

United States Coast Guard, Western Pacific Logistic Support Air Group



"Cosmic Air"

In the years after World War II this unit which was eventually based out of Coast Guard Air Station-Barbers Point, Oahu, Hawaii, flew missions to supply the far-flung Coast Guard-manned LORAN Stations throughout the Central and Western Pacific.

The unit flew a variety of missions and carried a wider variety of cargo. In regard to the former, they engaged in search and rescue and law enforcement missions. After seismic events they flew earthquake assessment and tsunami warning patrols in addition to bringing supplies to stations that may have been disabled by such events. They also flew typhoon patrols and helped in the evacuation of those in the storms' paths. As for the latter, they carried everything from cement mixers to high explosives. They also carried some distinguished human cargo including flag officers and Congressional delegations. All in all it was a mixed bag and it helped make "Cosmic Air," as they came to be known (the origin of the term is uncertain), as the unique outfit it was.

Locations served by the men and aircraft of "Cosmic Air"

Hawaii	Kure	Ulithi
Tinian	American Samoa	Guam
Yap	Angaur	Fiji
Iwo Jima	Kwajalein	Hong Kong
Koror	Vietnam, Republic of	Okinawa
Japan	Majuro	Palmyra
Majuro	Singapore	Eniwetok
Philippines	Kanton	Korea, Republic of
Wake	Midway	Indonesia
Truk	Ponapei	Saipan
Makin	French Frigate Shoals	Alaska

Regarding the unit, a technical representative wrote:

Weekly Report of Activities and Development- 12 May 1961
Lockheed Aircraft Technical Representative Report to Home Office

“This is an unusual outfit. They operate four types of aircraft and maintain a complete Air Station with 24 officers and 94 enlisted personnel. This includes the cook, supply, and shops to be self-supporting. The aircraft assigned are SC130-B, R5D-4, UF2G, and C-123B.

Their secret of success is that they work together and are much more interested in how to repair a faulty part than how to get a new one. When everything is taken into consideration, this is by far the finest military organization I have been associated with. I am sorry that the heavy training schedule at Hickam Air Force Base prevents me from spending more time with them.”

So to the men who served to keep the LORAN Stations and their crews supplied and operational ...
thank you for your service.



Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point



C-130s at Barbers Point



Barbers Point Shunks Park



Barbers Point Shunks Park



Barbers Point (in the distance) from the air



Barbers Point- 1958



C-123 at Barbers Point (note the R5D in background)



Coast Guard Air Detachment, Sangley Point, Philippines



Coast Guard Air Detachment, Sangley Point, Philippines



Coast Guard Air Detachment, Sangley Point, Philippines



Coast Guard Air crewman at Miho Air Base in Japan



CG LORSTA French Frigate Shoals from the air



Iwo Jima





Douglas R5D Skymaster



C-130 on Guam with female evacuees from a school on Saipan



Grumman UF1G Albatross – “The Goat”



A Goat makes its way onto the beach