

2nd AIRBORNE COMMAND AND CONTROL SQUADRON



LINEAGE

2nd Air Corps Ferrying Squadron constituted, 18 Feb 1942

Activated, 16 Apr 1942

Redesignated 2nd Ferrying Squadron, 12 May 1943

Disbanded, 31 Mar 1944

2nd Liaison Flight constituted, 27 Sep 1949

Activated, 25 Oct 1949

Redesignated 2nd Liaison Squadron, 15 Jul 1952

Inactivated, 22 Jul 1952

Activated, 22 Jul 1952

Inactivated, 18 Jun 1954

2nd Airborne Command and Control Squadron constituted, 12 Mar 1970

Activated, 1 Apr 1970

2nd Ferrying Squadron reconstituted, and consolidated with 2nd Liaison Squadron and 2nd Airborne Command and Control Squadron, 19 Sep 1985. The consolidated squadron retains the 2nd Airborne Command and Control Squadron designation.

Inactivated, 19 Jul 1994

STATIONS

Hensley Field, TX, 18 Feb 1942

Love Field, TX, 8 Sep 1942

Fairfax Airport, Kansas City, KS, 16 Jan 1943-31 Mar 1944

Langley AFB, VA, 25 Oct 1949-22 Jul 1952

Shaw AFB, SC, 22 Jul 1952-18 Jun 1954

Offutt AFB, NE, 1 Apr 1970

ASSIGNMENTS

Middle "West Sector, Air Transport Command (later, 5th Ferrying Group), 16 Apr 1942-31 Mar 1944

Ninth Air Force, 25 Oct 1949

Tactical Air Command, 1 Aug 1950-22 Jul 1952

Ninth Air Force, 22 Jul 1952-18 Jun 1954

55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Apr 1970

55th Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991-19 Jul 1994

ATTACHMENTS

4th Fighter [later, 4th Fighter-Interceptor] Wing, 25 Oct 1949- 1 Sep 1950

363rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, 1 Sep 1950;

47th Bombardment Wing, 12 Mar 1951

4430th Air Base Wing, 12 Feb-22 Jul 1952

363rd Tactical Reconnaissance Wing, 22 Jul 1952-18 Jun 1954

WEAPON SYSTEMS

L-13

C-45, 1949-1952

L-20, 1952-1954

H-19, 1953-1954

EC-135C, 1970

E-4B

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

EC-135C

63-8049

62-3585

62-3583

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

WWII American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

1 Jul 1970-30 Jun 1971
1 Jul 1972-30 Jun 1974
1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976
1 Jul 1976-30 Jun 1978
1 Jul 1978-30 Jun 1980

EMBLEM

Or a humming bird volant azure, on a chief of the like a bar argent. The blue humming bird, a small, versatile, but fearless bird, is descriptive of the type of aircraft assigned to the unit, and its mission. The Air Force yellow field is representative of the precious American heritage of freedom and liberty. The horizontal blue and white stripes symbolize the organization's aircraft markings. (Approved, 13 Apr 1954)

MOTTO

PARVUM SED INTREPIDUM-Small But Fearless

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

2nd Ferrying Squadron ferried aircraft from the factory of origin to assigned units.

The 2nd Liaison Squadron provided emergency air evacuation, air search and rescue, courier and messenger service, routine reconnaissance, transportation of personnel and light cargo, and other light plane services for the Ninth Air Force. The squadron, on a regular basis, provided transportation to personnel between Langley AFB and Fort John Custis on Cape Charles. It operated L-13 and one C-45 until Jul 1952, when the first L-20 arrived. In 1953, the squadron began operating along with the L-20. A daily courier flight to Hq, Ninth Air Force, Pope AFB, NC, operated on each working day; and flights were made each Tuesday and Thursday delivering supplies and food to the Shoran units of the 727th AC&W Squadron at Myrtle Beach, SC.

The 2nd Airborne Command and Control Squadron operated and maintained the SAC Airborne Command Post in support of Hq SAC (Looking Glass). The mission aircraft for the Airborne Command Post was the EC-135C. Three 8-hour Airborne Command Post missions were flown daily, and every flight had a general officer onboard the aircraft; with responsibility for the mission, he was designated the Airborne Emergency Actions Officer. The personnel and aircraft on these flights support the Post Attack Command Control System mission, and provide the Strategic Air Command commander with a survivable airborne capability to coordinate and control assigned forces from initiation through termination of hostilities.

The E-4B was equipped with the Airborne Launch Control System and the first ICBM launch conducted from this platform occurred on 1 Apr 1981 when the 2nd Airborne Command Control Squadron crew, flying aboard the E-4B, launched a Minuteman missile from Vandenberg AFB as part of the Operational Test and Evaluation program. Eventually, the Airborne Launch Control System equipment was removed and the E-4B reverted solely to its National Emergency Airborne Command Post role. The National Emergency Airborne Command Post was redesignated the National Airborne Operations Center in 1994.



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