

255th AIR CONTROL SQUADRON



MISSION

The 255th Air Control Squadron: Primary mission is to provide an operationally ready Control and Reporting Center in support of theater air operations worldwide. This includes radar surveillance and tracking on a priority basis, direction of sector air defense, providing radar service to tactical aircraft, supervision of subordinate deployed air control units, and data link of a combined air picture to higher headquarters.

LINEAGE

255th Mobile Communications Squadron organized, 15 May 1971
Redesignated 255th Combat Communications Squadron
Redesignated 255th Combat Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1985
Redesignated 255th Tactical Control Squadron, May 1987
Redesignated 255th Air Control squadron, 1 Jun 1992

STATIONS

Gulfport, MS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Amos S. Pollard, #1970
LTC George L. Lickman, #1981

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

On 15 May 1971, the 255th was organized and activated as the 255th Mobile Communications Squadron, with a compliment of 195 members. LtCol Amos S. Pollard was named the unit's first commander. The unit was originally housed in a multitude of old World War II buildings on the Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, MS. In April, 1976, the unit moved into a newly constructed facility on Hewes Ave, just adjacent to the CRTC. Concurrently, its name changed to the 255th Combat Communications Squadron. During its 16 years as a Combat Communications Squadron, the 255th became the lead unit of the 254th Combat Communications Group, and successfully participated in 83 exercises and deployments. In May 1987, the squadron was given its current mission of managing air-combat operations, making it one of only six such squadrons in the Air National Guard and one of eight in the Air Force. In 1993, the squadron received new equipment enabling it to transmit radar pictures and other data to theater commanders. In 1996, the unit became the first MCE-CRC Air Control Squadron to undergo an ORI, during a major Joint Service Exercise, Roving Sands 96. In 1998 the unit was the first to upgrade to version 3 of the MCE-CRC. In 1999 the unit underwent a highly successful partial activation sending approximately 100 members to Kuwait. Since 911, the unit has participated in may deployments in support of Operation Noble Eagle.

2 Sep 2005 Seventy personnel from the 255th Air Control Squadron, Mississippi ANG, were activated in SAD at home station to help with debris removal and to provide Satellite Communications and Radio Relay capability. The unit reported fifty personnel unaccounted for due to the storm.¹³⁵

11 Sep Two members assigned to the 255th Air Control Squadron, Mississippi ANG, concluded their involvement with hurricane relief support at Gulfport CRTC.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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