircraft into Saudi Arabia

- In 1991, the C-141 completed the most airlift missions supporting the Gulf War - 7,047 of 15,800

- The Charleston AFB Special Operations Low Level mission transferred to McGuire AFB, N.J. in 1999

- The last Charleston-based C-141 Starlifter will leave here in September

(Information obtained from the 437 AW fact sheet)



(above) Senior Airman Keith Hackney, a 16 AS loadmaster closes the crew entrance door before departing for the Grand Canyon.

(left) Senior Airman Sam Barnett, 437 AGS crew chief, reviews the aircraft discrepancy forms (AF 781A).

photos by
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