

501ST COMBAT SUPPORT WING



Vision

To be the premier enabler and combat operations gateway into the European theater

Purpose

To eliminate barriers so others may operate by providing innovative solutions and exceptional support

Who We Are

We are the Pathfinders, and our motto is "Light the Way!" Our mission is to provide agile combat support to enable ISR, global strike, and C3 missions for US and NATO operations. We serve nine Combatant Commands and 65 DoD, DoS, NSA, and NATO missions. We are combat support experts, and we deliver on our commitments.

Leadership



Wing Commander
Col D. Landon Phillips



Deputy Commander
Col William C. Smith



Command Chief
CMSgt Terrance D. Boyd

A Team of Teams

Almost 2,000 Airmen serve one wing with two groups, 14 squadrons, and 17 wing staff agencies. The 501st serves a community of more than 14,000 personnel spread across ten installations.

- 803 Enlisted, 76 Officers
- 460 UK and 159 US Civilians
- 318 Contractors

Additionally, we support mission partners from the NATO Joint Warfare Center, US European Command, US Africa Command, NATO Intelligence Fusion Center, Air Force Global Strike Command, and nearly 65 other US military and government agencies.

Our Priorities

- Ready
- Reliable
- Responsive

Our Installations

- We operate eight installations across the UK, one GSU in Norway, and one in Cyprus
- The 422d ABG operates RAF Fairford, RAF Croughton, RAF Welford, RAF Barford St. John, and RAF Akrotiri
- The 423d ABG operates RAF Alconbury, RAF Molesworth, RAF Menwith Hill, RAF Blenheim Crescent and Stavanger Air Base

Our History

On June 1, 1944 the 501st Bombardment Group was activated and in April of 1945 deployed to Guam, where they flew 15 combat missions and airdropped food and supplies to Allied Prisoners of War. On September 15, 1956, the 501st Tactical Missile Wing was established as the first USAF tactical missile wing, then later deactivated on June 18, 1958. The wing was later reactivated as the 501st Tactical Missile Wing on July 1, 1982 but inactivated on May 31, 1991. The wing was later designated as the 501st Combat Support Wing and reactivated on March 22, 2005. The 501st CSW remains the only combat support wing in the USAF, and carries on its storied heritage of generating combat missions around the globe and projecting diplomacy through its ten geographically separated locations across the United Kingdom, Norway, and Cyprus.

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