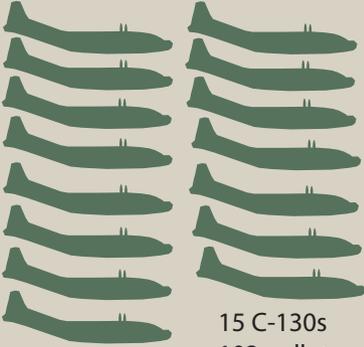


DEPLOYABLE COMM PACKAGES

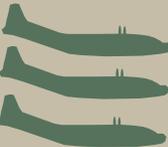
A quick look at how the Air Force is transforming its communications footprint

Today's Air Force and joint warfighter requires lighter, leaner, and more versatile communications to conduct command and control, and support functions at all levels of conflict. Here's a past, present and future look at some of the communications packages the Air Force deploys.

PAST: One size fits all mentality

<p>Transportation</p>  <p>15 C-130s 103 pallets</p>	<p>Size</p>  <p>7 large "boxes"</p>	<p>Scope</p> <p>72+ hour response</p> <p>Major Theater War focus</p>	<p>TDC</p> <p>Theater Deployable Communications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶▶ voice ▶▶ messaging ▶▶ ATCALs (Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems) ▶▶ alert comm
 <p>142 troops deployed</p>			<p>During Operation Enduring Freedom, combat communications employed large unit type codes with a "one size fits all mentality." Because there was no published plan to phase in combat communications capability, the Air Force employed a pick-up game philosophy to support the mission and used combat communications units for indefinite sustainment missions. For Operation Iraqi Freedom, comm planners recognized that every base did not need a full TDC package.</p>

PRESENT: Tailored packages

 <p>3 C-130s 12 pallets</p>	<p>8-8-8 Initial Comm Package</p> <p>8 DSN, 8 NIPRNET and 8 SIPRNET drops. These teams establish these services in just hours at remote locations in the war zone—sometimes in blackout conditions. The teams are made up of five troops and five pallets to include organic power, environmental control and base support for self-sustainment and could be deployed on a single C-130.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶▶ voice ▶▶ messaging ▶▶ ATCALs ▶▶ weather ▶▶ networks ▶▶ alert comm ▶▶ VTC (video teleconferencing)
 <p>Smaller, more compact units</p>	<p>DICE Deployable Independent Communications Element</p> <p>DICE expands the capability of the '8-8-8' packages, incorporating VHF/UHF radios for ground-to-air communications. DICE Teams can provide 40 DSN, 46 SIPRNET, and 22 NIPRNET drops within a 100-meter radius.</p>	
 <p>129 troops deployed</p> <p>24-72+ hour response</p> <p>MTW/Small Scale Conflict focus</p>	<p>FLY-AWAY KITS Comm for liaison officers</p> <p>These packages allow liaison officers, deployed to coalition embassies in the Gulf region, to stay in contact with the Combined Air Operations Center and to maintain situational awareness of air tasking orders and SCUD alert warnings. Each package is comprised of two comm troops and a lightweight, portable suite of comm equipment.</p>	

FUTURE: Phased deployments

 <p>Partial C-130 0, 4, 9, 12 pallets</p>	<p>Phase 1 Initial Comm *adon, DICE, '8-8-8', Fly-Away Kits</p> <p>Phase 2 Central base services</p> <p>Phase 3 Base build up, ATCALs</p> <p>Phase 4 Base expansion</p> <p>Phase 5 Exit planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶▶ voice ▶▶ messaging ▶▶ ATCALs ▶▶ weather ▶▶ networks
 <p>Scalable response</p>	<p>Future initiatives: True multi-band satellite operations—using the full bandwidth spectrum, more robust ISR support, employment of wireless technology, beyond line-of-sight radios, machine-to-machine capabilities and refinement of reachback capabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶▶ alert comm ▶▶ VTC ▶▶ ISR (intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance.) ▶▶ data links ▶▶ C2 integration ▶▶ Information Operations
 <p><80 troops deployed</p> <p>8+ hour response</p> <p>Full Spectrum focus</p>		