

274th COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



LINEAGE

102nd Communications Squadron (Wing)
Redesignated 274th Communications Squadron
Redesignated 274th Mobile Communications Squadron (Tributary Teams)
Redesignated 274th Mobile Communications Squadron (Contingency)
Redesignated 274th Combat Communications Squadron
Redesignated 274th Combat Information Systems Squadron, 1 Jul 1985
Redesignated 274th Combat Communications Squadron (Contingency)
Redesignated 274th Combat Communications Squadron
Redesignated 274th ASOS

STATIONS

Roslyn ANGS, NY

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC William J. Sullivan (effective May/June 1955)
Capt Charles Gilchrist
LTC Frank Cilento
Maj. Charles Gilchrist
Capt Robert McNamara
LTC Thomas Ingargiola
LTC William Palafox (effective 6 Jan 86)
Major Robert Dusek (effective 16 Feb 86)
LTC Philip Napolitano

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Approved 22 Sep 1955

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

A Bumble Bee symbolized a very busy communicator performing multiple communications tasks, listening to received radio signals while writing and sending messages. Suggested by Sgt Larry Iannarelli. From his concept a drawing was created and painted by A3C James Lilly with assistance from A1C Passamonte.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

On 29 March 1948, this unit received Federal recognition as the 102nd Communications Squadron (Wing), with the mission to install, maintain and operate communications facilities for the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard. The unit was located at the State Armory, White Plains, New York. Since that time the 274th has grown, moved, developed traditions and outstanding esprit-de-corps, and established a reputation for "can-do" which has resulted in accomplishment of its mission in an outstanding manner as well as continuous accolades for its leadership in compiling a record of "firsts" with the active military establishment and guard.

In 1949 it was the first Air National Guard unit authorized to use the United States Army communications Teletype network complex at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, New York. Strict requirements and regulations were adhered to in order to continue operating in this network.

In 1951 the 274th Communications Squadron conceived and operated the configuration for mobile communications complex within the State of New York.

In July 1952 the unit underwent major manpower and mission changes and was officially redesignated the 274th Communications Squadron. In this same year the unit was the first organization to conceive and promote the "Buddy System" type training with active Air Force counterparts during field training at Mitchell Air Force Base, New York.

January 1953 saw the unit assigned to the 253rd Communications Group, Wellesley Massachusetts and with this reassignment came more manpower and new equipment which required more space. Consequently the unit moved to Westchester County Airport, New York.

During 1954-55 the unit continued to demonstrate its aggressiveness and ingenuity when it became the first Air National Guard organization to request and receive a cryptographic account with the same procedures for its use as the active Air Force. It installed the first Air National Guard telephone central office complex in the state of New York, which was ultimately used by all organizations training at the permanent Field Training site, Syracuse, New York. This was the first organization in the Air National Guard to incorporate Teletype equipment (FGC-38, 3 each) into the squadron relay center network (using semi-automatic torn tape equipment). During a

field training exercise, the squadron operated a major relay center on a 24 hour basis.

In July 1959 the 274th was assigned the primary mission to provide highly mobile communications teams in support of contingencies and relocated to its present location at Roslyn Air National Guard Station, New York. In 1960 the exceptional quality of the personnel in the unit was illuminated when one of its Airman was admitted to the United States Military Academy. He was graduated and commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in 1964.

Sometime in 1959 the 274th CS received newer equipment to support its new mission. Equipment consisting of:

10 - AN/GRC-26D AM High Frequency Radio Sets

1 - AN/MGC-2 Cryptographic Teletype shelter consisting of: Cryptographic equipment, patch panel, Teletype Keyers and Converters of the 170 series, Model 14, 28 Typewriters and Model 15 Tape Distributors (TD), work tables and Heater/Air Conditioning equipment.

1 - AN/MGC-6 Teletype Communications shelter consisting of: The same series teletype keyers and converters, Typewriters, Tape Distributor (TD), work tables and Heater/Air Conditioning equipment as the AN/MGC-2 above.

1 - AN/TTC-7 Manual Telephone Switchboard, containing 3- F-80 type cord switchboards. PE-75 1.5KW gasoline generators 10KW gasoline generators

AN/GRC-26D radio set was housed in steel and wood roofed canvas covered shelter. While at home station the AN/GRC-26s were placed on the ground. For deployments shelters were mounted after 1962 on new International Harvester Model 1600 2y2-ton gas operated cargo trucks with manual transmissions. The radio set consisted of a 500 watt Amplitude Modulated manually tuned Collins transmitter Model T-368, Antenna Tuner, radio receivers R-390A/URR, teletype convert URA-8 and 2 sets of Klienschmitt teletype and TD machines provided full Duplex High Frequency AM radio communications. Equipment was connected via adaptor boxes using multi-pair cable with Bendix aircraft type connectors and 52 push terminals for connecting field wire to communications equipment. A 10 KW gasoline operated generator supplied power. Communications was first established using voice with a distant Station. Once communications was verified "LOUD and CLEAR" voice communications was stopped so Radio Teletype communications could begin. Radio Teletype messages were critical written communications between higher headquarters and subordinate field units. The AN/GRC-26D was the mainstay of the squadron. Radio sets over time were given the nickname ANGRY26.

One of the first "Talking Bird" operations in the Air National Guard was accomplished by the 274th during field training exercise. An, AN/GRC-26D with antenna and power unit was housed in a C-119 aircraft. Equipment was flown from Floyd Bennett Naval Air Station, New York to Hancock Field, Syracuse, New York and established contact within 20 minutes after touch-down of aircraft.

In 1963 the 274th was the only unit in the nation chosen to represent the Air National Guard at the annual Air Force Communications Electronics convention held in Washington D.C. Established Radio Teletype between convention site and home station, Roslyn Air National Guard Station. Favorable communications received noting appearance and performance of equipment and personnel.

In 1965 the unit was chosen to host the nationwide National Guard Bureau, Single Sideband school contracted by Air Training Command. School covered a period of 9 weeks and enabled technicians of all National Guard units within the country to acquire fruitful technical knowledge and experience in the operations and maintenance of the Air Force Single Sideband radio equipment. National Guard Bureau personnel have been exuberant in their praise of the manner in which the unit conducted this school.

In 1965 selected as the outstanding unit within the 253rd Communications Group, with an airman in the organization receiving the Group Outstanding Airman Award. Assigned Air Force Advisors were selected as Outstanding Advisors within Eastern Communications Region. The unit has continued to set this outstanding pace to present with other noteworthy accomplishments mentioned elsewhere in this brochure”

Changing with each Command served, the basic mission of the 274th was to provide, site, install, operate and maintain deployed tactical communications equipment in support of a Tactical Air Base (TAB), providing commanders in the field with record and voice communications back to rear / area command headquarters via long haul radio systems and or in country circuits.

Communications was provided via long haul HF/ISB radio and later satellite radio systems. TAB telephone, record communications and Command and Control HF/SSB systems were the primary services provided. Local Area Networks (LAN) for computerized supply, personnel and maintenance reporting services were added later. All communications systems were highly complex and all were secured.

The 274th CS also locally fabricated its own transportable communications center, it became know as the C-11B after its original designation as a C-119 aircraft simulator. The Simulator was gutted and Teletype Corp. FGC-20 Teletype machines, FGC-25X, Model 15 Tape Distributors (TD) units and work areas were installed. This provided improved central management for the receipt and transmission of message traffic passing through the AN/GRC-26D radio sets.

Mobile Communications Squadrons of this era were very limited. Up to 5 AN/GRC-26D's may have been used at the same time to provide (5) Voice or (5) 60 Baud rate Radio Teletype channels. Additional AN/GRC-26D where usually left ready to operate as “hot spares”. Using 5 AN/GRC-26D's at the same communications site was a real estate and radio frequency nightmare. Each radio set required 2 dipole antennas, one for transmitting and 1 for receiving. Each antenna had to be lowered to change their physical length each time a new transmit or receive frequency was changed. Physical spacing between each antenna and radio hut was critical to ensure optimum radio communications.

During winter operations a change of frequency was dreaded. Manually tuning radios was a chore in its self. First the radio set had to be warmed-up for some time to prevent the numerous electron tubes from cracking from the cold, then transmitters had to be connected to a homemade light bulb dummy load, tuned using a BC-221 frequency meter, then connected to the antenna. Personnel then had to go outside lower the antenna to change its length if frequencies were changed. A final transmitter fine tune was then accomplished, with no guaranty that radio communications would be established or improved.

During 1959-1960 was a period of increasing change and challenge for the 274th. A move from the White Plains Airport to the recently closed Air Force Station at Roslyn New York again greatly increased space for equipment and personnel. A consideration to move the squadron to Mitchell Field in Uniondale, Long Island New York was nixed for unknown reasons. In the early 1960's during drill weekends the 274th deployed AN/GRC-26D's to local sites at Fort Totten in Bayside Queens the FAA/CAP site in Bellmore and Coast Guard Stations on the north shore of Long Island.

In the late 1960's Radio Relay equipment was received and deployed to Coast Guard Stations throughout Long Island. Also later to Short Beach, Gilgo Beach, the Thumb at Jones Beach State Park, the Army's Weekend Training Site (WET) in Farmingdale and as far away as New Jersey and Connecticut. Radio links establish communications between member squadrons of the 253rd Communications Group from as far away as Georgia to Maine all within a UTA weekend.

1967-1969: An update to the mission dropped Tributary Teams from Mobile Communications Squadron. Equipment changed from High Frequency only radio communications to the more reliant Frequency Modulated (FM) Radio Relay equipment. Personnel were retrained from the Ground Radio Maintenance AFSC 304X4, Navigational Aids or recruited to the newly authorized career field, that of Radio Relay Repairman AFSC 304X0. 2 each Multi-Channel Radio Terminals AN/TRC-61's and 5 Radio Repeater AN/TRC-36's, constructed by the 265th MCS of transit cased equipment and mounted into gutted AN/TRN-6 shelters were received. One additional AN/TRC-61 was received through transfer from the 106th TACS.

1968: the squadron was re-designated the 274th Mobile Communications Squadron. An updated High Frequency Independent Single Sideband Multi-Channel Radio AN/TSC-15 was received. Its first use was during a deployment to McGuire AFB, New Jersey. Prior to the satellite communications age, Long Haul HF communications was the only means of Long distance radio communications. Radio Relay/Wideband was typically used to provide communications to or from fixed Long Haul HF sites or between Air Bases. Although the AN/TSC-15 was medium range equipment it could provide with improved antennas reliable links up to 800 miles.

A difficult period in history was 1969-1973. At times main gate was kept locked during daylight hours for increased security due to threats by protestors. At one time fire hoses from the old station firehouse were laid out one evening in preparation for a morning threat, only to find the hoses chopped into little hoses in the morning. Some convoys returning to Roslyn had things thrown at them from bridge overpasses by protestors holding derogatory signs. The uniform was not worn in public. We also began experiencing vehicle shortfalls and nationwide fuel shortages.

1969-1970: ANGRY-26's, which lied dormant, are retired. Most went to the salvage yard at Fort Tilden with some transferred to the Civil Air Patrol Eastern Regional Headquarters located in Bellmore Long Island. The squadron begins locally fabricating a new Technical Control facility (TCP) from plans developed by the 272nd MCS.

The new TCP was designated AN/MS-22B. During this time the squadron makes a commitment to locally fabricate a new type tactical cable that has quick attaching connectors.

Cables are known as 407L cables, named for the Air Force's newest tactical system 407L. 407L cables were sorely needed to replace aging 5 pair cable and time consuming field wire interconnects. Also the older BENDIX interface boxes are also modified, adding the newer 407L connectors. Sheltered equipment is also upgraded to include the new 407L connectors.

Also about this time MSG George Ricci designed and helped build with the assistance of Ground Power and Vehicle Maintenance sections the fabrication of dual mounted generator trailers for all the squadrons single ground mounted MB-5, EMU-10 and later EMU-19 generator sets. This was a major contribution to rapid deployment of the squadron's tactical communications equipment.

In 1970 the U.S. Postal Service strikes, the squadron was activated. The squadron performs Annual Field training at the newly re-opened Westhampton ANGB on Long Island.

The Vietnam Conflict delayed receipt of newer Troposcatter Microwave Radio equipment AN/TRC-97D. Once a complement of (2) radio sets had been received, it vastly increased the ability to simultaneously send and receive up to (23) voice and (16) 75 Baud rate Teletype communication channels for distances equal or greater than of all of the combined AN/TRC-36/61 radios sets. Also early in the conflict Telephone Terminal AN/TTC-7 was recalled by the Air Force for duty in Viet-Nam. Temporary use of a portable manual telephone switchboard SB-86 is used until the return of an AN/TTC-7.

The AN/TRC series were capable of 12 channels of voice or a combination of 11 voice and 8 Teletype 60 Baud rate communications channels. Communications was limited to line of sight or about 15-25 miles between each radio set depending on terrain features. Equipment was connected via spiral 4 cable, field wire or locally built interface boxes and cables. The 274th "Summer Camp" later called Annual Field Training (AFT) began to frequent Otis AFB, mainly due to the location of the 253rd CGP, deploying Radio Repeaters throughout New England.

1972-1973: Radio Set AN/TRC-96 and Teletype Communications Center AN/TGC-20 are transferred from active duty organizations. The AN/TRC-96 in poor condition remained for almost 3 years as a hanger queen, until full repairs could be accomplished. In 1973 the squadron again received the 253rd Mobile Communications Group award as "Outstanding Squadron" of the year.

AN/TRC-96 Radio Set was one of the most difficult equipments to setup, operate and maintain. Antenna systems required the fabrication of open wire transmission lines, use of 24 - 12inch long insulators, balun transformers, terminating resistors for antenna directivity and the installation of multiple ground array systems. Tuning of the radio transmitters required a lengthy process of testing, tuning manually operated syntherziers, up-converters, exciters and using spectrum analyzers, frequency counters and dummy loads to achieve harmonic reduced transmission.

The radio set also contained Teletype Corporation Teletypewriters with Tape Distributors and locations for cryptographic equipment, a switchboard and a full array of rack mounted test equipment for radio and DC Teletype adjustment, analysis and maintenance. Equipment was prone to overheating and syntherziers required periodic internal readjustments while operating.

As originally used by the Air Force Radio Set AN/TRC-96 was paired with Teletype Communications Central AN/TGC-20, also containing Teletype Corporation Teletypewriter equipment and cryptographic equipment to form a complete initial Air Base communications system.

Systems used DC signaling to communicate Teletype information between shelters. Both systems were built from off the shelf commercial equipment and sheltered in larger transportable shelters. Each shelter weighed as much as 13,000 pounds. Together they formed a system known as "Project Redwood", one of the first deployable Air Force built communications systems. 274th personnel participate in Active Duty exercise Exotic Dancer 6 in Willington North Carolina. Also the squadron supported the Rome Air Development Center (RADC) at Griffis AFB, NY testing of improved Microwave Antenna systems.

The squadron deploys to Windsor Locks CT., supporting the 103rd Tactical Fighter Squadron. AN/TSC-15 HF/ISB Radio Set, AN/TRC-36/61 and AN/TRC-97 Radio Relay/Troposcatter Radio Sets, AN/MS-22B Tech Control Facility, AN/FRC-153 HF/SSB Radio, AN/TTC-7 Telephone Central and Teletype trailer C-1 IB were used.

The Squadron supports its first active duty JCS exercise EXOTIC DANCER 6 in Willington NC providing personnel and an AN/TSC-15 HF/ISB Radio supporting a fighter squadron.

1974: The squadron receives the Air Force Outstanding unit award for the period of 1 Jan 73 to 31 Dec 74. AN/FYQ-71 Digital Subscriber Terminal Equipment (DSTE), built by the Army Signal Command at Bluegrass Army depot was received. Equipment is so large it was built into (2) 40-foot long-trailers.

One trailer was so heavy equipment was transported in the trailer center and moved into position by hydraulic positioning motors at the deployment site. Equipment utilized bubble memory and was programmed by strapping a rat's nest of jumper boards. Equipment processed data up to then an unheard of 2,400 Baud rate.

Elements of the 274 deploy to Robins AFB Ga. borrowing additional AN/FYQ-71 from the 5th CGP and AN/TSC-15 Radio Set from the 224th CS establishing a radio system linking 2 AN/FYQ-71 high-speed data terminals. The AN/FYQ-71 also supported the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH) at Camp Giger, NC and annual Field training at Otis AFB, MA.

Vehicle Maintenance personnel deploy to Barstow CA., assisting in much needed repair of vehicles returning from overseas. The vehicles became a boon to our and other squadrons that were critically short 2-1/2 and 5ton cargo trucks. Later Barstow vehicles become known as Barstow Beauties for reasons other than their looks

1976: A 3 day Communications Evaluation was conducted by the 253rd CGP. The squadron deployed to Jones Beach State Park to an area known as the thumb. HF communications was established with MacDill AFB a Defense Communications System (DCS) entry point. An AN/TSC-62 is borrowed from the 152nd TAGS. The squadron is re-designated a Combat

Communications Squadron.

1977: Radio Set AN/TSC-60V2 was received. 3 - AN/TSC-60V2's were authorized, only 1 was ever received. When the 105th ASOC at WhitePlams was disbanded (1) AN/TSC-60V1 (previously owned by the 152nd TCS) was received through transfer. The AN/TSC-60V1, V2 and the older AN/TRC-96 authorizations.

filled the 274th HF Multi-channel Independent Sideband (ISB)

This also marked the beginning of the final era of HF/ISB. The AN/TSC-60V2 was capable of up to (16) 75 Baud rate Teletype channels and (7) voice plus data channels, using (2) transmitters and (2) Radio receivers. Later addition equipment was added, Time Diversity Modems (increased Radio Teletype reliability) and (2) AN/FTA-28 Telephone Terminals to provide over the air DTMF telephone dialing capability. AN/TSC-60V2 and AN/TRC-96 performed well and provided worldwide HF Long Haul communications up to 2,400 miles.

1978: Squadron members participate in a winter JCS exercise Empire Glacier at Fort Drum, NY. Radio Set AN/TRC-96 deploys with personnel to Wallkill New York, a drop zone used by West Point Black Knights jump team and Cadets. Voice and Teletype circuits are established to the 265th CCS in South Portland Maine.

1979: Squadron deploys to Fort Monmouth, NJ. 253rd sponsored AN/TSC-60V2 training was conducted as well as AN/TRC-36/61 and TRC-97 radio links to Long Island via Jones Beach. The squadron borrows portable UHF satellite equipment from the army and ties it into the 274th AN/TGC-20 Communications Center. Although messages are only looped back it is a first for the 274th to tie into satellite radio equipment and systems. The squadron also participates in JCS exercise Solid Shield 79.

During the 1970's heavy rains caused large areas of upstate New York to flood. MRC-108 Communications equipment was called up for use. Individuals remained in these canvas covered jeeps for extended times to maintain communications between affected areas and Authorities. It was not realized until sometime later when a 274th AN/TSC-15 is deployed that an environmental enclosed, built to run for extended times and contain a switchboard to extend telephone service to front line personnel was available.

This and other emergency events were communications could have contributed to more timely control, the 274th CS met with different Adj. Generals laying out proposals for use Communications equipment possessed by Communications Squadrons within the state. Unfortunately no known plan was agreed upon.

As the quantity of tactical equipment increased at Roslyn so did the requirement for more real estate. The 152nd TACS primary mission was to support the 152nd TACGP. Deploying for them during a UTA was not an option. The 274th CS with an increasing need for deployment and operational training and for Long Haul and Wideband communications sites began to develop larger off station sites to deploy to.

At the squadron's peak of HF radio use an excess of 8 acres was need to satisfy the installation of (2) air pump 50 foot high towers, supporting 500 foot long sloping Vee antenna's used by the AN/TRC-96, up to (2) 210 foot long dipoles used by the URC-119's for command and control and Maintenance Nets, (2) 75 foot high tri-towers (3 were actually required) supporting 310 foot wide curtain arrays used by the AN/TSC-60V2, (2) 16 foot diameter MRT-2 parabolic microwave dishes used by the AN/TRC-97D's and space remaining for communications and support equipment.

Over time sites used by the squadron disappeared to the development of stores, homes and parking lots. A critical need for a site to call it's own lead to an agreement for joint use of a former Mitchell AFB communications site, then used by the FAA for a Microwave repeater and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Eastern Regional Headquarters site 10 miles south of Roslyn in Bellmore. The use of this area disappeared over night when the FAA decided to close the site.

Deployment training, equipment setup and operational training is critical to meet Air Force mission taskings, the squadron kept looking further and further away from Roslyn. The closed Air Force radar station at Montauk Point was considered, but was so isolated and distant for UTA purposes it never was pursued.

For a time the HF/ISB AN/TRC-96 and AN/TSC-60V2 were relocated to separate off station sites large enough to support their respective antenna systems. One HF/ISB radio would be operated in the receive mode, while the other would be in the transmit mode, either radio set was configured to back up the other HF/ISB site if propagation was poor or if there was equipment failure

Systems were tied back to Roslyn via AN/TRC-24 and AN/TRC-97D radio links into the AN/TSC-62A Tech Control and distributed to the Communications Center and Telephone switchboard. HF/SSB nets were also used to coordinate dispatch of personnel, shift arrivals departures etc. This utilized all Radio systems provided Radio/Wideband Maintenance, Technical Control, Communications Center, Telephone and Ground Power Maintenance personnel with much needed training.

Terrain shielding at the Roslyn ANGS after years of growth began to prevent successful Wideband and long haul HF/ISB multi-channel communications. HF radio propagation was also at an all time low. Wideband and Radio Relay antennas were being extended beyond their tactical limits by being mounted on top of buildings and telephone poles in an attempt to overcome the high tree line.

The 253rd in an attempt to provide reliable training for operations personnel decided to use leased commercial circuits. This did not improve the Radio system installation and operational training required by Maintenance and Technical Control personnel.

Finally in 1987, Headquarters NY ANG under advisement of the Adj. General for Air sponsored a field trip throughout the New York state to locate a suitable site, 2 squadron representatives were sent. At this time the old side of Stewart ANG base in Newburg New York was the only suitable location. Although supported by the Adj. General, the squadron Detachment

Commander so strongly disagreed that further consideration for a move was abandoned. Later a proposal to divide the squadron in two parts is suggested by the Adj. General for Air, but was also turned down.

1981: The squadron supports the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH) located at Fort Drum, NY during exercise Sentry Castle. The squadron provides personnel and equipment. AN/TRC-96 Radio Set provides its Air to Ground AN/URC-9's and added AN/TRC-68's to establish communications between aircraft and the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH). Also for inbound/outbound aircraft communications are (5) KWM-2A radio transceivers and (4) Telephone terminal AN/FTA-28 and (2) AN/FTA-20. Microwave Radio Sets AN/TRC-97D are also supplied supporting Troposcatter links to remote sites.

1984: AN/TSC-94A Satellite Terminal received. 2 squadron members deploy to Hayward CA. to receive training on the new equipment. The squadron supports the 106th National Guard Association (NAGUS) conference, New York City. Squadron personnel were responsible for the vast Hand Held Radio system equipment, assisted in establishing Public Address systems and telephone communications for the 5,000 attendees. The squadron also participated in exercise Sentry Yankee 84, deploying the TAB to Hancock Field, Syracuse NY and AN/TRC-97D's Harrisville, Stockbridge and Gomer Hill and finally Verone NY.

After the 152nd move, the 274th was assigned duty as lead Squadron for the station. A few positions are added to support a GSU function, also the squadron now operates the station Communications Center, provided station frequency management, programmed and maintained the Station DEFINITY G3 Telephone switch, maintained the station Land Area Network (LAN) containing Concentrators, Routers and Servers as well as maintenance of the installations backup power station located in building 18. The power station consisted of 3 - 100KW generators.

1986: AN/TSC-62A Tech Control received. The squadron undergoes an operational readiness inspection at the Moriches Coast Guard Station and receives an outstanding grade.

1987: the 274th receives AN/TSC-107 Quick Reaction Package (QRP) from the 2nd Combat Communications Group located at Patrick AFB Florida. Equipment is in poor condition and plagues squadron training and performance, even to the last Command ORI.

1987 The 274th Combat Communications Squadron is responsible to deploy, install, operate and maintain mobile communications/electronics equipment necessary for air operations in a tactical field environment. In order to accomplish its mission, the 274th maintains an extensive motor pool of heavy vehicles along with mobile communications/electronics equipment. During 1987, unit members participated in various operational and training deployments. In early spring, 21 members travelled to Camp Geiger, NC, to participate in JCS exercise SOLID SHIELD . The entire unit moved to Westover AFB, Massachusetts, for annual training in June. Several members were selected to participate in special communications competition COMBAT CHALLENGE The 274th is looking towards an overseas training deployment in 1988.

1988: Squadron supports communications for then Vice President George Bush Sr. during the 25

May West Point Graduation. The 274th assists in the design for its new maintenance building. The 274 Communications Squadron deploys to Moron AB Spain, supporting Army Headquarters Command with Satellite links, (3) Portable Telephone Switchboards SB-3614 for secure voice circuits and (3) switchboards for unsecured voice circuits.

Also system circuit monitoring using the newly received AN/TSC-62A was also provided. In addition (12) STU-5M remote telephone converters at various sites throughout the Air Base were installed and maintained. Wideband personnel install more than 50 1,000 ft rolls of 4-wire telephone cable to support exercise communications.

1989: The squadron participates in exercise Healthy Echo at Westover AFB, Chickapee, MA.

1990: 274th Medical personnel augment the 106th Clinic during exercise Red Flag at Soesterberg AB, Holland.

1990's: Radio Sets AN/TRC-36/61 and 97's are retired. Satellite Radio Set AN/TSC-93BV1, 5 each Higher powered Digital Multi-channel Troposcatter Radio Sets AN/TRC-170V2's, AN/TSQ-111 CNCE, AN/TTC-39, 300 Line digital Switch and an AN/UYC-9 Portable Land System equipment are received and complete the units conversion to the same equipment possessed by it's active duty counter parts.

A squadron engineering function is added, greatly enhancing system circuit design/configuration setup prior to UTA exercises or deployments. During the preparation of Desert Storm the squadron deployed a UTC consisting of AN/TSC-94A Satellite Radio and personnel to support communications and assisted preparing site space at Roslyn for the Whitehouse Communications Service.

During this period changes in equipment and manpower authorizations began. The Unit Manning Document (UMD) did not authorize sufficient personnel for newer equipment and later it is learned the squadron was not to receive the AN/TTC-39A or its personnel authorizations. Making matters worse the AN/TTC-39A is eventually received without personnel authorizations. Delays in receiving all UTC critical personnel authorizations, the receipt of the AN/TSQ-111 CNCE with its poorly designed power up and protection modules delayed critical training and further contribute to a lackluster final ORI performance.

1991: Selected Radio Operators deploy to Soto Cano AB, Honduras in September 91. A UEI is also scheduled for September. The Squadron participates in exercise Display Determination at 2 locations in Turkey.

1992: The squadron deploys via C-5A's from Stewart ANGB, NY to EL Toro MCAS, CA., a deployment of Wideband personnel to Patrick AFB, FL. for AN/TRC-170V2 training from the 2nd Combat Communications Group. The squadron also receives a UEI inspection 17-18 Oct 1992.

1993: A team is sent to Greece to survey communications requirements for NATO. An exercise annex is developed, however the deployment is cancelled.

In 1995 Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) announced the proposed closing of the Roslyn Air National Guard Station.

1996: The squadron again returns to Hancock Field for exercise Global Yankee. All tactical equipment is used, (1) AN/GRC-206/MRC-144, (5)- AN/GRC-239 (TSSR) links, (2)- Satellite systems AN/TSC-93B and AN/TSC-94A, AN/TSC-107 HF/ISB Radio for DCS entry, 2- AN/URC-119 HF/SSB systems for Command and Control, AN/TSQ-111 CNCE, AN/TGC-27M COMM Center, AN/TTC-39A Telephone Switching, AN/UYC-9 Portable LAN systems and a Management package.

1997: The 274th supports Rome Laboratories, during exercise Global Apache. 274th AN/GRC-206/MRC-144 was used to test the use of field video and audio links for medical monitoring, assessment and care of patient wounds/injuries via a radio system to doctors located at rear medical facilities. All other tactical equipment is also used to support other exercise requirements.

In 1998 word is received, the 274th would be remissioned and moved to Stewart ANGB. The move was however changed to Hancock Field. In 1999 a wholehearted effort was placed on developing temporary quarters and permanent new construction suitable for the new mission. GSA supplies and office equipment was stock piled and delivered to Hancock Field to support the new organization. Again things changed, the future 152nd AOG was also to occupy the same building and as an AOG exerted its concept of how new construction should be developed and used.

1998: Squadron deploys to Dover AFRB and also begins planning for deployment to Iceland. A team is sent to survey and plan exercise support. Word of a mission change is received. Some possibilities are Anti-Artie support for NOAA, Space command and an ASOS mission. Many favored a move to Space Command even though funding was uncertain.

1999: Iceland deployment is cancelled. The squadron receives official word of remissioning. With no one to speak for the new ASOS squadron the 274th passes an updated Bee patch to the new organization.

Buildings occupied at Roslyn ANGS: Building 5: Operations (all functions) /Chief of Maintenance and staff / QA / Ground Radio / Supply office / Teletype / Telephone / later adding Radio Relay then Wideband Maintenance and Drafting occupied building 5, later Operations moved to building 9 then building 27 for more space.

During new construction the following Maintenance functions make a temporary move: Ground Radio /Radio Relay now named Wideband, the new Satellite Maintenance work center move to building 31, while Telephone /Teletype and Crypto Maintenance work centers move to building 32. All but the now defunct Teletype Maintenance work center and Drafting make the final move to the newly completed building 37.

Building 7: This building was the old station Fire House, later expanded by 274th MSG George Dodd and others adding additional storage space. Building 7 was jointly used by the 106th TACS and 274th MCS AGE maintenance work centers. Storage space was provided for 213EIS power equipment. All sections moved to the new Ground Power Maintenance building 36 constructed O/A 1968 on the site of the old station dump. Building 7 was eventually torn down to make room for construction of building 37.

Area 7: After the 152nd TACS was inactivated, the 274th Ground Radio, Wideband and Satellite Maintenance sections then used the old station Baseball field area near building 7.

Building 8: Used by both 106th TACS and 274th CS medical sections. During new construction the 2741 Medical section made a temporary move to building 19. Building 8 is torn down to make room for new construction of building 37. The 274th Medical section makes its final move to building 37.

Building 4: Renumbered to building 9 was first used by the 274th CS for its Headquarters and Administration functions, later functions are moved to building 10, later building 141/21, then building 27 and finally after new construction has been completed building 37, completed O/A July of 1991.

Building 10/3: Building 10 is last used for warehousing. Building 3's original use is unknown, was demolished to make room for a new station warehouse also numbered building 3, completed about 1967. All station squadron supply functions moved into offices into this new facility. For a time a BEMO was operated. Later in the 1970's building 10 is torn down to make room for an addition to building 3 increasing storage capacity for the 152nd TACS. In later years is taken over by the 274CCS for use as additional UTC/mobility storage.

Building 19: Shared by all station organizations for a barracks on first floor for UTA personnel and the 2nd floor was used for a time to house Air Force sponsored school attendees. Later the building 2nd floor was used also to house UTA attendees.

For a time a station gym was installed and used. Later the building was closed for housing due to roof leaks and only the first floor could be used. The 722nd Medical Squadron for a time used it for storage, during new construction the 274th Medical section moved temporarily into the building, and finally for additional storage by the 274th.

Building 27: Was first used by the 106th TACGP, later the 152nd for their headquarters, administration and station GSU functions. After the 152nd group moved the 274th used the building for the same functions. After new construction of building 37 had been completed and most of the staff had moved, the 274th Commander elected to remain in building 27.

Building 36: Built to replace the older converted building 7. The building houses the 152nd and 274th Ground Power Maintenance functions and provided storage for the 213th EIS ground power equipment.

Building 37: This facility replaces buildings 5,7,8,9, 11, 25, 31 and 32 used by the 274th and

other station organizations. The building becomes the main building used by the 106th CE/OL and 274th CCS.

Building T14: A temporary shed moved from area 21B and placed opposite building 7. For a time it was used for storage by the 152nd TACS, then later used by the 274th CCS for a MARS station. During new construction of building 37 it is torn down.

Old station communications sites: Usage was split between the 106th TACS located at building site 21A, while the 274th CS operated from building area 21B an area opposite the station headquarters building 27. A large number of telephone poles used by the Air Force for their receiving and transmitter sites are used for tactical HF radio equipment dipole antennas.

During the 1970's building 21B is renumbered to 32 is modernized to provide workspace and storage for the additional DSTE, cryptographic and Teletype work centers. Building 21 A, now renumbered to 31 was upgraded at an earlier time in anticipation of receiving Radar training equipment for the 106th TACS, however equipment was never received.

274-Combat Communications Squadron Equipment 1990's

At its peak the squadron was authorized a vast array of highly complex transportable TRI-TAC digital and analog communications equipment. The below UTC is a composite of different UTC's designed to provide Bare Base communications within 8 hours of arrival on site. Everything was self contained, including management personnel:

1 - AN/TSC-107 Quick Reaction Package (QRP) - 21 personnel 1 - MJQ-18 (2- MEP-3A 10KW diesel generators) trailer mounted 1 -21/2 Ton cargo truck 1 - Line Truck

1 - AN/TSC-93BV1 Satellite Terminal - 5 personnel

1 - Portable GPS unit

1- Mobilized OE-361 QRSA antenna pallet

1 - AN/MJQ-18 (2-MEP-003A 10KW diesel generators) trailer mounted

1-5 Ton cargo truck

1-21/2 Ton truck

Also included:

1 - AN/UYC-9 (TASDAC) -4 personnel each (4 total) 1 - AN/TRQ-35 T Path Sounder, 1 - SB-3614A Switchboards Management Personnel

The below UTC's upon arrival at the deployed location had 24 hours to establish communication circuits supporting an expanded bare base or a new Tactical Air Base. Equipment used 407L boxes and cables, Fiber Optic cables and CX-11230 Video cables to interconnect shelters and customers. The following is a listing of equipment and personnel:

1 - AN/GRC-206V/MRC-144 - 2 personnel 1 - MEP-026B Diesel generator and trailer

1-AN/TRC-176

- AN/TGC-27M Communications Central - 16 personnel

- MEP-6A 60KW diesel generator sets 3-21/2 Ton cargo trucks

5 - AN/TRC-170V2 Troposcatter Radio Set - 5 personnel each (25 total)

5 - Mobilized Antenna pallets

10 - MEP-6, 60 KW diesel generator sets
 5-2/12 Ton cargo trucks
 5 - 5Ton cargo trucks
 1 - AN/TSC-94AV1 Satellite Terminal - 5 personnel
 - Mobilized OE-361 QRSA antenna pallet
 - MEP-4A 15KW diesel generator sets2 - 5Ton cargo trucks
 2-21/2 Ton cargo trucks
 - AN/TSQ-111 CNCE - 9 personnel
 - MEP-6 60 KW diesel generator sets
 - 5 Ton cargo truck
 - 21/2Ton cargo truck

 - AN/TTC-39A Telephone Central - 17 personnel
 - MEP-6 60 KW diesel generator sets
 1 - 463L pallet for 407L/CX-11230 cable 1 - 5Ton cargo truck 2-21/2 Ton cargo truck 1 - Telephone line truck
 1 - AN/UYC-9 (TASDAC) -4 personnel each (4 total)
 1 - 21/2 Ton cargo truck
 5 - AN/GRC-239 (TSSR) - 5 personnel total 10 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generators sets
 2 - AN/URC-119 HF/SSB Radio Set - 5 personnel each (10 total)
 4 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generator sets
 2-21/2 Ton cargo truck
 2 - AN/UXC-7 Tactical FAX
 1- CGS-100M (STAMPS) Communications Terminal
 1- AN/TSC-129 Hammer Rick Satellite Radio Set
 2 - SB-3865 portable switchboards
 2 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generator sets
 1 - 21/2 Ton cargo truck
 1 - Small Management Package - 22 personnel
 -21/2 Ton cargo truck
 - Portable GPS units
 375 items of Cryptographic equipment (total for all above UTC's) 28 - 463L aircraft pallets (total for all above UTC's)
 Support vehicles: M-49 Fuel trucks, A1B fuel trailers, M-200 water trailers, 5Ton wrecker, 10 Ton all terrain forklift 4K and 6K forklifts. During this time there was a critical shortage of tactical generator sets. Newly received equipment could not be deployed training was limited. Over time the 274th was successful in obtaining all the generators needed for its new tactical equipment by reclaiming generators from salvage and repairing them, ho-rah for our Ground Power personnel.



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