

647 RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)

MISSION

LINEAGE

647 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron activated, 9 Dec 1949
Redesignated 647 Radar Squadron, 8 Apr 1959

STATIONS

Manassas AFS, VA

ASSIGNMENTS

85th Air Division
Washington Air Defense Sector, 8 Apr 1959

COMMANDERS



Cpt Weston F. Griffith (USAF photo)

Cpt Weston F. Griffith
Cpt Robert J. McMullen
LTC Lloyd E. Colboch, 4 Sep 1956
LTC Guy Hunter

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was activated, on 9 December 1949, by General Order 126, Headquarters First Air Force. Personnel and equipment was utilized from the 672nd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, which was inactivated, at Gravelly Point, Virginia. On 25 July 1952, General Order 22, Headquarters 26th Air Division, dated 18 July 1952, was received. This General Order deactivated Detachment 2, 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, which had been activated to close out all remaining accounts at Fort Meade. On 18 July 1952, all personnel were transferred from the Detachment to Quantico Air Force Station, Quantico, Virginia, where it is presently located. Air Defense Command General Order 1, dated 10 February 1953, put the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron under direct control of the 4710th Air Defense Wing, New Castle County Airport, Wilmington, Delaware. On 1 March 1956, the 85th Air Division (Defense) was activated at Andrews Air Force Base and the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron was reassigned to this organization.

The mission of the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron is to support the 85th Air Division (Defense) in its conduct of air defense in the assigned area of responsibility and to accomplish the training required to maintain the proficiency of personnel to discharge this responsibility.

The 647th Radar Squadron (SAGE) was first activated as the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron on 9 December 1949, at Fort Meade, Maryland. Personnel and equipment were utilized from the 672nd Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, which had been deactivated.

Eastern Air Defense Force General Order No. 60, dated 11 August 1958, further assigned the 647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron to Washington Air Defense Sector, Fort Lee, Virginia, and on 8 April 1959, was redesignated as the 647th Radar Squadron (SAGE).

As of this date, Lt. Col. Lloyd E. Colboch, is Squadron Commander, having succeeded Captain

Robert J. McCullen, on 4 September 1956.

FPS-3; CPS-4; FPS-6A; FPS-6B; FPS-26A; FPS-35

Site first known as Quantico AFS. FPS-35 used for missile-detection tests in 1962, with marginal results. Upon site closure, FPS-35 radar sail sent to Fortuna AFS, ND. Manassas GATR site, R-20, retained until 1976. Located in Independent Hill, VA,

The 647th AC&W Squadron began operating AN/FPS-3 and AN/CPS-4 radars in March 1952, and assumed coverage from Lashup site L-14 at Fort Meade, MD. The AN/FPS-3 remained active until 1962. In 1958 AN/FPS-6A and AN/FPS-6B radars took over height-finder chores. The site began feeding the SAGE system in January 1959. This site received an AN/FPS-35 radar in 1961, but problems prevented operations. It became operational in 1962, and was tested to determine if it could detect missile launchings. The radar detected Polaris and Minuteman missile launches from Cape Canaveral on June 28, 1962. Additional tests revealed the AN/FPS-35 radar had marginal value for missile detection. The AN/FPS-3 was then retired. In 1963 an AN/FPS-26A replaced the AN/FPS-6A height-finder radar. The site was removed from service on 25 June 1965. Reportedly, the FPS-35 radar sail was then sent to Fortuna AFS, ND, to replace the one there which had been destroyed in a fierce wind storm a year earlier. The Manassas GATR site was retained as site R-20, and continued in operation until 1976.

647th Radar Sq (SAGE): assigned 1 Jan 51 at Ft Meade, MD, assigned to the 503rd AC&W Gp; transferred to 'the-26th AD 6 Feb 52; moved to permanent site at Quantico, VA Apr 52; transferred to 4710th Def Wg 16 Feb 53; transferred to. the 85th AD 1 Mar 56; site redesignated Manassas AFS, VA in Summer of 57; transferred to Washington ADS 1 Sep 58; redesignated from AC&W Sq to 647th Radar Sq (SAGE) 1 Oct 59; discontinued 25 Jun 65.

647th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Roslyn ANG, New York

30 April 49 - April 1958

Commanders:

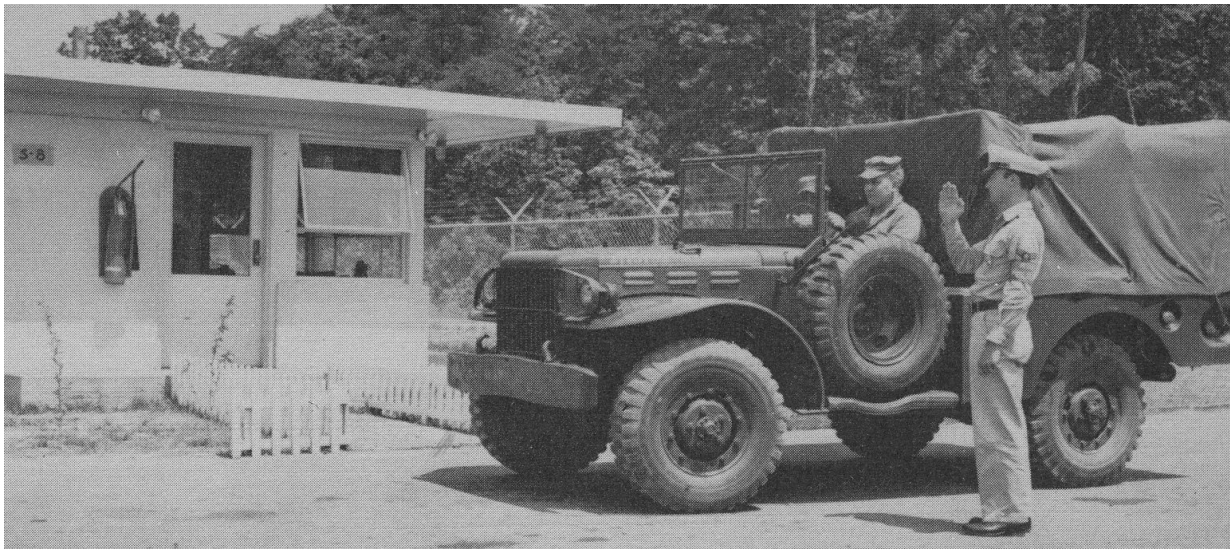
1954, Major Dombrowski

647 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON, BENTON PA

Quantico Manassas The 647th AC&W Squadron began operating AN/FPS-3 and AN/CPS-4 radars in March 1952 and assumed coverage from a Lashup site at Fort Meade. The AN/FPS-3 remained active until 1962. In 1958 AN/FPS-6 and 6B radars took over height-finder chores. The site began feeding the SAGE system in January 1959. This site received an AN/FPS-35 radar in 1961, but problems prevented operations. It became operational in 1962 and was tested to determine if it could detect missile launchings. The radar detected Polaris and Minuteman missile launches from Cape Canaveral on June 28, 1962. Additional tests revealed the radar had marginal value for

missile detection. In 1963 an AN/FPS-26A replaced the AN/FPS-6B height-finder radar. The site was removed from service on March 1, 1965.

Roslyn Station ny
647th Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron
Stationed: 30 Apr 49 - Apr 58



(USAF photo)



(USAF photo)

Air Force Lineage and Honors

Created: 20 Jul 2011

Updated:

Sources

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