

# FY2020

## ANNUAL REPORT



**571<sup>ST</sup>  
MOBILITY  
SUPPORT  
ADVISORY  
SQUADRON**



“By working together with allies and partners we amass the greatest possible strength for the long-term advancement of our interests, maintaining favorable balances of power that deter aggression and support the stability that generates economic growth. When we pool resources and share responsibility for our common defense, our security burden becomes lighter. Our allies and partners provide complementary capabilities and forces along with unique perspectives, regional relationships, and information that improve our understanding of the environment and expand our options. Allies and partners also provide access to critical regions, supporting a widespread basing and logistics system that underpins the Department’s global reach.”

National Defense Strategy 2018





# Bienvenido...

Welcome to the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron's Annual Report. This booklet catalogs the security cooperation missions our squadron executed during Fiscal Year 2020. Located at Travis Air Force Base, California, our unit specializes in providing Security Force Assistance in various capacities. As one of two Air Mobility Command Air Advisory Squadrons, we are manned by specially trained, culturally astute, and language enabled Airmen from over 30 different Air Force Specialties. Our Advisors employ their technical expertise to design custom-tailored training events and courses to advance the capabilities of our partner nations' security forces in Latin America. We are committed to coordinating with multiple organizations to achieve security cooperation goals. Our Advisors are security cooperation professionals dedicated to building relationships, advancing capabilities, and demonstrating tangible results in partnerships and commitments.



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# SECURITY COOPERATION



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## MSAS MISSION

Support the United States National Defense Strategy through Security Cooperation missions; provide highly capable, specifically trained Air Advisors to meet Geographic Combatant Commander objectives; promote interoperability with the United States military and other national agencies; inspire partner nations to view the United States as their partner of choice.

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## STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERS

Our partners have gained tremendous capabilities over the last year. In Costa Rica, we helped establish greater proficiency in maintenance, police tactics, working dog handling, and airfield management. In Colombia, our Air Advisors developed their C-130 maintenance philosophy, systems knowledge, and best practices. We also advanced our partners capabilities in the areas of aircraft maintenance, airfield management, communications, emergency services, logistics and supply. The skills our Air Advisors provide will be used to promote stability in the region and will contribute to global security.

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## SHARPENING OUR RELATIONSHIPS

Our goal is to make the United States the premier partner throughout Latin America by establishing rapport with our partners. In 2020, we strengthened our relationships profoundly by taking action and producing results that directly impact global affairs.



# 571 MSAS FISCAL YEAR 2020 ENGAGEMENTS

TOTAL COUNTRIES 8  
TOTAL MOBILE TRAINING TEAM ENGAGEMENTS 4  
TOTAL E-MOBILE TRAINING TEAM ENGAGEMENTS 2  
TOTAL SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT EXCHANGES 3  
TOTAL PARTNER NATION STUDENTS 238  
TOTAL HOURS OF INSTRUCTION 968  
TOTAL DAYS DEPLOYED 117

# ANNUAL REPORT FY2020 SUMMARY

## GUATEMALA

18 students | 14 air advisors | 10 days



## COSTA RICA

33 students | 9 air advisors | 18 days



## COLOMBIA

86 students | 21 air advisors | 31 days



## PERU

25 students | 15 air advisors | 15 days

## BELIZE

2 air advisors | 5 days



## HONDURAS

2 air advisors | 2 days



## PANAMA

26 students | 15 air advisors | 16 days



## ECUADOR

50 students | 7 air advisors | 31 days



MOBILE TRAINING TEAM EVENT (571 MSAS-LED)



SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT EXCHANGE (571 MSAS AUGMENTED)



## PERSONNEL DEVELOPMENT FLIGHT (CCD)

The 571 MSAS is comprised of a diverse collection of subject matter experts from over 30 different AFSCs across the Air Force. The Personnel Development Flight's mission is to ensure the development of each squadron member to reach his or her fullest potential.

## FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FLIGHT (CCM)

In the wake of COVID-19, the financial management flight had to make significant adjustments to the squadron's budget to adapt to the changing fiscal landscape of the security cooperation enterprise. After most missions, engagements, and training courses the squadron had planned for the year were canceled due to the global pandemic, CCM provided the Squadron Commander and unit members clear guidance. CCM's flexible planning through the trials of FY20, allowed the Águilas to continue dominating security cooperation efforts throughout Latin America.

## STANDARDIZATION & EVALUATION FLIGHT (CCV)

Standardization & Evaluation Flight (CCV) is responsible for standardizing procedures and providing the commander with tools to evaluate the squadron's mission readiness. Additionally, CCV develops, evaluates, and ensures standardization of Building Partner Capacity operational procedures. Furthermore, it is their responsibility to assess unit effectiveness and compliance with applicable operational, training, and administrative directives. Finally, the flight identifies trends and recommends changes to processes and directions when necessary.

## OPERATIONS STAFF (OPS)

The Operations Staff (OPS), under the direction of the Director of Operations (DO), is responsible for organizing, training, and equipping Mobile Training Teams (MTTs) for Security Cooperation missions. The Operations Superintendent ensures de-confliction of team member scheduling between missions and leads Air Advisor developmental training. The DO and staff ensure operational flights (DOI, DOP, DOR, DOS, and DOT) prepare teams/members for engagements with our Latin American partners. The team coordinates between AFSOUTH A5 desk officers and AMC A3M to effectively coordinate mission execution. By working directly with mission commanders, team sergeants, and team leads, the staff ensures both missions and team members are scheduled, trained, and prepared for engagements. Following mission execution, the operations team ensures all post-mission actions are accomplished, lessons learned are shared, and future teams are ready for subsequent employment.

## INDOCTRINATION FLIGHT (DOI)

The Indoctrination Flight is responsible for bringing all new members “on-board” as they PCS into the squadron. The process begins when a member is selected to be an Air Advisor. DOI ensures the member and their family are taken care of through the transition. Once on station, the flight ensures the member is appropriately in-processed, equipped, and initially trained before being assigned duty in one of the other operational flights.

## STRATEGY & PLAN FLIGHT (DOP)

Strategy and Plans Flight (DOP) serves as the process owner for future mission planning and analysis with mission leadership and OPS inputs. DOP coordinates, facilitates and tracks the progress of formal mission products such as the specific mission Risk Management (RM) Form, Kneeboard, Executive Summary (EXSUM), an After Action Report (AAR) through the mission lifecycle.

## DEPLOYMENT READINESS FLIGHT (DOR)

Deployment Readiness Flight (DOR) validates personnel readiness by conducting personnel readiness reviews, reporting Unit Type Code (UTC) status, and tracking unit medical readiness. The Unit Deployment Managers (UDMs) track member compliance and verifies completion of all applicable readiness requirements such as mobility folder and Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) items. Additionally, DOR initiates and tracks mission team deployment/redeployment requirements according to the following: Time Phased Force Deployment Data (TPFDD) taskings, Foreign Clearance Guide (FCG) requirements, Aircraft, and Personnel Automated Clearance Systems (APACS) submissions, Aeromedical Services Information Management Systems (ASIMS) mandates visa requirements, and passport currency.

## SUPPORT FLIGHT (DOS)

The Support Flight is responsible for ensuring that Air Advisors can successfully execute their missions in-garrison and abroad. The equipment managed includes anything from mission-essential items, career field training aides, and communication systems. Additionally, the Support Flight manages the Foreign Disclosure Program, which ensures courseware taught to a partner nation is certified for release.

## TRAINING FLIGHT (DOT)

Training Flight is responsible for managing the full spectrum of members' training: Air Advising, AFSC, ancillary, and language proficiency. This full-spectrum training ensures that Airmen are prepared to deploy as both Air Advisors and Subject Matter Experts in their field. Additionally, through our language program, DOT helps bridge the gap in building relationships with our Spanish-speaking Partner Nations by developing and reinforcing our Air Advisors' communication capabilities in the Spanish language.



# VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

571 MSAS ADAPTING, OVERCOMING, IMPROVISING





# VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

As COVID-19 imposed its rule, we witnessed cancellations, restrictions, and lock-downs limit our ability to execute our mission. We adapted, overcame, improvised, and discovered new ways to engage with our partner nations. Captain Reuben Luone and Master Sergeant Charlie Marino-Franco were two of the innovators that met the challenge. They created a system and process that allowed our teams to engage with our partner nation personnel and continue our commitment to building partnerships and partnership capabilities in a virtual environment.

A virtual engagement, also referred to as an electronic-Mobile Training Team (e-MTT), is an Engagement with our partner nations. e-MTT's include classroom instruction or planning discussions that support the Air Advising mission to continue to provide the same level of professionalism while meeting the desired learning objectives through a virtual means.

While virtual engagements cannot fully replace or duplicate the effectiveness of in-person advising, they provide a complementary method of meeting mission requirements and engaging with our partners during challenging times or in the interim between in-person engagements.

The 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron employed this initiative to meet the mission needs of our partners in Panama and Guatemala and further our strategic goals.

“Giving Panama quality training, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic, shows that US Air Force Air Advisors can rise to any occasion.” TSgt Samantha Miller



VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT



# FTX

The 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron conducted a field training exercise at the King Range National Conservation Area in northern California, Aug. 10-14, 2020. This week-long exercise provided 19 Air Advisors with critical survival training in heavily vegetated mountainous terrain and coastal areas where they learned fire and shelter building, sustenance gathering, land navigation, and rescue signaling techniques.



## ***Fast Facts***

**Location:** King Range National; Conservation Area, CA

**Exercise Dates:** 10-14 August 2020

**Courses:** Basic Survival | Navigation | Communication | Equipment Familiarization

**Hours Instructed:** 120

**Students:** 19



**FTX**  
FIELD TRAINING EXERCISE

# TCCC



Members of the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron conducted a tactical combat casualty care training scenario on July 13, 2020, outside building 381 on Travis Air Force Base, California. Leadership from the 621st Contingency Response Wing was on hand to observe the training and attended presentations from 571st MSAS air advisors on their equipment to conduct the training.

TCCC is the new Air Force initiative to better prepare airmen to perform potential lifesaving treatment in various challenging environments, from the battlefield to domestic scenarios. The concept of TCCC consists of three phases. The first phase is Care Under Fire, where participants are taught to render essential lifesaving care to remove patients from a challenging environment. The second phase is Tactical Field Care. In this phase, students are trained to administer the next level of medical care while awaiting evacuation. In the last phase, Tactical Evacuation, participants learn to continue medical treatment while evacuating patients.



# TCCC

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE TRAINING



## *Fast Facts*

**Location:** Travis Air Force Base, CA

**Exercise Dates:** Recurring

**Courses:** Tactical Combat Casualty Care Under Domestic and Deployed Scenario

**Hours Instructed:** 528

**Students:** 247 from 3 Wings

TACTICAL COMBAT CASUALTY CARE



# COLOMBIA

This team consisted of 15 air advisors from the 571st MSAS at Travis Air Force Base and six Total Force instructors from three other US Air Force units. The training covered a variety of areas of cooperation between the US and Colombia. It aimed to support Colombia in its pursuit to counter transnational and transregional threat networks and enhance the capability of the Fuerza Aerea Colombiana (FAC), or Colombian Air Force, to maintain regional security through increased proficiency in mobility support operations. The training was conducted at Comando Aereo de Transporte Militar in Bogota, Colombia, and Comando Aereo Combate-1 in Palanquero, Colombia.

The training provided focused on C-130 Hercules aircraft maintenance, aerial firefighting procedures, search and rescue, intelligence, and medical intelligence. The C-130s, located at Comando Aereo de Transporte Militar, are the workhorse of the FAC fleet, capable of conducting a diverse mission set. Instructors conducted training through classroom briefings and hands-on training on the aircraft to effectively advance Colombian Air Force maintenance practices.



## Fast Facts

**Location:** Bogotá and Palanquero, Colombia

**Exercise Dates:** 11 February - 11 March 2020

**Courses:** Fleet Management | C-130 Maintenance (Crew Chiefs Course) | C-130 Maintenance (Electrical Systems) | T56 Engines | Modular Airborne Fire Fighting Systems | Search and Rescue

Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance

Medical Intelligence

**Hours Instructed:** 335

**Students:** 86



# COLOMBIA

1 MOBILITY TRAINING TEAM EVENT

Lt. Col. Richard Pantusa, 731st Airlift Squadron Modular Airborne Firefighting Systems instructor pilot from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., demonstrates the effectiveness of fire retardants in combating forest fires to members from the Fuerza Aérea Colombiana. Employing an aerial firefighting capability will help the FAC in battling wildfires, both internally and internationally. The specialized training provided by the US Air Force Reserve Command personnel was a stepping stone to future work with the FAC on further enhancing this capability.

# COSTA RICA

Our Advisors conducted this mission in support of SOUTHCOM Line of Effort “Countering Transnational Illicit Activity.” It was built to enhance the Servicio de Vigilancia A rea de Costa Rica (SVA) capabilities, Costa Rica’s Air Surveillance Service, to conduct this mission set within their borders. The partner nation participants gained more excellent proficiency in aircraft maintenance, police tactics, working dog handling, & airfield management. The team conducted the training via interactive briefings, demonstrations, and hands-on training scenarios.

MSAS Advisors trained 33 Costa Rican students throughout MTT 20-06. The MTT included 15 personnel from the aircraft maintenance unit, seven from the Working Dog Program, and 11 from the Police Force. The Costa Rican Air Surveillance Service is not a military organization but rather a civil defense force. Our advisors helped to advance their capabilities to conduct internal defense operations.

## Fast Facts

**Location:** San Jose, Costa Rica

**Exercise Dates:** 4 - 21 March 2020

**Courses:** Fleet Management | Advanced Police Tactics/Patrolling & Interdiction | K9 Narcotics Detection/Kennel Operations | PT6 Engine Repair/MXS Organizational Structure

**Hours Instructed:** 200

**Students:** 33





# COSTA RICA

1 MOBILITY TRAINING TEAM EVENT

COSTA RICA



# ECUADOR

Since the unit's inception over nine years ago, the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron deployed a Mobile Training Team (MTT) to Ecuador for the first time this summer. Against all odds with a global pandemic raging at full force, the 571st MSAS was able to bring their tailored curriculum to the Fuerza Aerea Ecuatoriana (FAE), or Ecuadorian Air Force.

The 571st MSAS continues to pioneer in the air advisory industry. The young unit not only managed to combat COVID-19 and its restrictive travel requirements, but this MTT also paved the way for future missions and established a new normal for conducting advisory missions in a COVID-19 environment. The gratitude shown by the FAE, the schoolhouse, and even the lodging staff proved how vital this mission was to re-establish relationships in Ecuador. As FAE Maj. Alonso Ortega, commander of the 1121st Heavy Aircraft Maintenance Squadron and C-130 Hercules Aircraft Systems Course class student, so boldly stated, "This course helped me become more intimately familiar with the technical workings of the C-130 aircraft. The knowledge I have gained from the course has made me a better maintenance professional, especially in making asserted technical decisions in my position as a maintenance squadron commander. I was afforded time away from my routine duties to learn and grow alongside my unit members ... and, most importantly, to build valuable relationships with all members of the MTT."

The 571st MSAS looks forward to future engagements with the FAE, their continued relationship with Ecuador, and what they do best: build partnerships.





# ECUADOR

1 MOBILITY TRAINING TEAM EVENT

## ***Fast Facts***

**Location:** Latacunga, Ecuador

**Exercise Dates:** 4 July - 4 August 2020

**Courses:** C-130 Maintenance Operations | Technical Order (TO) manuals, electrical, hydraulics, bleed air system maintenance & sealants | Logistics Warehouse Management

Storage, accountability, hazardous materials, fuels requisition, and storage

**Hours Instructed:** 240

**Students:** 50

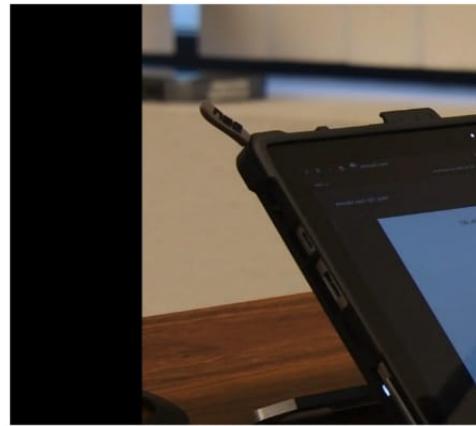


# GUATEMALA

1 VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT & 1 VIRTUAL SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT EXCHANGE

The 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron conducted a virtual engagement with the Guatemalan Air Force (GAF) at La Aurora Air Base focused on helping their aircraft maintenance leaders develop standard operating procedures for their quality assurance program. In tandem with the quality assurance development focus, the team also guided developing a mishap prevention program and hazardous material handling, transportation, and storage procedures. Additionally, this virtual engagement provided an overview of aircraft weight & balance requirements from the aircraft maintenance, aerial port, and pilot perspectives to produce more effective interoperability amongst those specialties.

The virtual training provided by our team was a good knowledge leveling event that primed our Guatemalan partners before we conducted a weight & balance program inspection in the country.





## ***Fast Facts***

**Location:** Travis Air Force Base, CA

**Exercise Dates:** 23 - 29 September 2020

**Courses:** Quality Control I C-208 Operations Performance calculations I Weight and balance

**Hours Instructed:** 28

**Students:** 18

**GUATEMALA**



PANAMA

# PANAMA

1 VIRTUAL ENGAGEMENT

# PANAMA

Air Advisors from the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron provided training for the first time using a virtual medium to members of the National Aeronaval Service of Panama, also known as SENAN, from August 31 through September 11. This new instruction format is vastly different from anything the MSAS has done before, as their mission is typically conducted in a partner nation. Before this advising engagement, air advisors received virtual training certifications that included two weeks of significant practice, research, and training to ensure they were presenting a professional image and complying with industry standards. Air advisors established the new training and certification process with inputs from Headquarters Air Force, Air Mobility Command, Inter-American Air Forces Academy, 818th MSAS, and the State Partnership Program members.

During the virtual engagement, our advisors provided SENAN personnel with training in Command and Control, Airfield Management, Air Traffic Control, and Weather to advance their capabilities and ability to employ air power.



## Fast Facts

**Location:** Travis Air Force Base, CA

**Exercise Dates:** 31 August - 11 September 2020

**Courses:** Command and Control (C2) | Airfield Management | Air Traffic Control | Weather

**Hours Instructed:** 75

**Students:** 26



# PERU

1 MOBILITY TRAINING TEAM EVENT



## *Fast Facts*

*Location:* Travis Air Force Base, CA

*Exercise Dates:* 18 February - 14 March 2020

*Courses:* Aerial Port Logistics | Supply | HAZMAT Handling

*Hours Instructed:* 90

*Students:* 25

# PERU



A 14-member team from the 571st Mobility Support Advisory Squadron and leaders from the 621st Contingency Response Wing completed training from February 18 through March 14 with the Peruvian Air Force, also known as FAP Callao Air Base in Lima, Per .

The Mobile Training Team (MTT) provided three weeks of instruction at Callao and covered three general areas: an introduction to aerial logistics and logistical management, hazardous material management, and cargo loading. The course brought together FAP personnel from the tactical to the strategic level and included Air Group 8, Air Group 3, and the FAP's logistics headquarters.

As an Advisor's, we are entrusted to represent the US Air Force in foreign countries. We export our knowledge, skills, and experience to influence and further develop partner nations to deepen our interoperability, which may be necessary at a moment's notice.

This type of success is what Air Advisors from the 571st MSAS seek to replicate every time they embark on an air advising mission. The squadron's motto is "Saber es Poder," or "Knowledge is Power," Every Airman is rigorously trained as both a teacher and a representative for building partnerships.

The 571st MSAS is a language-enabled squadron of air advisors who assess, train, advise and assist Latin American and Caribbean partner nations in developing their airpower capabilities as part of the US Air Force's and Air Mobility Command's enduring building partner capacity mission. Each successive engagement supports Per 's foundation of freedom, stability, and prosperity in the region and contributes to the U.S. Southern Command's objective of strengthening partnerships and increasing interoperability.





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The 571st MSAS is dedicated to building partnership capacity in its partner nations and is committed to serving local communities. In 2020, over \$700 in donations in school supplies and recreational items were delivered to primary schools in Peru and Ecuador. In Peru, 571st MSAS members also enjoyed BBQ and a friendly soccer match with the school children during their visit.

The MSAS operates a community relations program funded by its booster club and the donated time of the guilas. Through these events, the guilas assist those in need and leave a lasting positive impression of the US military with the local population of our partner nations.





Mission Number	Mission Type	PN Personnel Trained	Hours of Instruction	Air Advisors	Days
Belize 2T2	SMEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Colombia 20-04	MTT	86	335	21	31
Colombia 20-04A	PDSS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Costa Rica 20-06	MTT	33	200	9	18
Guatemala 20-21	e-MTT	18	28	12	6
Guatemala MX	e-SMEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ecuador 20-10	MTT	50	240	7	31
Hondura MX	SMEE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Panama 20-12	e-MTT	26	75	15	16
Panama Staff Talks	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Peru 20-03	MTT	25	90	15	15
Total	11	238	968	79	117

MTT	Mobile Training Team
e-MTT	Virtual Engagement
SMEE	Subject Matter Expert Exchange
MISC	Miscellaneous Security Cooperation Engagement
PDSS	Pre-Deployment Site Survey

# MISSION STATISTICS



★ AIR ADVISOR ★

AIR ADVISOR



*“¡Saber es Poder!... Knowledge is Power!”*