

# 119<sup>th</sup> COMMAND AND CONTROL SQUADRON



## LINEAGE

Constituted 119<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Warning & Control Squadron and allotted to the National Guard 21 Mar 1949

119<sup>th</sup> ACWS organized 1 Oct 1950

Federal recognition on 6 Oct 1950

Redesignated 119<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Warning & Control Flight 1 Dec 1953

Redesignated 119<sup>th</sup> Tactical Control Squadron 1 Sep 1965

Redesignated 119<sup>th</sup> Air Control Squadron 16 Jun 1992

Redesignated 119<sup>th</sup> Command and Control Squadron 16 Aug 2002

## STATIONS

McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Knoxville, TN, 16 Aug 2002

Alcoa Air Guard Station, TN, 1 Sep 1965

Otis Air Force Base, Falmouth, MA, 18 Jan 1952

Knoxville National Guard Armory, TN, 6 Oct 1950

## ASSIGNMENTS

Continental Air Command, 6 October 1950

154th Aircraft Control and Warning Group, 1 November 1950

32d Air Division-Air Defense Command, January 1952

4707th Defense Wing-Air Defense Command, 16 February 1953

Air Defense Command, 1 December 1953

Tactical Air Command, 29 September 1961

Air Combat Command 16 June 1992

Air Force Space Command, 16 August 2002

## COMMANDERS

Col John R. Douglas, 1950-1964

Maj Oscar L. Williams Jr., 1952-1953

Col Arthur P. Wright, 1964-1972

Col James W. Manley, 1972-1974

Col Fredrick L. Bonney, 1974 -1987

Lt Col Henry N. Hanson, 1987-1993  
Maj Harry Ammerman, 1993-1995  
Lt Col John F. White, 1995 – 2003  
Lt Col L. G. Schettler, 2003-2008  
Lt Col David L. Evans, 2008 – Present

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award  
1 January 1984 – 31 December 1985  
1 January 1986 – 31 December 1987  
1 January 1990 – 31 December 1991  
1 January 1996 – 31 December 1997  
1 January 2000 – 31 December 2001  
1 January 1995 – 31 December 1995  
1 January 2006 – 1 October 2007  
02 October 2007 – 01 October 2008

Joint Meritorious Unit Award  
8 April 1991 – 27 Oct 1991  
1 January 1999 – 3 September 2002

### **EMBLEM**

Approved 9 August 1990

### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

Blue and 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 demi-globe represents support supplied by the Squadron to the worldwide Air Force mission. The mountain range suggests the great Smoky mountains and the home area of the squadron. The electronic sweep and aircraft reflect the local direction and control of maneuvers provided by the unit in support of the Tennessee Air National Guard. The blue disc with stars on the red ribbon represents the Tennessee state flag and the commitment of Squadron personnel to serve their state.

### **MOTTO**

Whatever it Takes

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

The 119th Command and Control Squadron (CACS) located at McGhee Tyson ANG Base, Tennessee is one of six units assigned to the Tennessee Air National Guard. The 119th is one of only five ANG units nationally to be aligned under Air Force Space Command. The unit's federal mission supports the Commander, United States Strategic Command with global situational awareness by performing command and control, and associated battle management to ensure employment of the command's full spectrum of military responsibilities. This mission support includes specialties in space, intelligence, communication satellite management, information operations and command, control, communications, and computer (C4) network systems administration. The unit maintains a very highly trained and technically diverse cadre of professional officers and enlisted personnel.

The 119th Command and Control Squadron is located in Knoxville and was one of the first Air National Guard units to become a part of the United States Space Command. Its mission is to augment the operations center of the United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) which coordinates and directs the use of the Department of Defense's military space forces in providing missile warning, communications, navigation, weather, imagery and signals intelligence, and space support

In 1950, the call went out to Tennessee to establish the first Air National Guard unit in East Tennessee as a Command and Control unit. The first meeting was held on October 6, 1950 on Sutherland Avenue with 80 personnel being sworn in. By the end of 1951 with almost 200 members, the unit was called to active duty and deployed to Cape Cod, Massachusetts to help protect the Northeast coastline.

After two years, the unit returned to Tennessee with only about twenty personnel, due to some members who stayed on active duty. By 1956 the unit had a new home on Mentor Road.

The unit participated in many large exercises across the country as an Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. The unit mission was twofold, one was to operate a Tactical Air Control Center (TACC) and the other was to operate a Control and Reporting (CRC) with a combined manning of 444 personnel.

The 1970's were a turbulent time for the country. The "total force" concept tried to integrate Reserve and Guard units into the regular active duty forces with the same up-to-date equipment and well-trained manpower.

in 1971, a restructuring took the TACC function from the unit leaving a 255 man CRC. The decade also ushered in the era of inspections as the unit became more mobile and tactical.

Also in 1976, another restructure created the 110th Tactical Control Flight whose mission as a forward Air control Post greatly enhanced the 119th capabilities. The addition of the 110th virtually doubled the equipment on the station and provided additional manning.

The 1980's brought additional changes in the military to both units. Inspections were becoming

very important as both units had two Operational Readiness Inspections and two Unit Effectiveness Inspections from Tactical Air Command. The 119th began a long and rigorous road of being recognized as the "best of the best" in the Theater Air Control System. Inspections became a source of pride for the unit as members took the seriousness of being combat ready to heart.

In the 1990's the 119 ACS was the first ANG unit to receive the state of the art Modular Control Equipment and the first to complete an MCE Operational Readiness Inspection. In 1991, Air Combat Command awarded the unit an Excellent rating on the Unit Effectiveness Inspection.

Also in 1991, the unit deployed to Jamaica for a covert drug interdiction mission and succeeded in assisting the DEA to confiscate over \$2 billion in cocaine. For this effort, the unit was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

In 1996, other priorities, namely in Air Combat Command Operational Readiness Inspection, came into focus. As part of the US forces command exercise Roving Sands 96, the unit was tasked to participate in White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Unit equipment was shipped over road to Holloman AFB, where the unit met it and convoyed to the desert location to set up operations in 100 degree temperatures. Operating for almost 21 days, the inspection was the culmination of many years of preparation and experience. The unit received an overall Excellent rating and scored the highest overall score ever given an air control squadron - active or guard.

The 119th ACS was to finish its career as a mobile tactical radar system on top of a heap as more downsizing causes the 110th ACS to exit in 1996. Rumors of further downsizing caused the unit leadership to look for other missions which would carry on the tremendous tradition of the 119th. In 1998, a mission opportunity in the United States Space Command was presented by National Guard Bureau and Air Force Space command. The 119th was to enter the space age and a new millennium as the 119th Command and Control Squadron, becoming a part of Air Force Space Command, in support of U.S. Space Command. More recently, in October 2002 U.S. Space Command merged with U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt AFB, NE creating new challenges and opportunities for members of the 119th to stay at the forefront of our relations critical Department of Defense infrastructure.

119th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Tennessee ANG

Unit formed: March 1949

Federalized: 28 January 1952 at

Otis AFB, Massachusetts

Released from active duty: 1 December, 1953, and returned to control of Tennessee

119 Tactical Control Squadron

CRC: 20 August, 1971

Manning: 29 Officers 225 Airmen  
15 October, 1988 – 16 June, 1992

119 Air Control Squadron  
Redesignated: ACS 16 June, 1992

119th AC&W Squadron: federalized in the ANG on 28 Jan 52 at Otis AFB, MA, as the 32nd Air Division; transferred to 4707th Defense Wing on 16 Feb 53; released from active duty and returned to control of State of Tennessee on 1 Dec 53.

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119 Tactical Control Flight  
(?) 15 October, 1988  
Located: Alcoa, Tennessee  
Mission: To provide training and equipped Forward Air Control Post (FACP) for worldwide Tactical Air Command.  
Deployment:  
Elf One  
Mini-deployment exercise to McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas in 1981.  
Gulfport ANG Base, Mississippi, 1981

Exercises:  
1983  
Blue Flag 83-2  
Sentry Cowboy II





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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources