

56 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

Squadron provides, operates, and maintains communications resources to facilitate training the world's finest F-16 fighter pilots and maintainers, while deploying mission ready warfighters.

LINEAGE

56 Communications Squadron, Fighter, Jet, constituted 14 Jun 1948

Activated, 1 Aug 1948

Redesignated 56 Communications Squadron, 20 Jan 1950

Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952

Activated, 1 Oct 1991

Inactivated, 4 Jan 1994

Activated, 1 Apr 1994

STATIONS

Selfridge AAF (later, AFB), MI, 1 Aug 1948-6 Feb 1952

MacDill AFB, FL, 1 Oct 1991-4 Jan 1994

Luke AFB, AZ, 1 Apr 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

56 Air Base Group, 1 Aug 1948-6 Feb 1952

56 Combat Support (later, 56 Support) Group, 1 Oct 1991-1 Jan 1994

56 Support (later, 56 Mission Support) Group on 1 Apr 1994

COMMANDERS

Unknown 20 Jan 1950-6 Feb 1952
Col Robert Popp, Dec 1991
Col Doreen M. Wolf, Jan 1992
Lt Col John C. Goodman, 18 Jun 1992-4 Jan 1994
Lt Col Stanley D. Howard, 1 Apr 1994
Maj Robert J. Steele, 4 Aug 1994
Lt Col Wilson D. Crafton, 1 Jul 1997
Lt Col Jeffrey A. Corvey, 2 Jun 1999
Lt Col Frank Knickerbocker, Iv 12 Jun 2001
Lt Col Eric J. Pierce, 8 Jul 2003
Lt Col Timothy J. Pearson, 9 Jun 2005
Maj Rashone J. Tate, 5 Jun 2007
Lt Col David Hillman, 22 Jun 2009
Lt Col Zachary S. Warakowski, 8 Apr 2011
Maj Raymond H. Chester, Jr., 14 Jun 2013

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 2000
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003
1 Jun [Jul] 2003-30 Jun 2005
1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007
1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008
1 Jul 2008-30 Jun 2009
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010
1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011
1 Jul 2011-30 Jun 2012
1 Jul 2012-30 Jun 2013

EMBLEM

On a disc Azure, four lightning flashes issuant from chief pile wise Or, surmounted by a bat, wings displayed Proper, eyes Gules, all within a narrow border Black. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "56th COMMUNICATIONS SQ" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed

"LOQUIMINI TONITRUM" in Black letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The four lightning flashes signify the four operational environments: land, sea, air and space. They also represent all forms of communication, as depicted on the Air Force Communications and Information occupational badge. The bat, noted for its sophisticated communication system, symbolizes the importance of communications to the Air Force mission. All elements combined reinforce the motto, Loquimini Tonitrum," translated as "Beware the Thunderbolt." (Approved, 8 May 1998)

MOTTO

LOQUIMINI TONITRUM--Beware the Thunderbolt

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

Created: 19 Feb 2025

Updated:

Sources

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

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