

673 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

1979 Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron designated and organized, 20 Oct 1951

Redesignated 1979 Communications Squadron, 1 Jul 1961

Redesignated 1979 Information Systems Squadron, 1 Oct 1984

Redesignated 1979 Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1986

Inactivated, 1 May 1991

Redesignated 673 Communications Squadron, 14 Dec 2009

Activated, 24 Jun 2010

STATIONS

Lakenheath RAF Station (later, RAF Lakenheath), England, 20 Oct 1951-1 May 1991

Elmendorf AFB, AK, 24 Jun 2010

ASSIGNMENTS

1813 Airways and Air Communications Service Group, 20 Oct 1951

1807 Airways and Air Communications Service Wing, 1 Nov 1953

1821 Airways and Air Communications Service Group (later, United Kingdom Airways and Air Communications Service Region

United Kingdom Communications Region), 1 Nov 1954

European Communications Area, 30 Jun 1972

2147 Communications Group (later, 2147 Information Systems Group

2147 Information Systems Wing

2147 Communications Wing), 1 Jan 1980

48 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Oct 1990-1 May 1991

673 Mission Support Group, 24 Jun 2010

COMMANDERS

Maj Raymond A. Algren, Oct 1951
LTC Julian W. Parker, Jun 1953
Maj Bertrand D. Johnson, Jun 1954
Maj Lester M. Burton, 1964
Maj Clarence R. DeYoung, 14 Dec 1965
Maj Russell N. Montgomery, 1968
Cpt John L. Cloyd, 5 Feb 1969
Cpt Walter A. Becker, 1970
Maj/LTC Robert D. Dunn, 19 Aug 1971
LTC Richard C. Davis, 16 Jun 1975
Maj David J. Warren, 12 Jun 1978
LTC D. J. Donkin,
Maj R. E. Perry,
Maj James C. Coyne, 29 Jun 1983
LTC Chandler J. Mapes, 7 Feb 1986
Maj James H. Gibbs, 16 Jun 1989



LTC Julian W. Parker (USAF photo)

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jul 1961-29 Feb 1964

1 Jan 1967-31 Dec 1968
1 Jan 1983-31 Dec 1984
1 Jan 1985-31 Dec 1986
1 Jul 1988-30 Jun 1990

EMBLEM



1979 Communications Squadron emblem: The Lion of England, winged for the Air Force, and guardant is a symbol of constant readiness. The torch represents the Statue of Liberty of the host wing; it also symbolizes the use of beacon fires throughout the ages as communications and navigation devices. The four electronic flashes represent modern electronic communications (operations, air traffic control, maintenance and programs). The electronic flash wreath symbolizes the unit's two hats, the United States Air Forces in Europe and Air Force Communications Command. The North Star symbolizes support of the NATO mission. The four points represent the four fighter and maintenance squadrons of our host wing. The emblem as a whole bears a resemblance to the emblem of the Royal Air Force as a reminder of the squadron's constant interaction with the forces of the host country.

673 Communications Squadron emblem: On a disc Azure, beneath in chief a polestar Argent, shadowed Silver Gray, a winged lion rampant gardant Or, grasping in dexter forepaw a torch Brün, flamed Gules and of the fourth, the sinister paw grasping four lightning flashes of the sixth, encircled by a stylized lightning wreath of the fourth, all with a narrow border Blue. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "THE VOICE OF LIBERTY" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "673D COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON" in Blue 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 torch is symbolic of the freedom the unit protects, harkening back to the Statue of Liberty, and is symbolic of the signal fires used in ages past for communications and navigation. The four electronic flashes symbolize modern

communications that allow for power projection to the four corners of the world. The electronic wreath symbolizes the superiority of the U.S. Armed Forces in the electronic domain, empowering victory. The pole star symbolizes dedication to the ideals of the Air Force and completing the mission. (Approved, 18 Jun 2010)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS



1979 Airways and Air Communications Service Squadron control tower at Mildenhall, 1953 (USAF photo)

Air Force Lineage and Honors

Created: 12 Apr 2012

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Sources

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

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

Unit yearbook. *Pictorial Review, Mildenhall and Lakenheath, England, 1953-1954*. Montgomery Publishing Co. London, England. 1954.