

## 162 COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



### MISSION

The 162 provides command, control, supervisory management, and training of four Combat Communications Squadrons, as well as administrative management of one Engineering Installation Squadron, one Intelligence Squadron, and one Space Operations Squadron.

### LINEAGE

162 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron activated, 13 May 1948  
Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952  
Redesignated 162 Tactical Control Group, 1 Feb 1953  
Redesignated HQ 162 Communications Group (Mobile), 1 Oct 1960  
Redesignated HQ 162 Mobile Communications Group, 16 Mar 1968  
Redesignated 162 Combat Communications Group, 10 Feb 1976  
Redesignated 162 Combat Information Systems Group, 1 Jul 1985  
Redesignated 162 Combat Communications Group, 1 Oct 1986

### STATIONS

Van Nuys ANGB, CA, 1953  
North Highlands, CA, 1 Aug 1961

### ASSIGNMENTS

### COMMANDERS

Col Richard Andrew Apr 1948  
Col F. E. Holsclaw Aug 1961  
Col Noel E. Paulsen Nov 1976  
Col Harris R. Henderson May 1982

Col John M Lotz Dec 1989  
Col Fredrick D. Smith Dec 1990  
Col Edward C. Fager May 1996  
Col Steven T. Beck Aug 2006

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

1 May 1951 the unit mobilized to serve state side during the Korean War until it's deactivation on 6 February 1952. The following year, it returned to the State of California and was re-designated the 162 Tactical Control Group, stationed at Van Nuys Air National Guard Base. At that time three of the assigned units (the 147th, 148th and 149th) were Aircraft Control and Warning Squadrons under the 162 Group.

Federalized: 1 May 1951 at San Fernando Valley Airport, Van Nuys, California

Relocated: (12 May?), Larson Air Force Base, Moses Lake, Washington

Inactivated: 6 February, 1952

On 1 Mar 1961, the Group Headquarters moved to the North Highlands ANG Station in Sacramento, and was redesignated the 162 Communications Group (Mobile). By that time the 222<sup>nd</sup>, 234<sup>th</sup> and 261<sup>st</sup> units had joined the Group. In 1966 the Group was redesignated again, to the 162 Mobile Communications Group. This designation they kept until 10 Feb 1976, when they were given their present designation of 162 Combat Communications Group. The 162 falls under the command of Air Force Air Combat Command at Langley AFB, VA.

Most notable amongst these in recent years, was the Group's deployment of communications equipment and personnel to Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990 and 1991.

The Group has nine units located on five separate stations. The Units and their locations are:

HQ 162 Combat Communications Group, North Highlands ANG Station, CA

147<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, San Diego ANG Station, CA

148<sup>th</sup> Space Operations Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA

149<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, North Highlands ANG Station, CA

216<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA

222<sup>nd</sup> Intelligence Support Squadron, Beale AFB, CA  
222<sup>nd</sup> Operations Support Squadron, Beale AFB, CA  
222<sup>nd</sup> Communications Maintenance Flight, Beale AFB, CA  
234<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, Beale AFB, CA  
261<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Sepulveda ANG Station. CA

The Group has and authorized strength of 59 officers and 704 airmen, and its assigned strength level is consistently above 90%.

2005 31 Aug Fifty-two personnel from the 162<sup>d</sup> Combat Communications Group, California ANG deployed in SAD to New Orleans to help with security in the city.

The 162 Combat Communications Group won the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for its exceptionally meritorious service from 1 Nov 2007, through 31 Oct 2009. During that time, the group's Airmen spent more than 3,000 man-days supporting operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. At the same time, one combat communications squadron received an "Excellent" grade on its Operation Readiness Inspection, and three squadrons received "Outstanding" grades on their Communications Security Inspections. The 148<sup>th</sup> Space Operations Squadron was and continues to be engaged in round-the-clock command and control of the Milstar satellite constellation, providing secure, protected communications to the war-fighter. The 162, headquartered in North Highlands, Calif., also has units fully engaged in training, standardization/evaluation, and weapons and tactics support for the Joint Space Operations Center and Distributed Ground Station-2. Units of the 162 also provide imagery analysis for the exploitation of data gathered by U-2s, Global Hawks and Predators and real-time distribution of those data to troops in the field. The 222<sup>nd</sup> Communications Maintenance Flight, meanwhile, provides support for Global Hawk operations. "During this period the highly motivated and professional members of the 162 Combat Communications Group continued their fine tradition of excellent and exemplary mission accomplishments," the award citation states. "The distinctive accomplishments of the members of the 162 Combat Communications Group reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force."

All subordinate units of the 162 Combat Communications Group also earned the Outstanding Unit Award for their achievements from Nov. 1, 2007, through Oct. 31, 2009:

147<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, San Diego Air National Guard Station  
148<sup>th</sup> Space Operations Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base  
149<sup>th</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, North Highlands Air National Guard Station  
216<sup>th</sup> Operational Support Squadron, Vandenberg Air Force Base  
222<sup>nd</sup> Intelligence Support Squadron, Beale Air Force Base  
222<sup>nd</sup> Operational Support Squadron, Beale Air Force Base  
234<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, Beale Air Force Base  
261<sup>st</sup> Combat Communications Squadron, Sepulveda Air National Guard Station

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources  
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.