

# 269<sup>th</sup> COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



## LINEAGE

Organized as the 77th Signal Platoon (Aviation), 28 Feb 1942  
Activated, 23 Mar 1942  
Redesignated 77th Signal Company, Service Group, 30 Jul 1942  
Redesignated 1077th Signal Company, Service Group, 7 May 1943  
Inactivated 4 Dec 1945

605th Signal Light Construction Company, Aviation, Ohio Air National Guard, received its Federal Recognition 29 Jan 1948.

The 605th was reorganized as the 269th Communications Squadron (Operations) 1 Jul 1952

269<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron (Operations) 1 Jul 1955.  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Communications Squadron (Relay Center) 1 Oct 1960  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Mobile Communications Squadron (AFCCP) On 16 Mar 1968  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Mobile Communications Squadron 1 Oct 1972  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Combat Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1985  
Redesignated 269<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron October 1, 1986

## STATIONS

Davis-Monthan Field, Tucson, Arizona, 23 Mar 1942 - 28 Jun 1942  
Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho, 29 Jun 1942  
Wendover Field, Utah, 26 Oct 1942 - 27 Nov 1942  
Rapid City Army Air Base, South Dakota, 28 Nov- 5 June 1943  
Camp Cheddington, England, 6 Jun- 2 Apr 1944  
Harrington Air Base, England, 3 Apr- 14 Feb 1945 with detachments located in North Ireland and England  
Charleroi, Belgium, 15 Feb 1945 -24 May 1945 with detachments in France and Germany  
Neaton, England, 25 May 1945 - 4 Sep 1945  
Hitcham, Suffolk, England, 5 Sep 1945 - 18 Sep 1945  
East Wretham, England, 19 Sep 1945 - 26 Nov 1945  
Honington, England, 27 Nov 1945 - 4 Dec 1945  
State Armory, 110 East Mulberry St., Springfield, Ohio, 29 Jan 1948 - 15 Aug 1951

Springfield Municipal Airport, Ohio 16 Aug 1951 Springfield, OH  
1233 F Avenue, Springfield-Beckley MAP, Springfield, Ohio 45502

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Unkn, 28 Feb 1942 - 1 Feb 1943  
Ogden Air Depot Control Area Command, 2 Feb 1943 - 5 Jun 1943  
8th Air Force Composite Command, 6 Jun 1943 - 1 Apr 1944  
801st Bombardment Group (H) (Prov), 2 Apr 1944 - 30 Sep 1944  
VIII AF Fighter Command, 1 Oct 1944 - 21 Oct 1944  
1st Bombardment Division, 22 Oct 1944 - 4 Dec 1944  
VIM AF Fighter Command, 5 Dec 1944 - 31 Dec 1944  
1st Bomb Division, 1 Jan 1945 - 26 Feb 1945  
VIM AF Fighter Command, 27 Feb 1945 - 24 May 1945  
VIM AF Service Command, 25 May 1945 - 19 Jul 1945  
VIM Air Tech Service (Prov), 20 Jul 1945 - 12 Aug 1945  
3rd Air Division, 12 Aug 1945 - 4 Dec 1945  
55th Fighter Wing, 29 Jan 1948 - 31 Oct 1950  
121st Fighter Wing, 1 Nov 1950 - 4 Oct 1952  
251st Communication Group 5 Oct 1952

### **COMMANDERS**

1LT Earnest C. Karast, 6 Jul 1942  
1LT Theodore O. Carter, 13 Sep 1942  
1LT Ernest C. Karst, 6 Oct 1942  
Cpt Frank E. Ostrow, 18 Jan 1942  
1LT Harold E. Savange, 10 Apr 1944  
Cpt Frank E. Ostrow, 1 May 1944  
1LT Lt John B. Mayhew, 20 Nov 1944  
Cpt Hugh T. Barker, Jr., 9 Dec 1944  
Cpt Irving J. Ragin, 3 Sep 1945  
Cpt Ralph S. Wootett, 7 Sep 1945  
Cpt Paul H. Jones, 17 Sep 1945  
Maj Alfred C. Krueger, 19 Sep 1945  
LTC Grady L. Smith, 22 Sep 1945  
LTC Daniel D. McKee, 9 Oct 1945  
LTC James S. Parsons, 12 Oct 1945-4 Dec 1945  
1LT William H. Brelsford, 29 Jan 1948  
Cpt Charles R. Stahl, Apr 1949  
Cpt Ramie E. Adams, Jr., 1 May 1951  
Cpt David E. Dean, 15 Nov 1952  
Maj Oris O. Trinkle, 1 Apr 1955  
Cpt David J. Rothery, 6 Aug 1957  
LTC Herbert E. Moore, 17 Oct 1960  
Maj Stanley T. Carter, 17 Jan 1961  
Maj Clarence M. Flatter, 23 Oct 1961  
LTC Herbert E. Moore, 1 Jan 1965

LTC Richard E. Bennett, 1 Apr 1968  
Maj Joseph A. McGuire, 12 Jan 1972  
LTC William R. Soeller, 1 Dec 1973  
LTC Robert E. Canter, 10 Apr 1983  
Maj James B. Wiley, 9 Jul 1984  
Henry S. Youd 13 Apr 87  
William R. Reilly 12 Dec 87  
Bobby L. Reed 19 May 91  
Lt Col Mark L Stout 31 Mar 92  
Capt Steven C. Dudash 26 Jan 06  
Maj William G. Robertson 01 Jun 06  
Lt. Col John S. Hennessee 19 Sept 06  
Lt Col William G. Robertson 28 Jan 08  
LTC Bonnie Gamary April 2012 – Present

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
30 Nov 71-31 Dec 72  
1984  
1985  
1992  
1996  
1999

## **EMBLEM**

The 269th emblem is on a medium blue disc, edged with a narrow yellow border, issuing from a base a yellow demi-sphere grid lined black below two gray walkie-talkies pilewise, detailed black with emitting two yellow lightning flashes toward each other. Attached below the disc, a black gray scroll edged in yellow.

The emblem was created by MSgt Charles M. Barrett, 269th Mbl Comm Sq, and was approved on 2 Sep 1970.

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

### **MOTTO**

Activate - Communicate

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The Dual Mission of the 269th Combat Communications Squadron is to rapidly deploy an integrated force capable of establishing initial and build-up Command and Control(C2); Communications; and Information Operations (IO) capabilities to support the war fighter during times of war and Federal/State agencies during Homeland Emergencies.

The 269th Combat Communications Squadron is the Oldest combat communications squadron in the Air Force and was formed three months after the attack on Pearl Harbor and the subsequent United States entry into the World War II. It became the 77th Signal Platoon (Aviation), an Army communications element at Davis Monthan Field, Tuscon, Arizona, with a complement of one person, Private Bunn, who later became First Sergeant. One remembers how rapid promotions were during the war years. The first person assigned to the 77th Signal Platoon was Pvt. Bunn, who became a PFC that afternoon. Six days later he was made a SSgt. and held that position for almost four months, when he became 1st Sgt. Eight months and two weeks from his transfer to the 77th, Bunn became a Warrant Officer and was never heard from again.

Eventually, the unit had an authorized strength of approximately two hundred personnel with all the tools and equipment essential to provide communications for a typical fighter or bomber unit headquarters and its detachments. The company trained at three stateside bases, Gowen Field, Idaho; Wendover Field, Utah; and Rapid City Army Air Base, South Dakota, before transferring to England in June of 1943. They were renamed the 1077th Signal Company, Service Group and were assigned to Camp Cheddington, England. The 8th Air Force Composite Command was the first of a series of fighter and bomber units served by the company in England and Northern Ireland. Moving to Belgium with 1st Bombardment Division and the VIII AF Fighter Command in February, 1945, the company was based at Charleroi, Belgium. From there they dispatched personnel to install and operate beacons and communications systems across the expanding front in France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Holland, and Germany. They moved forward with the fliers and even participated in an infantry attack at Frislar. Returning to England in May of 1945, the organization was assigned as a demobilization unit until its own deactivation, December 4, 1945.

The 1077th was reconstituted as the 605th Signal Light Construction Company of the Ohio National Guard on May 24, 1946. Sufficient people to achieve federal recognition were not assembled at its new home at the state Armory on East Mulberry Street in Springfield until January 29, 1948. Three officers and fifteen men were assigned to the new company. The mission and name changed, concurrent with the construction of a new facility at Springfield Municipal Airport. The buildings were located across the road from the bustling airport on land which became the home of a much larger unit, the 178th Fighter Group. The 605th was renamed the 269th Communications Squadron Operations, effective July 1, 1952. In October 1952, it was assigned to the newly formed 251st Communications Group. The mission of the 269th evolved from a system of pre-constructed communications facilities from a stack of wire, connectors, and machines to systems derived from constructing vans.

Each year brought new equipment - an expanded potential for the squadron. There are now 5 officers and 100 enlisted members, and numerous packages consisting of separate communications

elements that can also be deployed. Each element provides some designated capability within the squadron's mission.

Through the years, the 269th has been involved in many exercises. Beginning with the 1952 annual field training at McNamara Field in Grayling, Michigan, training sites have ranged from Stewart IAP in New York to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, to Springfield, Missouri.

The 269th Mobile Communications Squadron was the first Air National Guard unit to use the Sloping Vee Antenna, during Annual Training at Volk Field, Wisconsin, 10 - 24 July 1971. A DCS entry (voice) from Volk Field to Cheltenham, Maryland was utilized and provided AUTOVON service to all ZI locations. The same system was activated during the 1973 Annual Training and provided DCS entry from Springfield MAP, Ohio to Stockton NAS, California with excellent AUTOVON service in the ZI and overseas.

The operation of the first Air National Guard, high speed Digital Subscriber Terminal Equipment into the Automatic Electronic Switching Center at Gentile AFS, Ohio via leased circuit was considered an outstanding achievement of the 269th Mobile Communications Squadron during the 1973 Annual Training, 14-28 July 1973. Messages were exchanged between DSTE and an AFSC located on every continent in the world.

In 1976, the first involvement in Joint Chiefs of Staff exercises was initiated with 131 personnel deploying to Solid Shield 76 at Fort Bragg and Pope AFB. In 1980, the 269th deployed overseas in support of "Exercise Flintlock", tasked to provide communications at several bases in England.

In the past ten years, the unit has served across the country and throughout the world, from "Red Flag" to "Blue Flag", Elf One" in Saudi Arabia to "Team Spirit" in South Korea.

In 1984, all of the squadron's facilities were completely renovated with a reconstructed training building, a new mobility warehouse, a reconstructed and expanded motor vehicle maintenance facility shared with the 178th TFG, and a new equipment staging area adjacent to the mobility warehouse and 178th CES. Completion of the facilities was greeted with a collective sigh of relief, as the squadron had seen functioning from shelters, tents, vans, and offices all over the base during the construction process. As the squadron settled into its new facilities, it enjoyed one of the most successful years in its history. Strength topped 115 percent. Readiness rating goals were achieved. The first full Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) held at home station and at Camp Atterbury, Indiana in June, 1955, resulted in high ratings.

In March, 1986, the unit underwent a Management Effectiveness Inspection (MEI) and again achieved high ratings. With two exercises scheduled in the Middle East for 1987 and a full training schedule of local deployments and "Healthy Star" ORI practice, the unit is dedicated to the task of improving an outstanding 45-year record.

The 269th has been involved in many successful exercises such as Brave Shield "20" 80, Bold Eagle 78, 79, 81, 83 and 85, Knight Train 84, Ocean Venture 86 & 90, Flintlock 86, 87, Wintex-Cimex 87, Oksboel 87, Coronet Pioneer 87, Volant Partner 87, Coronet Aurora 87, Galant Knight 89, Ahaus Tara 90, Fuertes Caminos 91 and 92 , Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Operation Uphold

Democracy 94, Operation Steady State 94, 95 and 96, Cobra Gold 95, Dynamic Mix 95, Operation Joint Endeavor 95 and 96, Eager Tiger 96, Global Yankee 96, Global Apache 97, and Operation Constant Vigil 97 and 98. The unit was activated in May 1999 by Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up (PSRC) for the Kosovo Crisis, 2001 AEF deployment (Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and Germany), 2005 Hurricane Katrina Support while Noble Eagle support is ongoing. 2006 Global Patriot, 2007 Ardent Sentry/Vigilant Guard, 2007 Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom and JTF Horn of Africa.

**2005 2 Sep** The 269<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Ohio ANG, deployed thirty personnel in SAD to Stennis IAP, Mississippi to provide communication support for hurricane relief efforts.



---

Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 29 Sep 2010  
Updated:

Sources