

2012 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

2012 Communications Squadron designated and organized, 1 Jul 1962
Redesignated 2012 Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1984
Redesignated 2012 Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1986
Inactivated, 29 May 1992

STATIONS

Seymour Johnson AFB, NC

ASSIGNMENTS

Southeastern Communications Region
Tactical Communications Region, 1 Jan 1963
9 Tactical Communications Region, 8 Aug 1967
Tactical Communications Area (later, Tactical Communications Division; Tactical Information Systems Division; Tactical Communications Division), 30 Jun 1971

COMMANDERS

Maj Melvin O. Pink, 1 Jan 1963
Maj Robert D. Taylor, 15 Jul 1963
Capt Clyde V. March, Jr., 28 Feb 1966
Capt Morris H. Lovell, 19 Aug 1967
Maj George H. Prodehl, 11 Oct 1967
Maj James A. Forgas, 1 Jul 1970
Capt James S. Butt, 1 Mar 1973

Maj Bradley W. Carmichael, 12 May 1973
Maj James J. McDonald, 11 Jun 1976
Maj George M. Richmond II, 15 Jul 1978
Maj Thomas E. Stye, 12 Dec 1980
Maj James V. Ricks, 7 Jan 1983
Maj Robert E. Graham, 28 Jun 1985
Maj Frank L. Forsyth, 21 Jul 1987
Lt Col Margaret K. Baldwin, 12 Jun 1989

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
16 Apr 1974-31 Dec 1975
1 Jan 1987-30 Jun 1989
1 Jul 1989-22 Apr 1991

EMBLEM

On a blue disc edged with a narrow yellow border issuing from sinister base a dark blue demi globe in perspective with axis bendwise, gridlined white below a white atmospheric layer; above the globe a black atomic symbol garnished white and yellow with red nucleus garnished yellow from which issues six white electronic flashes red, one to the top of the disc and one to the base and four saltirewise, within three yellow five-pointed stars, one in the dexter top of the disc, one in dexter base between the electronic flash and the atmospheric layer, and one in sinister flank. Attached above the disc a white scroll edged yellow and inscribed "Providing the Link" in black letters. Attached below the disc a blank white scroll edged yellow. The earth bound by a thin atmosphere symbolizes the squadron's support of the overseas deployment of the 4th Tactical Fighter Wings. The heart of the emblem is an atom, the symbolic common denominator of the sections of the squadron. The atom represents electricity without which radios, frequencies, antennas, and radar scopes would be useless. The atom is bound by two forces—three electron orbits which represent electronic communication capabilities and six electric flashes which symbolize the squadron section. These sections include maintenance, communication-electronics, plans and programs, combat crew communications, flight facilities, and administration personnel. The three stars serve to highlight the three major branches of the squadron— communications-electronics operations, air traffic control services, and maintenance. To support the mission of the squadron, all six sections must work in an orderly and cohesive manner, using the common factor, electricity. With the branches working in unison to support the Air Force's flying mission, the 2012th Communications Squadron controls air traffic, maintains nav aids, issues war codes to bomber crews and maintains operational plans to meet any contingencies. When the going gets

tough, the tough get going "providing the link" 24-hours a day.

MOTTO

PROVIDING THE LINK

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Since 6 Jul 1961, the 2012th Communications Squadron has provided Seymour Johnson Air Force Base the 'amun lent long and air traffic control services needed to support the tactical and strategic missions of the base. The squadron has grown from 53 people to 186 to meet the demand for better command and control and expanded air traffic control service. The 2012th Communications Squadron is one of four Air Force Communications Command units that train air traffic control officers on airspace management and operations. The squadron operates base telephone systems, a computerized message center, a modern control tower and a radar approach control facility which serves the base and four local airports. In addition to operating these facilities, the squadron maintains an array of electronic systems to include computers, radar, radios, intrusion detection equipment, weather equipment, cryptographic equipment and navigational aids.

In 1963 the 2012th Communications Squadron, air traffic controllers were delegated responsibility for a large section of airspace surrounding the base. This meant working a large number of civilian aircraft as well as military.

In 1967 the 2012th Communications Squadron, commissioned a new phone system for the base called "centrex."

In 1972 a new Tactical Air Navigation (TACAN) system was installed.

The 2012th Communications Squadron,'s mission has been constantly expanded. For example, in 1973 squadron personnel assessed responsibility for maintaining the Intrusion detection systems which protect the 68 Bombardment Wing alert forces.

In 1974 radar operations were moved from a trailer parked next to the runway to a permanent home.

In 1976 responsibility for the remainder of the communications support for the 68th Bombardment Wing was also transferred to the 2012th. This involved maintaining their command find control system and providing peace time tactical and emergency War Order communications support to aircrews and staff agencies.

In 1977 a new control tower was constructed.

In 1977 a solid state Instrument Landing System (ILS) replaced outdated equipment. At that time

only one runway was served. In 1980, another ILS was added which provided guidance for Seymour's second runway.

A UNIVAC high speed computer was installed in 1978 to send more messages in a shorter time frame.

In 1978, a special surge mobility responsibility was tasked to the squadron. Squadron members are now specifically trained for rapid deployment to support overseas combat theaters. Also that year the unit began maintaining the base weather equipment. Seymour Johnson became an alternate base for the National Emergency Airborne Command Post in 1980 and the Comm Sq provides the key links between the aircraft and national military command authorities.

On 29 May 1992 the 2010th Communications Squadron inactivated and the personnel transferred on paper to the activated 4th Communications Squadron.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 16 Jun 2011
Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Major Command history. A Salute to Air Force Communications Command Leaders and Lineage. Office of Air Force Communications Command History. Scott AFB, IL. 1 Oct 1990.