



Michigan Wing



Wing Supports Operation Northern Strike

■ The Michigan Wing once again helped ensure the success last year of Operation Northern Strike, one of the largest reserve component operations supporting combat readiness training and hosted annually at Michigan National Guard facilities. The wing was relied upon to assist with the launching and recovery of an MQ-9 Reaper into Michigan's national airspace — the first such Reaper sortie in the state.

The wing was assigned to ensure compliance with Federal Aviation Administration safety regulations by functioning as a chase aircraft escorting the Reaper to and from restricted combat training airspace, an essential

mission component. The wing's Cessna 206 Stationair as well as other CAP aircraft flew out of the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center alongside the Reaper.

The wing was also tasked with another new Northern Strike facet this year: aeromedical evacuation proficiency in a major exercise with a scope of training from injury to full-on delivery for treatment. Senior members and cadets served as evacuees for military nurses and doctors to work with in qualifying in evacuation procedures, which included transportation via helicopter or large transport aircraft from a field hospital to Alpena mission base. Cadets were

able to talk with doctors, nurses and aircrews and ask questions about their military duties.

As in previous years, the wing also provided elements of airborne communications, search and rescue and air interdiction training. The wing takes great pride in its expanding role in contributing to Northern Strike, helping make sure National Guard troops are prepared for as many scenarios as possible.

Members of a Michigan Wing aircrew keep an eye on an MQ-9 Reaper, part of their work with Operation Northern Strike. Wing aircrews flew 126 hours in support of the exercise.

Michigan Wing 2019 STATISTICS

Volunteer Members

781 adult members
658 cadets
152 aircrew personnel
935 emergency responders

Squadrons

40 locations statewide

Aircraft

12 single engine
2 gliders

Vehicles

20 vehicles

Interoperable Communications

13 VHF/FM repeaters
167 VHF/FM stations
43 HF stations

Missions

8 search and rescue missions
1 life saved*
6 finds*

* Includes life saved and finds credited with national team support

14 air defense intercept training and evaluation missions
8 other Air Force support missions
26 training missions
2 other state support missions
1 other mission in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2019

Fertile Keynotes; CRTC MTR LLRS; Operation Northern Strike; Ohio ANG Photography Support at Alpena

Cadet Flying

851 CAP, AFROTC & AFJROTC cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown

2,265

Financial

\$11,314 in state funding
\$4,395,534 value of wing's volunteer hours

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