

31 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

The 31 Communications Squadron is the U. S. Air Forces in Europe's only communications squadron south of the Alps supporting permanently assigned fighter aircraft and provides voice, data, video, imagery, airfield and information management services to the Southern Region. The squadron is responsible for the planning, installation, and operations and maintenance of \$50 million in command, control, communications and computer systems in support of Presidential airborne missions, 31 Fighter Wing, six Geographically Separated Units, three contingency sites, seven digital European backbone remote sites, and multinational and joint service forces.

LINEAGE

31 Communications Squadron, Fighter, Jet, constituted, 15 Jun 1948

Activated 22 Aug 1948

Redesignated 31 Communications Squadron 20 Jan 1950

Inactivated, 10 Feb 1951

Activated, 14 Feb 1952

Inactivated, 16 Jun 1952

1942 Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron designated and organized, 18 Jan 1957

Redesignated 1942 Communications Squadron, 1 Jul 1961

Redesignated 1942 Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1984

Redesignated 1942 Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1986

31 Communications Squadron and 1942 Communications Squadron consolidated, 1 Apr 1991.

Consolidated organization designated 31 Communications Squadron

STATIONS

Turner AFB, GA, 22 Aug 1948-16 Jun 1952
Homestead AFB, FL, 18 Jan 1957-1 Apr 1992
Aviano AB, Italy, 1 Apr 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

1803 AACS Group (later. Southeastern AACS Region; Southeastern Communications Region)
Attached to North Atlantic Communications Region, 1-30 Jun 1963
Eastern Communications Region, 1 Jul 1963
9 Tactical Communications Region, 1 Jul 1968
Tactical Communications Area (later, Tactical Communications Division; Tactical Information Systems Division; Tactical Communications Division)

COMMANDERS

Maj F.A. Micholle, #1964
Lt Col John K. Wales, 1 Jan 1969
Col Charles A. Baril, 30 Jun 1969
Maj Robert L. Bond, 1 Jun 1970
Maj William L. Sickenberger, 3 May 1973
Maj Kenneth D. McNicol, Jr., 5 May 1975
Maj Joe L. Ligon, 18 Jun 1976
Maj Stephen E. Kelley, 31 Jul 1979
Maj Gordon J. Aitken, 4 May 1982
Lt Col Jerome E. Merritt, 6 Aug 1984
Lt Col James W. Donkin, 4 Sep 1986
Maj William T. M. Reusch, 6 Jun 1988

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Kosovo Air Campaign

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit award
1 Jun 1970-1 Mar 1972
1 Jan 1990-31 Dec 1991
1 Apr 1994-1 Apr 1996
2 Apr 1996-1 Apr 1998
2 Apr 1998-1 Apr 2000
24 Mar 1999-10 Jun 1999

1 Oct 2000-1 Oct 2002
2 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004
1 Jun 2009-31 May 2011
1 Jan 2012-31 Dec 2013
1 Jan-31 Dec 2014

EMBLEM



The unit emblem portrays the image associated with Air Force Communications Command air traffic controllers, maintenance crews, and communications-electronic operators. The tower signifies the air traffic controllers' expertise of monitoring the approaches and take-offs in good and adverse weather. The atom signifies the maintenance crews who provide dependable equipment and communications to the many different sections that compose the Air Force Communications Command communication squadron. The clouds and lightning signify the communication electronic operators who communicate with the four corners of the earth in their many modes of electronic communication equipment, seen or unseen, classified or unclassified.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Unit yearbook. Homestead AFB, FL. 1964.

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.