

## 2146 COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

1246 Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron designated, 15 Jul 1954  
1246<sup>th</sup> Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron organized, 1 Sep 1954  
Redesignated 2146 Communications Squadron, 1 Jul 1961  
Redesignated 2146 Communications Group, 1 Jan 1962  
Redesignated 2146 Information Systems Group, 1 Aug 1984  
Redesignated 2146 Communications Group, 1 Nov 1986

### STATIONS

Osan-Ni (later, Osan Air Base), South Korea

### ASSIGNMENTS

1818 Airways and Air Communications Service Group, 15 Jul 1954  
1809 Airways and Air Communications Service Group (later, Far East AACS Region; Far East Communications Region), 1 Oct 1957  
HQ Pacific Communications Area (later, Pacific Communications Division; Pacific Information Systems Division; Pacific Communications Division), 1 Jul 1972

### COMMANDERS

Lt Col Floyd A. Lambert  
Col William A. Labrens, May 1960  
Maj Paul E. McMasters, 1961  
Lt Col William H. Prince, 1961  
Lt Col James C. Timmons, 18 Sep 1962  
Lt Col Russell Sawyer, 1 Jul 1963  
Lt Col Francis J. Flanagan, 16 Jul 1963

Lt Col John P. Savage, 29 Apr 1964  
Lt Col Edward L. Clark, 14 Feb 1965  
Lt Col Aloys W. Fuessel, Jr., 14 Mar 1966  
Lt Col Richard G. Dunkin, 14 May 1967  
Lt Col Lloyd B. Nunn, Jr., 24 May 1968  
Col James A. Gianatsis, 22 Jun 1968  
Col Robert K. Carson, 7 Jul 1969  
Col John T. Phillips, 24 Jul 1970  
Col Bruce G. Gilbreth, 1 Aug 1971  
Col Harry L. Winberg, 22 Aug 1972  
Col Anthony DiBaggio, 4 Sep 1972  
Col Edward C. Wallace, 6 Jul 1973  
Col Kenneth L. Abney, 7 Feb 1974  
Col Winston D. Powers, 28 Jun 1974  
Col John D. Elliott, 18 Oct 1974  
Lt Col Alonzo O. Bliss III, 9 Jul 1975  
Col Ray G. Green, Jr., 21 Jul 1975  
Col Harold J. Arata, 31 Jul 1978  
Col James W. Cowan, 13 Jun 1980  
Col Ole I. Dahle-Melsaether, 27 May 1981  
Col Kenneth Key, 9 Jul 1982  
Col Elbert S. Walker, Jr., 29 Jun 1984  
Col Joseph L. Thomas, 28 Jun 1985  
Col Billy E. Gregg, 20 Jun 1986  
Col Michael R. Dooly, 5 Jun 1987  
Col Stephen J. Geertz, 24 Jun 1988  
Col Robert L. Null, 3 Aug 1990

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan 1968-31 Dec 1968

1 Aug 1971-31 Jul 1972

1 Jan 1976-31 Dec 1976

1 Jan 1979-31 Dec 1979

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

19 Aug 1972-20 Aug 1972

## **EMBLEM**

The white star emblazoned on the unit's emblem is symbolic of peace and unity. The aircraft represents the unit's air traffic control mission, and it characterizes the overall the realm of the Air Force. The thunderbirds, outstretched to the green, Korean landscape, allude to the command's providing the "Reins of Command" below. The temple, the essence of the Korean heritage, is colored red to represent the blood shed in battle to preserve the land's independence. The white steps descending from the temple symbolize a foundation and the uphill path of freedom.

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The ability of AFCS and the entire Air Force to respond rapidly to crisis situations was tested with the seizure of the USS Pueblo by North Korea on 23 January 1968. This action abruptly altered the United States military posture in Korea from a peacekeeping force to a combat-ready force and precipitated a period of hectic activity to expand and augment existing communication and air traffic control facilities in Korea. The situation required immediate personnel actions, accomplished through extensive temporary duty assignments, and the mobilization of Air National Guard and Reserve forces. Within 72 hours, the 1st Mobile Communications Group planned, packed, and readied for deployment personnel and equipment for "bare base" telecommunications for five bases in Korea. In a matter of days, the Group deployed over one million tons of communications equipment, using over 40 C-141 aircraft. By February, the strength of the 2146th Communications Group in Korea had more than doubled, from 510 to 1,047 people. The four provisional squadrons established in immediate response to the Pueblo Crisis gave way to six squadrons subordinate to the 2146th Communications Group, and the transition from temporary to permanent assignment was in progress.

---

USAF Unit History  
Created: 6 May 2014  
Updated:

### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.  
Major Command history. *A Salute to Air Force Communications Command Leaders and Lineage*. Office of Air Force Communications Command History. Scott AFB, IL. 1 Oct 1990.  
Unit yearbook. *2146 Communications Group, Osan AB, Korea, 1966*.  
Unit yearbook. *2146 Communications Group, Osan AB, Korea, Oct 1973*.