

2nd COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



LINEAGE

2nd Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron, Mobile, constituted, 28 Jan 1952
Activated, 1 Mar 1952
Redesignated 2nd Mobile Communications Squadron, 1 Jul 1961
Redesignated 2nd Mobile Communications Group, 1 Aug 1963
Redesignated 2nd Combat Communications Group, 24 Mar 1976
Redesignated 2nd Combat Information Systems Group, 15 Aug 1984
Redesignated 2nd Combat Communications Group, 1 Oct 1986

STATIONS

Munich-Rheims AACS Station, West Germany
Hahn AB, West Germany, 28 Jul 1953
Toul-Rosieres AB, France, 25 Jun 1960
Sembach AB, West Germany, 30 Nov 1966
Lindsey AS, West Germany, 1 Jun 1973
Patrick AFB, Florida, 8 Dec 1975

ASSIGNMENTS

1812th Airways and Air Communications Service Group
1807th Airways and Air Communications Service Wing, 1 Nov 1953
1820th Airways and Air Communications Service Group (later, Central European AACS Region), 1 Dec 1954
European-African-Middle Eastern Airways and Air Communications Service Area (later, European Communications Area), 8 Apr 1958
Tactical Communications Area (later, Tactical Communications Division; Tactical Information Systems Division; Tactical Communications Division), 1 Jul 1976

COMMANDERS

Maj Harry O. Mailman, Mar 1952
Maj Vincent H. Gookin, 1 Nov 1952
LTC James B. Tebbs, 1958

LTC Reed H. Carney, 11 Aug 1959
LTC Larche M. Washer, 3 Aug 1962
Col Joseph W. Anderson, Jr., 1964
LTC Robert E. Stairs (Interim), 20 Jul 1966
Col Henry F. X. Hession, 5 Aug 1966
Col Don E. Dossey, 24 Jul 1969
Col James W. Stanley, 8 Sep 1971
LTC Peter K. Densmore, 8 Jan 1973
LTC Robert S. Rayfield, 25 Nov 1974
LTC Edward L. Callicotte, 1 Apr 1975
Maj Raymond H. Grenier, 10 Oct 1975
Col Ronald B. Youse, 14 Jun 1976
Col Nelson R. Hamilton, 1 Mar 1979
LTC Robert G. Paillex, 11 Jun 1982
Col Robert J. Parrish, 29 Jul 1983
Col Marshall E. Jordan, 17 Jun 1985
Col Earl J. Scalet, 10 Jun 1988

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
22 Jul 1960-30 Jul 1960
19 Sep 1970-1 Nov 1970
2 Apr 1974-22 Jun 1974
1 Jan 1979-31 Dec 1980

MUC (US Navy)

3 Jun 1974-22 Jul 1975

EMBLEM

The atom with orbiting electrons and emanating lightning is representative of the central multifaceted communications-electronics mission of the unit which includes all phases of meteorological communications, point-to-point communications, air traffic control services, and navigational aids (four electrons and lightning bolts). The winged wheel with lightning signifies the Air Force requirement of rapid response (lightning bolts) by unit-provided surface movement (wheel) and air mobility (wings). The fields of black above ultramarine blue depict the complete spectrum of communications-electronics activity from near the earth's surface through the atmosphere into space. The blue wall (field) topped by parapets is symbolic of the history of the unit which was formed in Europe and was for a long period of time the only Air Force (ultramarine blue) mobile communications unit assigned in Europe (castle wall parapets).

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

From its earliest days in World War II, Airways and Air Communications Service maintained combat or mobile communication units to support locations that lacked established communications and air traffic control facilities or to ensure continued operations in the event of a natural disaster or combat situation. Upon its activation in 1961, AFCS gained three mobile communication organizations which operated air transportable equipment to provide base communications, long-haul communications, and air traffic control in support of tactical environments and other situations where fixed facilities were not available. Command of all five mobile units was exercised by AFCS, yet each unit was aligned to a specific "user" command to provide the responsiveness required in contingency operations. As a result, the command to which a group was aligned exercised operational control over the unit.

The 2d Mobile Communications Squadron, at Toul-Rosieres AB, France, supported the Europe, Africa, Mid East Area.

Developments in the Middle East in 1963 prompted the Joint Chiefs of Staff to task the 2d Mobile Communications Group to provide communication equipment to support a show of force to deter the United Arab Republic from harassing or attempting the overthrow of the Saudi Arabian government. To accomplish this, the Talking Bird communication package was deployed to the area on 4 May, and remained in operation until 13 May.

In May 1963, 2d Mobile Communications Group deployed single sideband radio teams and equipment to several worldwide locations to support the Project Mercury "Man in Space" program. In 1965, AFCS increased its support of space projects when technicians were posted around the globe to provide communication service for the Gemini space shot launched from Cape Kennedy, Florida. Specialists from the 2nd Mobile Communications Group established operations throughout the Pacific and Atlantic supporting the four-day flight. Mobile facilities were also poised in readiness to support recovery operations if needed as well as handled other communication traffic associated with the space shot. The communications teams worked hand-in-hand with the Air Rescue Service to assure instant recovery of the space capsule wherever it landed.

The 2d deployed to the Roosevelt Roads Naval Air Station, Puerto Rico, to provide communications support for the Air Force task force elements. Later they redeployed to Barbados in support of the A-10 aircraft which flew close air support for American forces in Grenada deploying a TACAN and a mobile control tower to Point Salines for additional air traffic control support.

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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