

1st TACTICAL AIR COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



LINEAGE

STATIONS

Myitkyina, Burma
Calcutta, India

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The mission of the Tactical Air Communications Squadron was to provide communication between ground commanders and combat aircraft.

When combat aircraft reached its assigned patrol area, the pilot was told to stand by for instructions. The ground commander selected the target which he wanted attacked, and transmitted this information to a team of USAAF personnel with whom he was in constant touch. This team, the Tactical Air Communications Squadron, who had previously familiarized themselves with the

terrain by flying over it in liaison type aircraft, was thoroughly acquainted with the problem faced by the pilot, and had the additional advantage of being able to talk to him in language he understood. The Tactical Air Communications Squadron contacted the fighter pilots by radio and talked them into the target with the use of gridded photographs, maps, and their specialized knowledge of the terrain. Panels and other signals at the front lines were also used.

This air-ground co-ordination proved highly successful during the advance on Myitkyina and in the siege of the town. In one case fighter pilots were strafing a target only thirty seconds after the ground commander had told the fighter control team he wanted it to be hit.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 29 Nov 2010

Updated: 9 Nov 2013

Published:

Sources

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

"The Command Post." Vol 1. No. 17 June 30, 1944