

908 COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT

MISSION

Comprised of 30 Personnel, the Communications Flight within the Wing is prepared to handle radio and telephone communications during peacetime or upon mobilization. If ordered to active duty they would install radio nets in the field, operate field telephone switchboards and augment base switchboards.

LINEAGE

908 Communications Flight constituted and activated, 3 May 1966

Organized in the Reserve, 1 Jun 1966

Redesignated 908 Information Systems Squadron, 10 Apr 1985

Redesignated 908 Communications Squadron, 1 Feb 1987

Redesignated 908 Communications Flight, 1 Aug 1992

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1994

Activated in the Reserve, 1 Apr 1997

STATIONS

Brookley AFB, AL, 1 Jun 1966

Maxwell AFB, AL, 25 Apr 1969-1 Oct 1994

Maxwell AFB, AL, 1 Apr 1997

ASSIGNMENTS

908 Tactical Air Support (later, 908 Tactical Airlift; 908 Airlift) Group, 25 Apr 1969-1 Oct 1994

908 Support (later, 908 Mission Support) Group, 1 Apr 1997

COMMANDERS

Capt Gary M. Gillespie

Maj Franklin L. Coley

Maj Wadell C. Zanaty

Capt John C. DePrato, 5 Jul 1976

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1972-15 Mar 1974

1 Feb 1980-31 Jan 1982

1 Sep 1986-31 Aug 1988

1 Sep 1991-31 Aug 1993

1 Oct 2003-30 Sep 2005

1 Jan 2011-31 Dec 2011

1 Jan 2014-31 Dec 2015

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

908 Communications Flight trained with the 1973rd Communications Squadron, Maxwell AFB. An effective training program has been instituted through the combined efforts and support of the 908 TAG Commander and the commanders of the two communications units. The 908 Communications Flight spent its annual summer encampment at Tyndall AFB, Fla. The 908 personnel received excellent training by the 2021 Communications Squadron. This deployment has greatly increased the training and operations capability of the 908 Communications Flight. 1974

The 908 Comm Flight completed annual field training during 1975. All training requirements and objectives were achieved. The training was conducted under the direction of the 1973d Comm Squadron at Maxwell AFB AL.

The interior of the Comm Flight's headquarters, Building 1048, was painted through self-help during this period. During the July, August and September UTA's all training requirements were accomplished under the guidance of the 280th Comm Squadron with advisement from the 1973d Comm Squadron. 1975

The 908 Comm Flight deployed to Hurlburt Field for its Annual Tour of Active Duty (25 July - 8 Aug 1976). The 2068th Comm Squadron provided both instructional and practical training in the Base Comm Center, Inside and Outside Telephone Maintenance, and Radio Maintenance. The flight received a good report from the host squadron.

During April the 908th Communications Flight participated in Green Tiger II by deploying two Radio Maintenance people and three Radio Operators to Savannah, Ga. The Flight continued to

receive good training assistance from the Host 1973rd Communications Squadron during the quarter. 1978



Seventeen personnel assigned to the 908th Communications Flight went to Bitburg AB, Germany for their annual tour from 17-31 July 1982. Training was done with the 2139th Communications Squadron. The 908th Comm Flight members received numerous letters of appreciation from the sections they trained with.

Five personnel from the 908th Comm Flight returned to Germany to participate in Crested Cap III from 25 Aug to 24 Oct 1982. Training was accomplished in field communication conditions.

Other mobility deployment training was accomplished by the 908th Comm Flight at Maxwell AFB during regular UTA's, including pallet loading, M16 training, CPR, and chemical warfare training.

The 908CF deployed to Bitburg AB, GE from 17 July to 31 July 1982 to work with and receive training from the 2139 Communications Squadron. During our Annual Tour, we concentrated on working in areas that would provide us with maximum training for our Collocated Operating Base (COB) mission. The following is a list of training accomplishments:

a. The 908CF personnel were incorporated into various 2139CS work sections (Radio Operations, Communications Operations, Radio Maintenance, Telephone Maintenance, and Administration). The 2139CS/Section Supervisors were asked to concentrate on giving our people the training and work duties that would give them a better knowledge of their responsibilities during deployments to COBs. Radio Operations personnel received a wealth of experience involving High Frequency Radio Operations in the European radio nets especially the INFORM net for Command and Control. They were provided training in phone patch, authentication systems, MIJI reporting, and Electronic Warfare. Their 2139CS Supervisor concentrated on radio procedures necessary during deployments. The Communications Operations personnel received training in all areas of operations of Telecommunication'. Centers and Switchboard. In addition,

some training was provided concerning COMSEC accounting and USAFE/NATO routing processes. Radio Maintenance personnel worked alongside their 2139CS counterparts on such equipment as the KWM-2A, GRC-171, and mobile TACAN. Since the 908th does not have GRC-171 radios available to train on at Maxwell AFB, this training was very beneficial in light of the UHF radio requirements at the COB. Telephone maintenance was concentrated in the outside plant area. Our personnel were kept very busy installing telephone systems in a variety of locations and under strenuous situations. The Administrative Specialist worked in the 2139CS/Orderly Room. In this area, he had access to a wealth of information of a Communications Operations Maintenance and personal nature. This information was retrieved where possible, and will be used to train our personnel for their deployments in the future.

b. During our deployment, Bitburg AB underwent an exercise alert for three days. All 908CF personnel carried their "C" bags and participated in the exercise. This was a very valuable training situation in that it allowed us the opportunity to wear our chemical suits during work situations and during alert status. We learned a lot concerning our capabilities under stress.

The 2139 Communications Squadron, our host during our Annual Tour, provided us with the best in training in all areas of communications. Their professionalism and dedication was certainly evident during our stay. The 2139CS/CERT was more than helpful in providing us with the information that we will need to effectively accomplish our COB mission. The 908CF would like to extend its deepest appreciation to the 2139CS for its efforts both operationally and personal. Their hospitality was certainly warming.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

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