6988th ELECTRONICS SECURITY SQUADRON

6988th RSM, Fuchu Air Station, Japan (Billy Fortner-BAT)

Det. 1, Yakota Air Base, Japan (Deactivated 1972) (James Devine)

6988th ESS Mindenhall, England

6988th ESS RAF Mildenhall, Eng 1 Jun '80-30 Sept '93

LINEAGE

STATIONS RAF Mildenhall, England

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS LTC Gary D. Payton

HONORS Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

ΜΟΤΤΟ

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

June 1, 1980, the 6988th Electronic Security Squadron was activated as part of the Electronic Security Command, replacing the 6954th Security Squadron at RAF Mildenhall.

The mission of the 6988th ESS is to provide command, control and communications countermeasures services and products to theater commanders.

In this capacity, the unit employs techniques and materials designed to ensure that air-to-air and air-to-ground communications are reliable and secure. It also performs direction-finding and range estimations of downed aircraft in support of search and rescue operations.

Mildenhall is located in Suffolk, England, in the heart of England's main agricultural regions East Anglia.

Surrounded by green, rolling countryside and farmland, the base boasts a beautiful and interesting location. London, the historic capital of England, is 70 miles from base — a 90 minute drive. Cambridge, site of the famous university, and Newmarket, the home of English horse racing, are both within minutes of the base.

The 6988th is an associate unit at Mildenhall, hosted by the 513th Airborne Command and Control Wing. This "Gateway to the United England is an aviation buff's paradise. Members of the 6988th got an up close and personal view of this MiG-29/Fulcrum at the 1988 Farnborough Airshow.

houses leased by the Air Force — provide some relief. With some searching, it is possible to rent or even buy an attractive, comfortable place for reasonable rates. However, distances can range up to 20 miles from the base.

Costs for utilities are high in England. For homes heated by electricity, \$75 to \$100 per month is the norm. Oil and gas are somewhat less expensive, but good conservation practices are necessary to keep costs at a reasonable level. Telephone service is also expensive, and installation can cost up to \$100.

The housing, utilities and telephone problems are all easily ignored when looking at the outstanding benefits of living in Mildenhall.

As the jumping-off point for all of Europe, it's easy for anyone to become a world traveler. If you prefer to stay close to home, Mildenhall and Lakenheath together provide excellent youth activities, a skeet range, golf course, a swimming pool, gymnasiums, theaters, and an exchange and commissary — more than enough to take care of you for a pleasant tour.

6988TH RSM	AFOUA wV	1 JAN 59 - 30 DEC 61
6988TH SCTYS		1 APR 65 - 15 JUL 66 1 JUL 66 - 1 SEP 67 23 JAN 68 - 30 AUG 68 1 SEP 69 - 30 JUN 70

6988TH ESS	AFOUA	1 JUL 80 - 30 JUN 82
	AFOUA	1 JUL 82 - 30 JUN 84

In Japan, a DoD Program Budget decision completely realigned the cryptologic structure, forcing the closure of the 6986 SG at Wakkanai AS, and the inactivation of the 6918 SS at Hakata AS and the 6988 SS at Yokota AB, Japan. Concurrently, projects associated with the 6988 SS, such as Bench Royal and Rivet Gym manning for College Eye, were discontinued, and the remaining Combat Dawn mission transferred to the 6903 SS at Osan AB, Korea. 1972

Host base activities at Misawa AB, Japan (6921 SW) were transferred from PACAF to USAFSS on 1 July 1972.

The 6910 SG moved from Darmstadt to Augsburg in Germany. 1972

On 9 January, the operational deployment of the first modernized RJ aircraft to the 6988 ESS at RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom, took place. Modernization of the second aircraft and its subsequent deployment to the 6985 ESS at Eielson AFB, Alaska, occurred in February 1981. Successful Block III operations at these two units, and mixed fleet operations at Offutt AFB, Nebr., continued throughout the year despite frequent surge taskings and an increase in sortie rates. Introduction of the third, fourth, and fifth modernized aircraft into the fleet followed in March, August, and December. 1981

Air Force Order of Battle Created: 2 Sep 2011 Updated:

Sources