

47 COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



MISSION

Responsible for the majority of operations and maintenance activities for the communications and computer systems supporting NORAD, USSPACECOM and AFSPACECOM, the 47th CG performs its wartime mission 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

The 47th Communications Group in Cheyenne Mountain has more than 450 military and civilian personnel assigned.

LINEAGE

47th Communications Group established and activated, 25 Apr 1966

Organized, 1 Jul 1966

Disestablished, 21 Apr 1976

Reestablished (active), 1 Oct 1979

Redesignated 47th Information Systems Group, 15 Aug 1985

Redesignated 47th Communications Group, 1 Nov 1986

STATIONS

Peterson Fld, Colorado

Cheyenne Mountain Complex, Colorado, 1 Oct 1979

ASSIGNMENTS

Air (later, Aerospace) Defense Command

Strategic Communications Area (later Strategic Communications Division), 1 Oct 1979

Air Force Communications Command, 1 Feb 1981

Space Communications Division (later, Space Information Systems Division; Space Communications Division), 1 Apr 1983

COMMANDERS

Col Ben P. Lee, 1 Oct 1979

Col Fred J. Harris, 3 Jul 1980

Col Gayland G. Miller, 27 Sep 1982

Col Ronald D. Ross, 14 Jan 1983

Col John G. Cronican, Jr., 22 Jul 1983

Col H. Wayne Sidebottom, 25 Jun 1984

Col Marion G. Wilson, 14 Mar 1986

Col Ronald L. Paxson, 13 Nov 1987

Col James J. Romanchek, 30 Jun 1989

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

6 Jun 1965-22 Jun 1965

1 Jul 1969-30 Apr 1971

1 May 1971-30 Jun 1972

1 Jul 1974-30 June 1975

1 Jan 1986-31 Dec 1987

1 Jan 1988-30 June 1989

EMBLEM



The emblem is symbolic of the group, and the Air Force colors, golden yellow and ultramarine blue, are used. The radar unit denotes the far reaching communications capability of the organization and the lightning bolts represent a swift reaction in all situations. The mountain range is symbolic of the location of the unit and the stars symbolize the medium in which communications are conducted.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

In July, the 47th CG began installing and training on the first systems of the \$1.6 billion Cheyenne Mountain upgrade program. Replacement of existing communications and computer hardware will continue through 1996. Throughout this upgrade, 47th CG personnel will be intimately involved with every phase.

The unit has received many major awards and recognition during its history, including eight outstanding unit citations. In addition, the cryptomaintenance work center received the Top Gun award from Space Communications Division for the second year in a row in 1989, and the Technical Control Facility was recognized by the Defense Communications Agency as the best transmission media facility for the Western Hemisphere in 1989.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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