

271st COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



LINEAGE

Redesignated 271st Combat Communications Squadron
Redesignated 271st Combat Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1985
Redesignated 271st Combat Communications Squadron

STATIONS

Annville, PA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC Claud Steigerwalt

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

The unit has received five Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: one in 1977, the second in 1987, the third in 1991, the fourth in 1993 and the fifth in 1996.

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 271st Combat Communications Squadron's mission is to deploy, operate and maintain tactical communications packages in support of Air Force missions worldwide, as well as civil and disaster-relief missions within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The 271st CBCS can provide command and control satellite nets, intra-site telephone services, data services, tactical switchboard, communications center operations, network and multi-site voice communications.

The Air National Guard Band of the Mid-Atlantic is assigned to the dual missions of supporting regional Air National Guard units through performances in ceremonies, activities and recruiting tours; and public relations concert tours for the Air National Guard and the "Total Air Force."

Other organizations on post include: United States Army Reserve, Association of Civilian Technicians (ACT), Navy & Marine Corp Reserve, Navy and Marine Corp Reserve, USMC League, AMVETS, Civil Air Patrol, Pennsylvania State Police and the Army Transformation Team

The unit was originally constituted as the 322nd Signal Company, Wing, US Army/Air Forces and activated at Wendover Field, UT on 15 August 1942. Deactivated on 15 December 1945, the unit was then reactivated on 24 May 1946, as the 103rd Communications Squadron Operations on 1 October 1952.

The unit was again renamed as the 271st Communications Squadron (Tributary Team) on 1 October 1960, and then changed to the 271st Mobile Communications Squadron (Contingency) on 16 March 1968. The unit changed stations from Harrisburg-York Airport, New Cumberland, PA to Olmsted State Airport, Middletown, PA on 15 June 1968, and then moved to Fort Indiantown Gap, Annville, PA on 15 April 1974.

By April 1974, two tenant units at Harrisburg International Airport were completely moved from their cramped quarters in Middletown to Area 2 at Fort Indian-town Gap. The 211th Electronics Installations Squadron and the 271st Mobile Communications Squadron joined the 201st Civil Engineering "Red Horse" Flight in Area 2. Referred to as GSUs, Geographically Separated Units, these units continue to receive supply, comptroller, personnel, and medical support from the 193rd.

The unit was re-designated as the 271st Combat Communications Squadron on 1 April 1976.

July 1977. After a flash flood killed over 70 people in seven western Pennsylvania counties, members of the Air Guard's 271st Combat Communications Squadron and its 112th Tactical Control Squadron provided around-the-clock communications between flood-ravaged Johnstown and the Adjutant General's office. ANG assistance was needed because the flood had destroyed the local phone firm's main switching facility in the flooded region

July 1977. After a flash flood killed over 70 people in seven western Pennsylvania counties, members of the Air Guard's 271st Combat Communications Squadron and its 112th Tactical

Control Squadron provided around-the-clock communications between flood-ravaged Johnstown and the Adjutant General's office. ANG assistance was needed because the flood had destroyed the local phone firm's main switching facility in the flooded region.

The unit was assigned to the 193rd Special Operations Wing under the auspices of the 193rd Regional Support Group on 5 April 1999.

During the first and second quarter of 2002, the 271st deployed personnel to Al Jabber, Kuwait in support of Operation Southern Watch. Also, during the first quarter of 2002 unit personnel were activated Home Station in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Although the unit was involved with these operations, they still managed to donate \$4,410 towards their annual Christmas Project. The 2nd quarter of 2002 saw unit personnel deploy to Kyrgyzstan, Ganci Air Base, in Central Asia and personnel activated in support of Operation Noble Eagle.

The 271st performed 2002 Annual Training Home Station at the end of the 3rd quarter, after having a stateside deployment to CRTC, Savannah Georgia cancelled, due to an airlift deficiency. The squadron supported an Army exercise – Grecian Firebolt and also supported the 231st CBCS deployed to Bethany Beach to complete their ORE. The 271st supported their TRC 170 and a PSC 5. The fourth quarter of 2002 saw the return and demobilization of those unit members deployed in support of Operation Noble Eagle.

During the first quarter of fiscal year 03 several personnel were deployed to Andrews AFB, Md in support of Home Land Security . During the second quarter of fiscal year 03, the 271st prepared personnel for deployment to Bagdad Arpt, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Also, during this quarter personnel were activated at Home Station to support the preparation of equipment and supplies for this deployment. The 271st performed their annual training at Otis ANGB, Cape Cod, Mass during June 03. The exercise was a total training mission, concentrating specifically on the preparation of young NCO's and airman for supervisory roles. NCOs and Airman were placed in team chief type positions of responsibility during exercises. Several pieces of new equipment were used during the operational phases of AFT (Annual Field Training). The Power Production facility trained on, installed, and maintained a new commercial style power distribution system that provided power to all field facilities. The WideBand/SatCom facility trained on set-up, test, and operation of TRC-170 and TSC-100A transmission equipment . The Switch facility implemented new training techniques, trained new personnel, and provided voice and data communications, both to site facilities, and distant end customers.

Sources