

LOCKHEED HERCULES C130K/C.3 XV202
ACCESSION NUMBER X005-5969

Built as Lockheed at Marietta, Georgia as a C-130H-130-LM Hercules. Allotted nominal USAF serial No. 66-8552 from serials block 66-8550/8573 for administrative purposes. C/N 4223/4224, 4226/4228, 4230/4233, 4235/4238, 4240/4247, 4251/4253.

Batch sold to RAF as Hercules C-130K/C.1 XV200/XV223 as one of 66 C-130K Hercules acquired for the RAF between December 1966 and May 1968.

Manufacturer's No. 382-4226

- 17 Aug 67 Delivered to RAF as Hercules C Mk.1 following painting and fitting out by Marshall of Cambridge.
- c.Oct 67 Photographed at RAF Lyneham with Royal Air Force Far East titling; scheduled for delivery to No 48 Squadron, Changi, Singapore ; Air Britain Digest Feb 1968 p.36.
- 18 Oct 67 Colerne – Thorney Island – Colerne training flights whilst with No 48 Squadron –Allan du Feu LB – extracts on Hercules file.
- 19 Dec 67 2.20hr training flight, Colerne and Lyneham – Wildey file note, 2013.Captain Sqn Ldr Alan Colman, pilot Flt Lt Luckins. See also logbook for Flt Lt Ronald A Cochrane.
- 28 Dec 67 6 hr 5 min flight, Lyneham – Akrotiri- en route delivery to 48 Squadron, RAF Changi, Singapore – file note from then Pilot Officer Brian Wildey. On to Bahrein and hence to Gan following day – flying time 6 hrs 55 minutes.
- 31 Dec 67 Gan – Changi flying time 6hrs 40 minutes. Captain for whole flight Sqn Ldr Colman.
- 5 Jan 68 Changi (Singapore) -Darwin-Amberley-Changi fight over seven days as part of route check flight – du Feu LB.
- 8 Jan 68 SEAC runs, Cochrane LB; flight time four hours. Pilot Flt Lt Lancaster.
- 23 Jan 68 Changi-Gan-and beyond over five days – du Fue LB.
- 23 Feb 68 Cochrane LB – Changi – Loeng Nok – Tha-Changi; 7.25 hours. Pilot Flt Lt Shere.
- 22 Mar 68 Logbook of Air Loadmaster Peter Walden – Hughes (extracts in file) records 3.40 hour flight L.N.T – Changi, with 3.55-hour return flight the following day; pilot for both W/Cdr Taplin.

- 17 Apr 68 Two parachutist runs – Operation Winged Dagger. Flight time 1.05 hours, pilot Flt Lt Fielding. Cochrane LB.
- 19 Apr 68 Cochrane LB – Winged Dagger – two runs to Kluang. Pilot Flt Lt Carter.
- 23 Apr 68 Changi – Kluang-Changi; de Feu LB.
- 22 May 68 Photographed at Port Moresby, New Guinea, by crew member Allan du Feu during Changi-Port Moresby – Lae-Kukum-Nandi flight – de Feu LB; finally returned to Changi via Port Moresby 27 May.
- 2 Jul 68 Changi – Penerak-Changi –de Feu LB.
- 8 Jul 68 Wildey file note – Changi – Kuala Lumpur and return.
- 9 Jul 68 Wildey file note – 1.45 hour Night Training, Captain Fg Off Walton.
- 2 Aug 68 Changi - Mauritius - Changi - de Feu LB.
- 4 Sep 68 Cochrane LB – 1.15 hours M.S.P Drop Kanear Kahang
- 26 Sep 68 Changi-Darwin, returning to Changi 29th – de Feu LB.
- 27 Sep 68 Walden-Hughes LB records day/night flight Darwin – Changi, returning to Darwin the following day. Pilot S/Ldr Newton.
- 5 Nov 68 Changi-Kai Tak (Hong Kong) - Changi – de Feu LB.
- 20 Dec 68 Wildey file note – Changi – Hong Kong, 4.35 hours, Captain Fg Off Wilson. Also recorded in Walden-Hughes LB; pilot Flt Lt Lancaster as Changi – Butterworth –Kai Tak (Hong Kong)
- 27 Dec 68 Wildey file note - Changi – Hong Kong 4.40 hours.
- 17 Jan 69 Flight Muharraq – Changi (11.45 hours day/night) recorded in Walden-Hughes LB. Pilot Flt Lt Harrington.
- 10 Feb 69 Kai Tak – Changi (de Feu LB)
- 24 May 69 Changi – Labuan-Changi –de Feu LB.
- 27 May 69 Kai Tak –Changi – de Feu LB.
- 12 Jun 69 Changi-Kai Tak, and Changi-Butterworth (Malaya) - Darwin – Changi on 16th July – de Feu LB.
- 17 Jun 69 Darwin – Changi flight recorded in Walden-Hughes LB. Pilot S/Ldr Newton.

- 28 Jun 69 Cochrane LB – 6.40 hour flight, Darwin – Butterworth (Malaysia) then on to Tengah and Changi (1.30 hours). Pilot Flt Lt Carter.
- 14 Jul 69 Wildey file note – five hour flight Changi – Hong Kong, and on to Kimpo, South Korea – 4.45hours.
- 15 Jul 69 Wildey file note – Kimpo – Iwakuni-Misawa-Tachikawa (USAF base near Tokyo, Japan) Flying time 4.50 hours.
- 17 Jul 69 Wildey file note - Tachikawa – Kimpo 2hrs 35 minutes, then Kimpo-Hong Kong (5hrs); next day Hong Kong – Changi (4.40 hours)
- 10 Aug 69 Changi-Darwin-Whenupai-Edinburgh – Darwin-Changi – flight completed 15 August. De Feu LB.
- 1 Sep 69 Wildey file note – low-level flying in Malaysia – flying time two hours.
- 18 Sep 69 Cochrane LB – Kai Tak – Changi, 4.50 hrs, Pilot Flt Lt Kilpatrick.
- Mar 70 Flown by Flt Lt (Later Sqn Ldr) Ian Nelson for the annual Lord Trophy competition won by Lyneham-based No.24 Squadron. ‘Exercise Thread’ saw several Hercules, including XV202, and was a support competition testing low level flying, parachute, and other supply dropping, based at Hal Far, Malta.
- 28 May 70 Abingdon – Benson (de Feu LB)
- 6-8 Jan 71 Flown by Flt Lt Nelson Eastleigh (Nairobi) – Muharaaq (Bahrain) – Akrotiri (Cyprus)
- 20-21 Jan 71 Flown by Flt Lt Jones Hong Kong-Changi-Gan-Muharraq-Akrotiri-Lynham. See extracts from LB of AEO Flt Lt H G Meggs on Hercules history file.
- 2-8 Feb 71 Flown by Flt Lt Nelson Bahrain – Mombasa – Masirah – Firq. He then did a series of nine flights between either Salalah or Masirah to and from Firq in order to rotate the troops from the Gulf States. XV202 then flown back to Bahrain where another crew took it back to RAF Lyneham.
- 17 Mar 71 Flown by Flt Lt McGilchrist, Lajes – Nassau 9hrs 10 minutes; MALM Harry ‘Taff’ Lovett- see e-mail from Rob Lovett, 18 February 2016.
- 18-19 Mar 71 Flown by Flt Lt McGilchrist Nassau-South Caicos-Lajes-Lyneham.(Meggs LB)
- 19 Apr 71 Flown by Flt Lt Johnson, MCT CPT 1.30hrs; MALM again Taff Lovett.

- 30 Sep 71 Flown by Flt Lt Nelson on a low level formation flying exercise. No drop due to weather.
- 19 Nov 71 Transported Italian Parachutists to Pisa, Italy (Robert Thacker logbook-extract on Hercules file)
- 22 Nov 71 Supported Harrier deployment to Norway with flight via RAF Wittering to RNoAF Gardermoen (Thacker logbook)
- Dec 71 At Thorney Island with No. 242 O.C.U.
- 8 Dec 71 Cochrane LB – 20 minute flight, Lyneham – Thorney Island; pilot Flt Lt Pierce.
- Flt Lt Nelson commented in 2011; ‘I transferred to Thorney Island to join the OCU as an instructor in Dec 1971 and my first flight at Thorney Island was on XV202. It appears that it must have been transferred to Thorney Island between those last two flights. I think it must then have been based at Thorney Island until Thorney closed in Nov 1975 as I flew it on at least 36 occasions. Amongst the routine exercises repeated for every course I also flew it to;-
- 15-17 May 72 Thorney Island (TI) to Lajes (Azores) to Bermuda - TI; our regular oceanic training exercise.
- 27/8 Jul 72 Thorney Island – Akrotiri - Thorney Island – Cochrane LB. Pilot Sqd Ldr Phillips.
- 11-12 Sep 72 TI to Gatow (Berlin) (and 7 May 1973)
- 19-21 Sep 72 Practice and Demonstration flights – Cochrane LB. Pilot Wg Cdr Ward.
- 12 -14 Feb 73 TI to Gibraltar - Lajes - TI
- Mar 73 Operated in Nepal – Operation Khana Cascade; Lockheed Hercules of the Royal Air Force mounted an emergency food – rice, maize and grain and supplies airdrop to famine-stricken villages in remote areas of West Nepal, delivering 1,964 tons of cargo over a 29-day period..
- 14 Jun 73 Aircrew logbook (Engineer) of F Sgt David Sinclair Bright records 6.10 hour Thorney Island – Akrotiri (Cyprus) flight.
- 13 Jul 73 Bright LB records 4.10 hour flight Thorney Island – Aalborg – Thorney Island flight.
- 16 Jul 73 Bright :B records 1.15 hour flight Thorney Island – Colerne – Thorney Island to pick up ferry crew.
- 3 Aug 73 1.20 hour flight, Thorney Island – Abingdon and return. Cochrane LB.

- 9 Feb 74 Thorney Island to Gander where the aircraft went unserviceable until 18th. See Cochrane LB – pilot Sqn Ldr Kellemer. 8.50 hour flight.
- 26/7 Mar 74 Cochrane LB – Thorney Is – Lajes – Gander. Pilot Flt Lt Broadstock-Smith.
- 30 Mar 74 Gander diverted to Lajes – Cochrane LB. 6.40 hour flight. Onwards to Thorney Island the following day (1 April).
- 19 Apr 74 Former Hercules instructor Max Roberts has provided details of a number of flights in XV202 from this date;
- 3 May 74 Pilots Flying log book of Wg Cdr C E Evans records training flights (various exercises) as second pilot on this date plus May 7th, 13th and 22nd – pilots F/L Burrage and F/L Mitchell.
- 1 Jul 74 Evans logbook records 1.35 hour Categorisation flight as second pilot. Pilot W/C Duval.
- 16-19 Sep 74 Thorney Is. – Lajes – Dulles – Gander – Thorney Is. Cochrane LB.
- 5-8th Nov 74 TI to Lajes to Dulles (Washington USA) to JFK (New York) to Gander to TI.

I was promoted to Sqn Ldr, and put in command of the Hercules Flying Squadron of the OCU in June 1974. In November 1975 I flew the last Hercules (XV199) out of Thorney Island. Once we had left TI with the vast number of Hercules available at Lyneham I only flew XV202 on one occasion on 18 April 1977 when I did Categorisation checks on two course members on that aircraft’.

Converted to Hercules C.Mk.3 with fuselage lengthened by 15ft/4.57m by Marshall of Cambridge (Engineering) Ltd as one of 30 such conversions done between 1980 and 1985, using fuselage plugs fore and aft of the wing supplied by Lockheed-Georgia. Used mainly on longer routes and for paratrooping. Notes by Sqn Ldr Tim Gosling (2013) describe XV202 as a ‘Slick’ Mk.3 with the fit of a typical C. Mk.3 from around 2001, permitting normal ‘trucking’ operations but not operation in threat zones such as Iraq and Afghanistan, with a normal crew of five.

- 6 Apr 75 Navigator’s logbook of Wing Commander Colin Eames records 7.10 hour flight, Akrotiri- Lyneham; pilot Flt Lt Sedman.
- 6 Aug 75 4.40 hour Thorney Island- Gibraltar flight - Cochrane Logbook.
- 7 Aug 75 8.15-hour Gibraltar – Gander flight – Cochrane logbook. Pilot for both flights S/Ldr Donnelly.
- 19 Jul 76 Flew Lyneham – Marham (Thacker logbook)

- 11 May 78 Flown Lyneham – Honington – Bodo- Honington (Robert Thacker logbook, extract on file)
- 3 Sept 78 Logbook of S/Ldr Christopher Ford (digital copy with archives) records series of flights to/from Germany until 8 May – Wildenrath-Ramstein-Wildenrath-Lynham.
- 11-12 May 79 Ford logbook records overnight Lynham-RAF Leeming – Lynham round trip.
- 12 July 79 Ford LB records high parachute drop. Flight time 30 minutes.
- 1981 With MoD (PE) at Cambridge for conversion as a C.3.
- 20-21 Jul 81 Return flight, Lyneham – Thessaloniki (Greece) - Lyneham; Pilot S/Ldr Hawkins;
From Aircrew logbook of Air Loadmaster M.J.Clabby; flying time 4.25 hours out and 5.35 back.
- 27 Sep 81 Two hour flight, Lyneham – Vaerlose (Denmark) – Eames LB. Pilots Sqn Ldr Synott and F/Lt Ruston. See Clabby logbook also. Returned to Lyneham same day – 2.15 hours flying time.
- 13 Jun 82 Dakar – Lyneham; 7.5 hours flying time; Pilot Flt Lt Ruston; see Clabby logbook.
- 27 Sep 82 Pilots' Flying Logbook of AVM Clive Evans (X007-1399/015) records series of flights, Lyneham- Aldergrove – Gutersloh – Aldergrove- Lyneham; total flying hours 6.25.
- 16-17 Feb 83 Lyneham – Benbecula – Lossiemouth – Gander. Pilot Flt Lt Turner; total flying hours 8.40; Clabby logbook.
- Photo around this time – Air International February 1983 p.69.
- 3 May 83 Flown Lyneham – RAF Gutersloh with Tim Gosling as navigator. A routine tasking, about 90 minutes each way, taking spares to RAF Germany-based Harrier GR.3s.
- 19 Mar 84 Lyneham to Leuchars then Decimomannu and return same day, supporting a Phantom weapons training detachment to the Italian airbase on Sardinia. Total 8hrs 15 minutes. (Gosling)
- 10 Sep 84 First 'post-stretch' test flight from Cambridge airport; pilot Marshalls' company test pilot John Preece.
- To RAF Lyneham Transport Wing, (Wiltshire – latterly consisting of Nos. 24, 30, 47 and 70 Squadrons and 242 O.C.U, all part of No. 38 Group) and from 1986 retrofitted as a C.3P with in-flight refuelling probe above the cockpit.

- 27 Oct 84 Lyneham – Gibraltar, returning the following day; Pilot Flt Lt Milton; Flying time 4.15 hours out and 4.10 return. Clabby logbook.
- 18 Dec 84 General formation training from Lyneham (Gosling) Total 2hrs 15 minutes.
- 19 Apr 85 Formation Training, medium level out of Lyneham, descending into low level; Harness drop at Keevil airfield and return to Lyneham. Total 1 hr 50 minutes. (Gosling)
- 17 May 86 Ford LB – Exercise Casino Royale; Lyneham- Leeming & hence to Germany.
- 1994 Displayed at International Air Tattoo, RAF Fairford, Glos, when serving as part of the Lyneham Transport wing.
- 13 Jan 95 Ford LB – Ancona-Lynham whilst involved in ops in Balkans in Sarajevo area. 3.15 hours.
- 23 Mar 95 – 27 Mar 96 Trial fit of alternative crew seats.
- 9 Aug 96 Singleton low-level sortie from Lyneham, dropping four one-ton containers on South Cerney drop zone and return to Lyneham. Total two hours (Gosling)
- 22 Aug 96 Formation training, low-level out of Lyneham, dropping Harness pack on Everleigh Down drop zone and return to Lyneham. Total 2 hrs 35 Minutes (Gosling)
- 25 Apr 97 Return flight Lyneham – Corlu, Turkey, flying time 4.50 hours out and 5.05 return. Pilot Fly Lt Payne; Clabby logbook.
- 3-12 Dec 97 Ford LB – lengthy detachment, staging from Lyneham-Akrotiri-Tel Aviv-Amman-Cairo-Nairobi-Entebe-Harare-Pretoria-Ghana and return to Lyneham.
- 23 Mar 98 Lyneham – Bodo- Laarbruch; Pilot Flt Lt Brandie; Clabby logbook. Flying time 7 hours. Returned to Lyneham the following day from Laarbruch, flying time 1.20 hours.
- 3 Jun 98 Julie Gibson L/B extract on Hercules History file; Lyneham-Akrotiri-Bahrein-Amman/Marka-Amman/Marka-Lyneham, arriving back 8 June. Co-pilots F/L Colman and F/L Marston.
- Oct-Dec 99 At Marshall Aerospace, Cambridge for modifications.
- May 2006 At Marshall Aerospace, Cambridge for modifications.
- 21 Jan 2009 To Marshall, Cambridge for storage.

- 2011 Serving with No 47 Squadron, RAF Brize Norton – with the planned closure of RAF Lyneham in 2012, the last four Hercules left Lyneham on 1st July 2011.
- 12 Aug 2011 Delivered by air at 11.30am by seven No. 47 Squadron crew from RAF Brize Norton (the only RAF unit then flying the C-130K model) to RAFM Cosford; 40-minute flight time. Made a fast low pass, a touch-and-go, and then finally landed. Final airframe flying hours 31,258.40.
- Photos – Aeroplane October 2011 p.14; Flypast October 2011 p.8; Air Forces Monthly October 2011 p.6; Aircraft Magazine October 2011 pp.10-11. The Flying M Autumn 2011 p.4; Britain At War October 2011; Royal Air Force Museum News 2011 Summary p.11; Wrecks and Relics 23rd Edition, 2012; Air International September 2011 p.4.
- This was expected to be the final landing of the last RAF C130K Mk.3 (remaining RAF C-130K Hercules Mk.1 and Mk 3A aircraft being due to remain in service until 31 October 2013)
- Following delivery, the aircraft was stripped of useful spares by Marshalls to support the RAF's airworthy Hercules fleet, these parts, including the engines, being replaced with time-expired components, the engine exchange being undertaken in mid-October 2011. Photo – Aerospace Museum Society Intercom November 2011 p.1.
- 13 Dec 2011 Towed onto RAF Museum land and placed on external public display. Photos on display – Aeroplane March 2012 p.14; Flypast March 2012 p.8.
- 27 Nov 2012 Used for filming interior shots of BBC Drama 'Our Girl' about a woman private soldier serving in Afghanistan; first broadcast 24 March 2013.
- 12 Sept 2013 Formal Handover ceremony at RAFM Cosford from RAF to RAF Museum.

TEXT; ANDREW SIMPSON

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