

5th COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



LINEAGE

5th Mobile Communications Group established and activated, 20 May 1964
Organized, 1 Jul 1964
Redesignated 5th Combat Communications Group, 31 Mar 1976
Redesignated 5th Combat Information Systems Group, 15 Aug 1984
Redesignated 5th Combat Communications Group, 1 Oct 1986

STATIONS

Robins AFB, GA

ASSIGNMENTS

Air Force Communications Service (later, Air Force Communications Command)
Tactical Communications Region (later, Tactical Communications Area), 1 Jul 1964
12th Tactical Communications Region, 1 Dec 1969
Tactical Communications Area (later, Tactical Communications Division; Tactical Information Systems Division; Tactical Communications Division), 30 Jun 1971
507 Tactical Air Control (later, 507 Air Control) Wing, 1 Oct 1990
347 Fighter Wing, 28 May 1992
Ninth Air Force (later, Ninth Air Force [Air Forces Central]), 1 Mar 1994

COMMANDERS

Maj Donald G. Goldfain (Interim), 1 Jul 1964
Col Billy J. Millis, 25 Aug 1964
Col Joseph L. Solomon, 16 Jun 1967
LTC Lowell L. Dibert, 29 Jun 1969
Col Lloyd H. Bergman, 15 Jul 1969
LTC Warren O. Parkerson, 10 Jul 1970
Col Joseph L. Solomon, 8 Aug 1970
Col George L. Madara, 7 Jul 1971

Col Clifford Allison, Jr., 31 Aug 1973
Col Patrick J. Frickleton, 31 Aug 1974
Col Robert S. Rayfield, 2 Sep 1975
Col John Kopsick, Jr., 30 Mar 1978
Col John J. Livengood, 29 May 1981
Col Donald E. Hicks, 22 Jul 1983
Col Edgar C. Knowling, 21 Mar 1986
Col Michael C. Moehlenkamp, 28 Jun 1989
Col Walter I. Jones, 26 Jun 1992
Col Michael W. Smiley, 26 Apr 1994
Col Richard M. Jensen, 15 Jul 1996
Col William K. Stuart, 18 Feb 1998
Col David C. Schreck, 7 Jul 2000
Col David A. Cotton, Jul 2002
Col John W. Lent, June 2004

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Southwest Asia

Defense of Saudi Arabia

Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device

1 Jan 1972-31 Dec 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1976-31 Dec 1977

1 Jun 1988-31 May 1990

1 Oct 1990-30 Apr 1991

28 May 1992-22 Feb 1993

1 Mar 1993-31 Jul 1994

1 Jun 1998-31 May 2000

1 Jun 2002-31 May 2003

1 Jun 2003-31 May 2004

1 Jun 2004-31 May 2005

1 Jun 2005-31 May 2007

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

The light blue dexter field and darker blue sinister field represent the group's 24 hour a day (light blue: day, dark blue: night) operational commitment. The superimposed white globe over both fields represents the group's worldwide operational commitment. The three white darts represent a formation of symbolic aircraft. The red bolts with yellow flashes radiating from the sword and extending over the horizon and to the white darts represents the combat communication, navigational support and radar control mission of the group.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

The group is called the "MOB" because one of the previous missions was mobile (or "mob") communications.

OPERATIONS

The 5th Combat Communications Group provides communications, air traffic control and weather systems that deploy in support of U.S. military operations anywhere in the world. The 5th's mission varies from providing small fly-away communication packages to rapidly deploying entire theater air base communications packages. The 5th brings state-of-the-art, scalable communications support to deployed theater air bases. The group's members operate complex networks, switches, and base-level communications terminal equipment in the deployed environment, providing critical voice, message, and high speed data communications for operational users. The 5th also provides deployable Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems and deployable weather systems.

The 5th Combat Communications Group is an Air Combat Command unit reporting to 9th Air Force at Shaw AFB, S.C. The group's four mission combat communications squadrons and one support squadron deploy in support of joint task force, combatant command, and Air Force flying wing operations and exercises. 5th Combat Communications Group also serves in an advisory capacity for three Air National Guard combat communications groups and Air Force Reserve communications flights with more than 2,500 people in subordinate squadrons from Maine to the Virgin Islands.

The 5th Combat Communications Group supports United States Central Command Air Forces and Joint Chiefs of Staff operations with exercises in Southwest Asia, Central and South America and the Pacific theater. The group also responds to contingencies, emergencies and natural disasters both overseas and throughout the United States. During local training exercises, the 5 CCG deploys to a variety of sites around the Southeastern United States.

5th Combat Communications Group has over 750 personnel and can be a self-supporting combat unit. The group can provide its own site security, electrical power, and vehicle maintenance.

From its earliest days in World War II, AACS 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. The 1st Mobile Communications Group, at Clark AFB, Philippines, supported the Pacific Area; the 2d Mobile Communications Squadron, at Toul Rosieres AB, France, supported the Europe, Africa, Mid East Area; and the 3d Mobile Communications Squadron, at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, supported the Western hemisphere.

Throughout the sixties, these organizations remained in an alert status to meet needs resulting from the world political environment, to respond to emergencies caused by natural disaster, as well as to support exercises or projects that required temporary facilities. An increase in situations that required the use of AFCS's mobile units in the sixties prompted the command to expand its emergency mission support facilities. On 1 August 1963, the 2d Mobile Communications Squadron attained group status, as did the 3d Mobile Communications Squadron on 1 July 1964. On this same date, AFCS activated two additional units: the 4th Mobile Communications Group at Hunter AFB, Georgia, and the 5th Mobile Communications Group at Robins AFB, Georgia. Command of all five mobile units was exercised by AFCS, yet each group 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.

12 Sep 1974 The 5th Mobile Communications Group at Robins AFB was selected to receive the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for the period 1 January 1972 to 31 December 1973. The unit was cited for its tremendous support to the citizens of Houston County and for the leadership of Col George L. Madara, who served as Commander during the period for which the award was earned. The unit provided emergency assistance to the Warner Robins Community during the "Great Central Georgia Snow Storm" of February 1973.

During the "Flood of '94," more than 200 members of the group helped with evacuations, set up shelters and delivered medicine to people stranded by the flood. In 1999, the group provided needed supplies and volunteers to help with people displaced from Georgia's coastlines when Hurricane Floyd struck the east coast. The Warner Robins Chamber of Commerce selected the 5th as winner of the 1998, 2001 and 2002 Community Service Awards due to its support to the community.

Group members participated in Operation Restore Hope.

Group members participated in Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Desert Shield/Storm



Air Force Order of Battle

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.