

258th AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SQUADRON



MISSION

The 258th Air Traffic Control Squadron is a geographically separated unit of the 171st ARW, and is located at the John P. Murtha Cambria County Airport in Johnstown Pennsylvania. Although the 258th only has 80 members, its mission is integral to the successful and safe operations of USAF, DOD, and allied aircraft at CONUS and OCONUS airfields.

LINEAGE

258th Air Traffic Control Squadron, 17 May 1997

STATIONS

State College PA
Johnstown, PA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



Centered within a keystone, representing the "Keystone state" of Pennsylvania, is a Nittany Lion, the mascot of Penn State University--the State College campus on which the unit resided for 15 years. The bat in flight signifies the ability of radar, to "see" through darkness and inclement weather.

MOTTO

Victory over darkness

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

May 16 1997 the unit was designated the 258th Air Traffic Control Squadron. On September 1 the unit moved to Johnstown-Cambria County Airport where they were to assume an additional mission of full-time air traffic control, which also meant the unit would grow from a 68-member flight to a 79-member squadron.

"At one time, we were scheduled to transfer to Massachusetts," stated Thomas. "Inadequate training areas near State College and a reduction of air traffic State Guard officials were able to stave off the move and they searched for a new site for the unit. After a series of studies, Johnstown provided the best overall operational environment for the flight. "This was a victory for the Pennsylvania National Guard," said Maj. Gen. James W. MacVay, state adjutant general. "We have once again been able to keep force structure intact and in Pennsylvania."

"After moving into the main Johnstown tower, we will still use the mobile tower for tactical training," continued Thomas. "The mobile tower can be used in emergencies and we can deploy with it and set it up anywhere planes are landing or taking off, even at a dirt field."

Equipment: MPN-14K

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.