

34th INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

34th Radio Squadron, Mobile constituted, 13 Apr 1951
Activated, 27 Apr 1951
Inactivated, 8 May 1955
Disbanded, 15 Jun 1983
Reconstituted and redesignated 34th Intelligence Squadron, 4 Aug 2010
Activated, 8 Sep 2010

STATIONS

Brooks AFB, TX, 27 Apr-6 Sep 1951
Wheelus Field, Libya, 3 Oct 1951-8 May 1955
Fort George G. Meade, MD, 8 Sep 2010

ASSIGNMENTS

USAF Security Service, 27 Apr 1951
6910th Security Group, 25 Apr 1952
6930th Security Group, 1 Nov 1954-8 May 1955
707th Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group, 8 Sep 2010

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

None

EMBLEM

On a disc Azure, a dragon throughout Gules, wings Sanguine and inverted, chest and shadows on leg and tail of the like grasping in the dexter hand a sword bendwise point down with pommel, grip and quillon Or; blade Argent (Silver Gray), in the sinister hand a shield of the last bearing a knight chess piece facing dexter Sable superimposed by a key fesswise ward to sinister of the fourth, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "34TH INTELLIGENCE SQ" in Yellow 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 dragon symbolizes the unit's unwavering resolve to protect its home and to attack those who would threaten it. The shield with knight chess piece and key (traditional symbols of the intelligence mission) represents the Squadron's mission to defend the Nation. The sword alludes to the unit's ability to strike offensively at the Nation's enemies.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The awaited tenant units began moving onto Wheelus in September 1951 with the arrival of an advanced party of the 34th Radio Squadron Mobile (AFSS). In addition to this AFSS unit, Wheelus also supported a unit of the Air Resupply and Communications Service.

Wheelus Air Base, Libya, got the nod to host Security Service's 34th Radio Squadron Mobile. The U.S. Air Force controlled Wheelus, and the USAF host unit at Wheelus had adequate logistics resources in place to support a USAFSS RSM. A hearability test by a USAFSS team at the base confirmed excellent reception of signals emanating from Russia.

Located outside of Tripoli, Wheelus Air Base was situated on the Mediterranean coast of North Africa. A former Italian airfield that the British Eighth Army captured in 1943, Wheelus was a U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command forward operating location for SAC B-50's, B-36's, KC-97's and KC-29's during the 1950's and 60's.

USAFE tactical aircrews from England and Germany also frequented the base for gunnery and bombing training at a nearby range. After Muammar Gaddafi came to power in a military coup in 1969, the USAF handed over the base to the Libyan government in June 1970, and the Libyans renamed the base Uqba bin Nafi Airfield.

Headquarters USAFSS activated the 34th Radio Squadron Mobile under the command of Maj. James O. Netherland at Brooks AFB, Texas, on 27 April 1951. Later in the year, the 34th RSM relocated to Wheelus. The command formed the nucleus of the squadron at Brooks and filled in the unit's manpower requirements with new recruits and by drawing on personnel assigned to the 2nd RSM and 12th RSM in Germany. In 1955 the squadron inactivated.

Air Force Order of Battle

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

History. *Wheelus Field; The Story of the US Air Force in Libya. The Early days 1944-1952*. R. L. Swetzer. Historical Division Office of Information USAFE. 15 Jan 1965.