

162nd COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

LINEAGE

162nd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron activated, 13 May 1948
Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952
Redesignated 162nd Tactical Control Group, 1 Feb 1953
Redesignated HQ 162nd Communications Group (Mobile), 1 Oct 1960
Redesignated HQ 162nd Mobile Communications Group, 16 Mar 1968
Redesignated 162nd Combat Communications Group, 10 Feb 1976
Redesignated 162nd Combat Information Systems Group, 1 Jul 1985
Redesignated 162nd Combat Communications Group, 1 Oct 1986

STATIONS

Van Nuys ANGB, CA, 1953
North Highlands, CA, 1 Aug 1961

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Col Richard Andrew Apr 1948-Jul 1961
Col F. E. Holsclaw Aug 1961-Oct 1976
Col Noel E. Paulsen Nov 1976-May 1982
Col Harris R. Henderson May 1982-Dec 1989
Col John M Lotz Dec 1989-Nov 1990
Col Fredrick D. Smith Dec 1990-May 1996
Col Edward C. Fager May 1996-Aug 2006
Col Steven T. Beck Aug 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 162nd Combat Communications Group (CCG), Headquartered in Sacramento, CA, is one of eight Air National Guard Combat Communications Groups nationwide, which make up 80% of the U.S. Air Force tactical communications capability. The 162 CCG is one of five major organizations that make up the California Air National Guard. The 162nd provides command, control, supervisory management, and training of four Combat Communications Squadrons, as well as administrative management of one Engineering Installation Squadron, one Intelligence Squadron, and one Space Operations Squadron.

1 May 1951 the unit mobilized to serve state side during the Korean War until it's deactivation on 6 February 1952. The following year, it returned to the State of California and was re-designated the 162nd Tactical Control Group, stationed at Van Nuys Air National Guard Base. At that time three of the assigned units (the 147th, 148th and 149th) were Aircraft Control and Warning Squadrons under the 162nd Group.

Federalized: 1 May 1951 at San Fernando Valley Airport, Van Nuys, California
Relocated: (12 May?), Larson Air Force Base, Moses Lake, Washington
Inactivated: 6 February, 1952

On 1 Mar 1961, the Group Headquarters moved to the North Highlands ANG Station in Sacramento, and was redesignated the 162nd Communications Group (Mobile). By that time the 222nd, 234th and 261st units had joined the Group. In 1966 the Group was redesignated again, to the 162nd Mobile Communications Group. This designation they kept until 10 Feb 1976, when they were given their present designation of 162nd Combat Communications Group. The 162nd falls under the command of Air Force Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, VA.

Most notable amongst these in recent years, was the Group's deployment of communications equipment and personnel to Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991.

The Group has nine units located on five separate stations. The Units and their locations are:

HQ 162nd Combat Communications Group, North Highlands ANG Station, CA
147th Combat Communications Squadron, San Diego ANG Station, CA
148th Space Operations Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
149th Combat Communications Squadron, North Highlands ANG Station, CA
216th Operations Support Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA
222nd Intelligence Support Squadron, Beale AFB, CA
222nd Operations Support Squadron, Beale AFB, CA
222nd Communications Maintenance Flight, Beale AFB, CA
234th Intelligence Squadron, Beale AFB, CA
261st Combat Communications Squadron, Sepulveda ANG Station. CA

The Group has and authorized strength of 59 officers and 704 airmen, and its assigned strength level is consistently above 90%.

2005 31 Aug Fifty-two personnel from the 162^d Combat Communications Group, California ANG deployed in SAD to New Orleans to help with security in the city.

The 162nd Combat Communications Group won the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for its exceptionally meritorious service from 1 Nov 2007, through 31 Oct 2009. During that time, the group's Airmen spent more than 3,000 man-days supporting operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. At the same time, one combat communications squadron received an "Excellent" grade on its Operation Readiness Inspection, and three squadrons received "Outstanding" grades on their Communications Security Inspections. The 148th Space Operations Squadron was and continues to be engaged in round-the-clock command and control of the Milstar satellite constellation, providing secure, protected communications to the war-fighter. The 162nd, headquartered in North Highlands, Calif., also has units fully engaged in training, standardization/evaluation, and weapons and tactics support for the Joint Space Operations Center and Distributed Ground Station-2. Units of the 162nd also provide imagery analysis for the exploitation of data gathered by U-2s, Global Hawks and Predators and real-time distribution of those data to troops in the field. The 222nd Communications Maintenance Flight, meanwhile, provides support for Global Hawk operations. "During this period the highly motivated and professional members of the 162nd Combat Communications Group continued their fine tradition of excellent and exemplary mission accomplishments," the award citation states. "The distinctive accomplishments of the members of the 162nd Combat Communications Group reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force."

All subordinate units of the 162nd Combat Communications Group also earned the Outstanding Unit Award for their achievements from Nov. 1, 2007, through Oct. 31, 2009:

147th Combat Communications Squadron, San Diego Air National Guard Station

148th Space Operations Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base

149th Combat Communications Squadron, North Highlands Air National Guard Station

216th Operational Support Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base

222nd Intelligence Support Squadron, Beale Air Force Base

222nd Operational Support Squadron, Beale Air Force Base

234th Intelligence Squadron, Beale Air Force Base

261st Combat Communications Squadron, Sepulveda Air National Guard Station

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 12 Oct 2010

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.