

907 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

Comprised of about 30 personnel, the Communications Flight is prepared to handle radio and telephone communications during peacetime or upon mobilization. If ordered to active duty they would install radio nets in the field, operate field telephone switchboards and augment base switchboards.

LINEAGE

907 Communications Squadron constituted, 3 Jul 1951

Activated in the Reserve, 12 Oct 1951

Inactivated, 15 Jun 1952

907 Communications Flight constituted and activated in the Reserve, 3 May 1966

Organized, 1 Jun 1966

Redesignated 907 Information Systems Squadron, 10 Apr 1985

907th Communications Squadron and 907th Information Systems Squadron consolidated, 1 Feb 1987. Consolidated unit designated 907 Communications Squadron.

STATIONS

Brooks AFB, Texas, 12 Oct 1951-15 Jun 1952

Clinton County AFB, Ohio, 1 Jun 1966

Lockbourne (later, Rickenbacker) AFB, Ohio, 26 Jul 1971

ASSIGNMENTS

907 Air Base Group, 12 Oct 1951-15 Jun 1952

Continental Air Command, 3 May 1966

907 Troop Carrier Group, Medium (later, 907th Tactical Airlift Group; 907th Special Operations Group; 907th Tactical Airlift Group), 1 Jun 1966

302 Tactical Airlift Wing, 1 Sep 1975

302 Combat Support Group, 1 Nov 1975
907 Combat Support Squadron, 1 Apr 1981
907 Tactical Airlift Group, 10 Apr 1985

COMMANDERS

Maj John T. Workman, 14 Jul 1986

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan-31 Dec 1970

1 Jan 1977-31 Dec 1978

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Twenty-two members of the 907th CF completed Phase I of a Collocated Operating Base (COB) school at George AFB, California. The training was in direct support of the unit's activation mission which would be to perform base communications for a flying wing that locates overseas. The reservists mostly gained experience operating and maintaining the new Transportable Record Communication Terminal (TRCT), the main equipment for their mission.

In addition to the aircrews of the 356th TAS and maintenance teams from the 907th CAMS, other 907th TAG units were deployed to Europe for Volant Partner, 8-23 September. Personnel from the 907th CF were originally scheduled to participate, however, since certain pieces of equipment were not pre-positioned as planned, only three members of the unit actually participated in the Coldfire Exercise. The active duty 1st Combat Comm Gp from Lindsey AS, Germany took over the communications operation with their own equipment. Thus, the remaining 13 reserve communications personnel were bussed to Zweibruecken AB, Germany to train with the 2143rd Communications Squadron (CS). On 13 and 17 September, two additional reserve personnel were tasked to support the exercise at Kaufbeuren and Landsberg, Germany respectively. The two 907th CF clerks were heavily utilized in the maintenance administration function at Zweibruecken. The 2143rd's publications were in a real need of updating. 907th CF personnel were therefore instrumental in getting their library back into operating condition. The radio maintenance person at Kaufbeuren was at a loss after one of the radios burned-up. There were no replacement parts, tools, or testing equipment to repair the radio. No replacement radio or

even a "dummy load" could be obtained from Zweibruecken or Erding, Germany. Erding had the equipment but it could not be removed. Therefore, the whole exercise was operated with just one radio. Equipment failure, the lack of spare parts and test equipment negated back-up capability for radio communications. The exercise could have been severely impacted by the loss of the only remaining radio. Additionally, the antenna system left much to be desired in terms of range.

Since the 1st Combat Comm Gp was not prepared to provide radio communications, the role of the 907th CF's radio operators and maintenance specialists was ambiguous at best. It seems that the 907th CF should have been explicitly tasked with the radio mission, to include the bringing of their own equipment, spares and repair items. Finally, regardless of who owned the operating equipment or who assumed responsibility for communications operations, the deployment would have been more beneficial to all if some sort of functional interaction had taken place.

The reservists were involved in situations not normally encountered during a normal UTA and for which they coped as best they could. At Zweibruecken, they were an integral part of the host 2143rd CS. Both the Commander and working staff of the active unit were receptive to the reservist's needs and readily solicited their feedback and ideas. The active duty 2032nd Information Services Squadron (ISS), sponsor of the 907th CF, was inactivated on 1 July. The 2046th Communications Group (CG) at WPAFB was designated the new sponsor and advisory unit. However, training and participation is with the Detachment 1, 1915th ISS, which is a subordinate of the 2046th CG.

A Management Effectiveness Inspection (MEI) of the 907th CF was conducted 3-5 August by representatives of the Air Force Communications Command (AFCC) Inspector General (IG). The overall rating of the unit was marginal. The unit was held back by a weak self-inspection program and a recurring problem in overall maintenance management. Operations training needed emphasis on proficiency training

1985 The 907th ISS deployed to Athens, Ohio, for a field exercise from 18 - 20 October (beginning the Friday of the UTA weekend) to set up a remote operating site. The exercises included such activities as setting up tents for housing and equipment maintenance, setting up and monitoring the SB86 switchboard/field phone, and setting up the KWM2A for point-to-point radio contact with the home station radio room. The site was visited by 14th Air Force in s pec to r s as part of a 907 TAG CAV. Considered a success, the squadron plans to continue the exercise on a quarterly basis.

Thirty-one personnel of the 907th ISS were on active duty 17 - 31 August. 16 members deployed to Myrtle Beach AFB, South Carolina to participate in a Phase II COB (Co-located Operating Base) training school. Phase II consisted of simulated war time scenarios at a different operating base other than home station. All personnel received intensive training and testing in their respective AFSCs. The other 15 unit members stayed at Rickenbacker to receive telecommunication Base Support Element (BSE) training. Training included both classroom and on-hands experiences. Additionally, all members took CPR and chemical warfare refresher training provided by the 67th

AEF and 907th CWD. Training in antenna and tent erection was also provided

1986 Thirteen members of the 907th Communications squadron (CS) deployed to the Athens, Ohio facility for mini-cobb training. Both voice and International Morse Code (IMC) training was received. One individual completed KG-13 (crypto) training at Wright Patterson AFB. A mini-telecommunications center was set up and formal classes were given in Message Distribution Center (MDC) operations, Transportable Records Communications Terminal (TRCT), Van Patching Procedures, and Comm Center forms. Effective 5 November, the unit was changed from the 907th Information Systems Squadron and redesignated as the 907th Communications Squadron.

From 11-25 January 1986, seventeen members of the 907th Information Systems Squadron (ISS) attended a Phase II Co-located Operating Base (COB) training school at Myrtle Beach AFB, South Carolina. The overall scenario was a partially simulated and hands-on exercise known as "Corn Cob" which was designated to measure the squadron's ability to accomplish its war time assigned mission. High frequency radio operators were tested on their ability and speed to relocate, tune and make voice and continuous wave contacts to other designated points of contact. Telecommunications operations specialists operated from the Transportable Record Communications Terminal (TRCT). Maintenance personnel were in constant demand due to malfunctions and problems in the high frequency radios, switchboard, and the TRCT equipment. Very often personnel were tasked to work outside their assigned AFSC's. Throughout the entire exercise the 907th ISS personnel were faced with gas and bomb attacks and other simulations to enhance the possible reality of it. Exercise Corn Cob gave unit members the self confidence that they could respond if necessary. The most important lesson learned was the concept of teamwork and the meshing of special skills in order to succeed as a unit and not just individually.

Ten personnel of the 907th ISS participated in a "mini-COB" training exercise on-base in August. Radio operators utilized their new pacer bounce equipment for the first time. The Communications Operations section finalized the set-up of tape-to-tape communications. The two min-communication centers will provide valuable training for 491XX personnel, enabling them to send and receive messages within the squadron.

Thirteen members of the 907th ISS performed their annual active duty tour on an Ohio farm near Athens. The site was chosen as a realistic location for the unit's Co-Located Operating Base (COB) training. Three tents were pitched, a power generator and field switchboard were set-up and wire was strung for seven field phones. A mobile field antenna was set-up and a second antenna was erected at a camouflaged site. Realistic training scenarios included the sabotaging of radios, the switchboard and telephone lines.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.