

552nd COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



MISSION

The 552nd Communications Group creates, delivers and sustains world-class communications and computer support for all U.S. Air Force E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System aircraft. The group provides 24-hour a day software support to improve the operational effectiveness of the E-3 Sentry aircraft and Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) mission crews. In addition to supporting the flying mission, the group provides ground communications support for the 552nd Air Control Wing. Group resources include two squadrons and a Plans and Programs Flight. While in-garrison, the group supports six CONUS flying squadrons - the 960th, the 963rd, the 964th, the 965th, the 966th and the 970th Airborne Air Control Squadrons. Group personnel deploy 365 days a year supporting Operations worldwide and two additional E-3 squadrons at Kadena Air Force Base, Japan and Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska.

The Plans and Programs Division performs life-cycle management for all programs affecting E-3 Sentry operational and support software, hardware and all other wing information technology systems. The division manages operational user software and communication requirements to ensure delivered products meet the user's stated needs, budget and obtains funding for program requirements and prepares contractual statements of work. Personnel also perform studies and analyses to identify and insert new technology into the organization. Finally, the division provides administrative oversight and expenditure tracking of all contracts within the group.

The 552nd Communications Group consists of approximately 350 civilian, military and contracted personnel.

LINEAGE

552nd Computer Group activated, 29 May 1992

Redesignated 552nd Computer Systems Group, 1 Jul 1994

Redesignated 552nd Communications Group, 8 Aug 2003

Inactivated, 1 May 2008

STATIONS

Tinker AFB, OK

ASSIGNMENTS

552nd Air Control Wing

COMMANDERS

Col William H. Reeve, 20 Jul 1992

Col Gregory L. Jones, 28 Oct 1994

Col Frank B. Richardson, Jr., 30 Nov 1996

Col Michael Ryan, 12 Jul 1998

Col Rory A. Quesinberry, 14 Jul 2000

Col Marty J. Edmonds, 6 Jul 2002

Col Kurt A. Klausner, 30 Apr 2004

Col John Pericas, 12 Jun 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The first person arrived to support the E-3 software in August 1975. During the next year, approximately 150 personnel arrived and established the software support facility and prepared to receive the first Boeing AWACS software release. The first ground support computer for software development and post-mission analysis was delivered in January 1977.

The first Boeing software release was delivered in February 1977, followed by the first E-3 delivery to the Air Force in March 1977. Since the first software release, there have been 13 major Boeing software upgrades and 45 Air Force-developed versions of the software.

Since 1975, group personnel have deployed to ELF ONE in Saudi Arabia, OPERATIONS DESERT

SHIELD/STORM, PROVIDE COMFORT, PROVEN FORCE, VIGILANT FORCE, SOUTHERN WATCH, NORTHERN WATCH, DENY FLIGHT, DESERT FOX, UPHOLD/MAINTAIN DEMOCRACY, ALLIED FORCE SOUTHERN WATCH, NORTHERN WATCH, IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM. Participation in counter drug operations have also led to deployments in Panama, Curacao and Puerto Rico.

The 552nd Computer Systems Group, formerly the 552nd Computer Group, was activated on 1 July 1994, with two subordinate squadrons: the 752nd Computer Systems Squadron and the 552nd Computer Systems Squadron.

8 Aug 2003 The 552^d Computer Systems Group was redesignated as the 552^d Communications Group, and the 752^d Computer Systems Squadron was redesignated as the 752^d Communications Squadron. The redesignations more accurately reflect group and squadron missions while and makes the name consistent with similar organizations across the Air Force. The unit provides deployable ground communications support, server support, small computer support information management, and information assurance support for the wing.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Nov 2010

Updated: 7 Feb 2019

Sources

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

Unit yearbook. *Tinker AFB, OK, Vol 4, 2002 Yearbook*. 2002.

Air Force Historical Research Agency claims they don't have lineage and honors on file for this organization. 2 Jan 2019.

Unit historian. 552 Air Control Wing. 18 Mar 2020.