

## 30 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

30 Communications Squadron, Air Force constituted, 8 Oct 1946

Activated, 17 Oct 1946

Redesignated 30 Communications Squadron, Command, 8 Nov 1954

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1970

Disbanded, 15 Jun 1983

Reconstituted and redesignated 30 Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1991

Activated, 19 Nov 1991

### STATIONS

Andrews Field (later, Andrews AFB), MD, 17 Oct 1946

Offutt AFB, NE, 9 Nov 1948-1 Oct 1970

Vandenberg AFB, CA, 19 Nov 1991

### ASSIGNMENTS

Strategic Air Command, 17 Oct 1946

3902 Air Base Wing (remained under operational control of Hq SAC), 16 Aug 1950

1 Communications (later, 1 Aerospace Communications) Group, Command, 1 Feb 1960-1 Oct 1970

30 Support Group, 19 Nov 1991

### COMMANDERS

## HONORS

### Service Streamers

### Campaign Streamers

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

## Decorations

### Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1965-30 Jun 1967

1 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1969

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970

## EMBLEM



Or a blue disc edged and gridded gold, issuing from base a white mailed right hand oversant shaded light blue, the fingers ringed respectively with a crown of green turf, of white clouds, of orange fire, and of light blue water with white waves. Emblem between two blue scrolls edged gold, lower scroll inscribed with white capital letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the Squadron. The blue of the disc alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations, and gridded indicates the global communications capabilities of the squadron. The mailed hand is emblematic of the Strategic Air Command and with the fingers spread over the globe refers to the squadron's maintenance of instantaneous world-wide communications systems for the Commander-in-Chief of SAC. The crowns representing the four original elements, earth, air, fire and water emphasize the vital role of the squadron in its support of SAC objectives. The emblem bears the Air Force colors, golden yellow and ultramarine blue. (Approved, 3 Feb 1967)

## MOTTO

THE WORLD AT OUR FINGERTIPS

## **OPERATIONS**

Early in 1948, the 30 Communications Squadron assumed control of the base telephone exchange and an air/ground radio station. At the same time, it took control of radio teletype and point-to-point manual Morse Code operations at McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey.

In November 1948, Headquarters Strategic Air Command SAC) moved to Offutt Air Force Base, Omaha, Nebraska from Andrews Field. The move included the 30 Communications Squadron which ended its duties at Andrews Field and at McGuire AFB. At the time, the squadron had 5 officers and 138 enlisted personnel.

At Offutt AFB, the squadron took on the task of furnishing telephone, teletype, and radio support for both SAC and the base. It organized into three operational units, these being: telephone, communications center, and radio operations.

Some squadron personnel were on detached duty at Mead/Elkhorn, NE. where Radio Operations was established by 1950. The detachment worked out of two old fire stations. One was used as a receiver site and the other as the transmitter site. They were separated by several miles. Our equipment consisted of SP600 receivers and BC610 transmitters and AN/TRC keying lines between Mead and Offutt. When we moved to Elkhorn to our new GLOBECOMM Building, we used Collins R388 receivers and we had one SOCS position where we used a new single side band (SSB) receiver (transceiver). Also, used microwave instead of ANTRC keying lines.

By January 1952, the duties of the 30 Communications Squadron had expanded to include: tactical telephone systems, interbase communications center facilities, cryptographic facilities, air/ground Morse Code and voice communications, point-to-point manual Morse Code and radio/teletype communications, and telephoto facilities. Its personnel had increased to 16 officers and 369 enlisted.

In April 1952, the squadron participated in the first of what later became a series of local flood control efforts. It furnished manpower to assist in sandbagging dikes to contain the Missouri River between Omaha, NE. and Council Bluffs, IA.

By June 1952, voice came into use on air/ground systems replacing manual Morse Code systems. The Elkhorn receiver site became a detachment of the 30 Communications Squadron. The SACCOMNET now terminated 45 circuits at Offutt AFB and used 100wpm teletype equipment.

In January of 1957, the squadron's communications center, telephone exchange, and single sideband voice radio became operational in the new HQ SAC underground Control Center. By November, the closed circuit television system had been installed and placed into operation in the underground center. This was the first closed circuit television system within the Air Force.

By late 1959, the 30 Communications Squadron had grown to four times its size of 1948. It now had 28 officers, 546 enlisted, and 16 civilians.

On February 1, 1960, the 1st Communications Group-Command was organized. The 30 Communications Squadron was assigned to the group and assumed its original role as a communications center squadron. The 31st Communications Squadron was organized to assume the telephone and maintenance responsibilities from the old 30 Communications Squadron. The 32nd Communications Squadron was organized to assume radio and television responsibilities from the old 30 Communications Squadron. The 32nd had its headquarters at Elkhorn with detachments at Hooper and Offutt.

The 30 Communications Squadron and sister squadrons, the 31st and 32nd were inactivated October 1, 1970. Functions of the squadrons were absorbed into what became the 1st Aerospace Information Systems Wing.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.