



# FACT SHEET

## United States Air Force

### 315th Airlift Wing (AFRC)

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### The “Spirit of Hope, Liberty & Freedom” C-17 Globemaster replica

What started as an idea has now become a reality four years later, thanks to a group of volunteers from the 315th and 437th Airlift Wings, Charleston Air Force Base. Through their hard work and dedication, they have created a miniature replica of the C-17 Globemaster III.

The idea for this project began when Lt Col Chris King, former 315th Airlift Wing Chief, Public Affairs, learned of the replica that Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., had of the C-130.

In December 2000, Chief Master Sergeant Michael Petersen, Master Sgt. John Monical and Staff Sgt. Christopher Fabel, 315th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, traveled to Keesler to study its mini C-130. After returning from Keesler, Monical hand-selected a small team of volunteer specialists to get the job done.



The base of the C-17 replica is a John Deere “Gator” multi-purpose vehicle, donated by the 315th Recruiting Service. The replica is 32 feet long, 13.4 feet tall, has a wingspan of 28.5 feet and was built in modules to make movement easier. The true-to-life replica is complete with flight station panels, engine sounds, operational ramp and cargo door and markings.

The replica was officially named the “Spirit of Hope, Liberty & Freedom” in a base-wide naming contest held February 2004.

The project was made possible solely by volunteer craftsmen and donated material. The “Spirit of Hope, Liberty & Freedom” is available to support parades, static display, air shows, career days and other community events.

Replica	Trailer	Manpower requirements
32’ Long	44’ long	Static – 4
28 ½ ‘ width	8’ width	Parade – 8
13’ 4” height	8 ½ ‘ height	
3,500 lbs weight	7,000 lbs weight	Public Affairs and/or recruiter accompany replica

For more information, contact the 315<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing public affairs office at (843) 963-2034. After hours (cell) (843) 478-1969.