

## 701 AIR DEFENSE SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

701 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron  
Redesignated 701 Radar Squadron (SAGE)  
Redesignated 701 Air Defense Squadron

### STATIONS

Dobbins AFB, GA, 1 Dec 1953-1 Aug 1955  
Fort Fisher AFS, Kure Beach, NC, #1957  
Tyndall AFB, FL

### ASSIGNMENTS

### COMMANDERS

Maj Clarence R. Holloway, Jr., #1957

### HONORS

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## EMBLEM



## MOTTO

## NICKNAME

## OPERATIONS

This site on Cape Fear was operational in 1955 when the 701st AC&W Squadron activated AN/MPS-7 and AN/MPS-8 radars. By 1958 the AN/MPS-8 had been converted into an AN/GPS-3 and an AN/MPS-14 had been added. In 1962 an AN/FPS-7C and AN/FPS-26 were placed in operation along with the AN/MPS-14. Fort Fisher began feeding into the SAGE system in 1963. The site came under TAC jurisdiction in 1979. Upon decommissioning the site, the FAA continued to run the radar as part of the JSS network. In 1995 an AN/FPS-91A performed search duties.

The original purpose of the old fort was to protect the nation from enemy forces from across the Atlantic, but soon after the Civil War the fort was abandoned and became a memory in the minds of the townfolk to be handed down by word of month from one generation to the next.

In World War II it was turned into a large Army Hospital Area which was disbanded soon after the close of the war and became only one of the many memories associated with the old fort.

In the year 1955 the townsfolk heard again that the fort would be rebuilt and be known as the 701st Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. This brought memories of the "Old Fort Fisher" alive once again. Same as years before, the 701st AC&W Squadron was built to protect the country from its enemies if the time should ever arise.

Being situated at the brink of the ocean, the 701st radar is not hindered by high mountains or terrain. This gives the electronic "eyes" of Fort Fisher the chance to penetrate far across the ocean, and the capability of spreading the alarm long before the enemy approaches our shores.

With Major Clarence R. Holloway Jr., as Commander the radar site has progressed into a rapid growing community and is fast developing into an accurate, precision trained team of technicians.

The personnel of the 701st are afforded excellent opportunities in sports and recreational fields, being situated so close to the nearby summer resorts of the Carolinas.

701st Radar Sq (SAGE): activated 1 Dec 53 at Dobbins AFB, GA, assigned to the 35th AD; moved to Ft. Fisher AFS, NC ca. Sep 55; transferred to 85th AD 1 Mar 56; transferred to 35th AD 1 Sep 58; transferred to 32nd AD 15 Nov 58; transferred to Washington ADS 1 Jul 61; redesignated from ACW Sq to 701st Radar Sq (SAGE) 1 Jul 62; transferred to 33rd AD 1 Apr 66; reassigned to 20th AD 19 Nov 69; inactivated 1 Mar 70.

701; Det. 5, 14 MWS Fort Fisher AFS, NC MPS-7; MPS-11/GPS-3; FPS-7C; MPS-14; FPS-26A (FSS-7) FPS-7C; MPS-14; (FSS-7). FPS-91A; FPS-116 (JSS) 1955 ARSR-4 site now BUIC-III. FPS-7C became FPS-107V. FPS-26A modified to FSS-7. Had ALRI receiver. JSS plans had called for site to be replaced by Benson, NC FAA site. Was then to remain a blue-suit site, but is shared JSS site now; ARSR-4 is located at old GATR site.

Current Use: Original site is now the Fort Fisher Air Force Recreation Area. GATR site is now the ARSR-4 radar site, 33-59-25N, 077-55-09W. Note: The unit designation has been reactivated at Tyndall AFB, FL, for the 701st Air Defense Squadron (under 1st AF).

This site near Cape Fear became operational in 1955 when the 701st AC&W Squadron activated AN/MPS-7 and AN/MPS-8 search radars. By 1958 the AN/MPS-8 had been converted into an AN/GPS-3, and an AN/MPS-14 height-finder radar had been added. In 1962 an AN/FPS-7C search radar and AN/FPS-26A height-finder radar were placed in operation along with the AN/MPS-14 (which was moved to a different location). Fort Fisher AFS began feeding into the SAGE system in 1963. In 1966 the AN/FPS-26A was converted into an AN/FSS-7 SLBM detection-and-warning radar for Detachment 5, 14th Missile Warning Squadron (ADC). Later, the search radar was modified to an AN/FPS-107V2. Around 1966, the 701st had the first operational BUIC-III system.

Circa 1977 the AN/MPS-14 was modified to the AN/FPS-116 configuration. The site came under TAC jurisdiction in 1979. The AN/FSS-7 radar was retired circa Sep 1980. Upon deactivation of the 701st Radar Squadron (SAGE), the FAA continued to run the radar station as part of the JSS network using an AN/FPS-91A search radar (installed in the old AN/FPS-26A / AN/FSS-7 tower). The AN/FPS-116 height-finder radar was then moved into the former AN/FPS-107 tower; it was retired circa 1988. In the mid 1990s, the original site was deactivated altogether when a new ARSR-4 radar was installed at the former GATR site a mile to the north off Davis Beach Road.

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Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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

Unit yearbook. *85 Air Division, Defense. 1957.*