

139th TACTICAL CONTROL FLIGHT



LINEAGE

Inactivated Jun 1987

STATIONS

Peterson AFB, CO

Buckley ANGB, CO, Mar 1983

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

April 1, 1976 154th TACC deactivated, 154th Tactical Control Flight (TCP) (renamed 139th TCF in July 1982) activated at Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs.

The 138th and 139th AC&W Squadrons were transferred to Lackland AFB after activation. Both organizations had surplus airmen and officers who became the cadre for establishing new radar units within the 33rd Air Division. Several Colorado Guardsmen served as commanders of the new units.

The 139th AC&W Squadron, commanded by Lt. Col John R. Mack, occupied a radar site at Lackland AFB. Existing equipment had been sent elsewhere, so when the men arrived at their newly assigned station there was no available radar hardware. Although they received little training until new equipment arrived some six months later, the 139th became extremely proficient in clean-up details.

The 139th TCF at Buckley was deactivated and then reactivated as the 227th Air Traffic Control Flight (ATCF) in June 1987. While still co-located with the 154th TCG, the 227th ATCF was now under the Air Force Communications Command. Guard Bureau assigned two aircraft control and warning radar units (located in Puerto Rico) to the 154th TCG in late 1987.

In their final exercise, the 139th TCF deployed for 60 days in early 1987 to Tonopah, Nev., to participate in a "Green Flag W-3" test to prove the value of radar netting. On 15 Jun 1987, the 139th Tactical Control Flight was officially deactivated after 11 years, three months and 10 days dedicated service to state and nation. Deactivation was an outgrowth of the monumental "Year of the TACS" study which realigned TAGS units across the country to maximize training opportunities. The mission of the 139th was transferred to the 116th TCP at Camp Rilea, Ore. For Lt Col. Simonson and a majority of the men and women under his command, life began

anew within the 227th Air Traffic Control Flight (ATCF), Air Force Communications Command. There are three original members of the unit who are currently with the 227th ATCF CMSgt. Milton E. Lilja, MSgt. Christopher DeFord and MSgt Ronald D. Duffy.

In the short 11-year history of the 139th TCF and the 154th TCF the unit accomplished far more than many units do in many more years. On all exercises and deployments the unit's radar was maintained and operational when needed; maintenance and operations personnel always performed in an exemplary manner, showing teamwork and esprit de corps to "get the job done." The unit has been involved in many community activities such as open houses, family days, youth activities, health fairs and food drives for the aged and needy.

The history of the 139th will stand proudly forever, a monument to the men and women whose individual and collective dedication guaranteed that excellence would be achieved.

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Tactical Control Flight

(?) – 1 May 1987

Inactivated: 1 May 1987



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Sources