

55 COMMUNICATIONS GROUP



MISSION

The 55 Communications Group provides superior C4 and Knowledge Management services for the 55 Wing, USSTRATCOM, the Air Force Weather Agency, and over 47 other tenant organizations at Offutt AFB, as well as cyber operations support for numerous Air Force and Department of Defense installations and missions.

There are over 600 military, defense civilian, and contractor personnel operating and maintaining arguably the Air Force's most diverse array of cyber systems to include multiple military satellite communications platforms, secure and non-secure voice, data and radio frequency networks, one-of-a-kind air traffic control and landing systems, hundreds of miles of fiber optic and copper cabling, as well as providing base-wide client systems, information assurance and knowledge operations services.

The 55 CG also provides unprecedented Nuclear Command and Control (NC2) capabilities via operations and maintenance of the Strategic Automated Command and Control System (SACCS) and other NC2 systems, in addition to its operations and maintenance of USSTRATCOM's Alternate Missile Warning Center systems.

In all, the 55 Communication Squadron and 55 Strategic Communication Squadron operate numerous cyber centers, including eight 24/7, providing a range of services from text messaging and electronic mail for Offutt Air Force Base to Emergency Action Messages for the Secretary of Defense and President of the United States. Operations.

LINEAGE

1 Communications Group, Command, established and activated, 7 Dec 1959
Organized 1 Feb 1960

Redesignated 1 Aerospace Communications Group, Command, 15 Jul 1963
Redesignated 1 Aerospace Communications Group, 1 Jul 1976
Redesignated 1 Aerospace Information Systems Wing, 6 Jul 1984
Redesignated 1 Aerospace Communications Wing, 1 Nov 1986
Redesignated 1 Aerospace Communications Group, 1 Sep 1991
Redesignated 55 Communications Group, 1 Apr 1993

STATIONS

Offutt AFB, NE, 1 Feb 1960

ASSIGNMENTS

3902 Air Base Wing, 1 Feb 1960

Strategic Communications Area (later, Strategic Communications Division; Strategic Information Systems Division; Strategic Communications Division), 1 Jul 1976

55 Wing, 1 Sep 1991

COMMANDERS

Lt Col John T. Tyler, 1 Feb 1960

Col Edwin G. Houghton, Jun 1962

Col Edward J. Stenger, Aug 1966

Col James V. DeCoster, Oct 1967

Lt Col James O. Sutton, Nov 1968

Lt Col Richard D. Bottom, Oct 1969

Lt Col Jack L. Timmins, 4 Feb 1972

Col Louis J. Redmann, 26 Jul 1972

Lt Col Jack L. Timmins, 15 Jun 1974

Col Sidney L. Guyton, 14 Aug 1974

Col Wallace D. Gillespie, 14 Aug 1978

Col James E. Jones, 1 Jan 1980

Col Gabriel A. Pons, 5 Dec 1980

Col Frank J. Coprivnicar, 1 Nov 1982

Col Norman R. Frucci, 22 May 1986

Col Kenneth F. Nickel, 25 Sep 1987

Col Charles T. Hardenberg, Jr., 1 Dec 1988

Col Larry Fletcher, 2020

Col Matthew Hensley, 2022

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Meritorious Unit Awards

1 Jun 2002-31 May 2004

1 Jun 2004-31 May 2006

1 Jun 2006-31 May 2007; 1 Jun 2007-31 May 2008; 1 Jun 2008-31 May 2009; 1 Jun 2009-31 May 2010; 1 Jun 2012-31 May 2014; 1 Jun 2014-31 May 2015.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1965-30 Jun 1967

1 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1969

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970

1 Jul 1970-30 Jun 1972

1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1975

1 Jul 1975-30 Jun 1976

1 Jan-31 Dec 1978

1 Jan-31 Dec 1982

1 Jan 1986-31 Dec 1987

1 Jan 1990-30 Jun 1991

1 Aug 1993-31 Jul 1995

1 Jun 1997-31 May 1999

1 Jun 1999-31 May 2001

1 Jun 2011-31 May 2012

1 Jun 2015-31 May 2016

EMBLEM



1 Aerospace Communications Wing emblem: Azure, in fess a lightning flash bend sinisterwise or, in sinister chief four mullets one, two and one argent and in dexter base a flight symbol bendwise gules, all within a diminished border of the second. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the wing and its mission. Against a sky-blue shield representing the vast realm of Air Force activity, a lightning bolt of three segments represents the three squadrons of the wing and symbolizes the

wing's communications link of command to the force. The four stars signify command and the flight symbol represents the Strategic Air Command force. Thus, the entire emblem represents the link of communications provided by the 1 Aerospace Communications Wing from the Commander-in-Chief, to the Strategic Air Command force. (Approved, 8 Jun 1960)



MOTTO

VOX DUCIS—Voice of the commander

OPERATIONS

The primary mission of the 1st Aerospace Communications Group-Command was to install, maintain, and operate all communications facilities for Headquarters Strategic Air Command and for organizations on Offutt AFB. The unit monitored the world-wide communications networks for Strategic Air Command and supported the Strategic Air Command underground and airborne command posts. The 1st Aerospace Communications Group trained and maintained crypto communication teams for the Strategic Air Command Airborne Command Post; the Nightwatch E-4A/B.

1st Aerospace Communications Wing was redesignated 1st Aerospace Information Systems Wing, 6 Jul 1984

- Operations Division became 390th Information Systems Operations Squadron

- Maintenance Division became 1853rd Information Systems Maintenance Squadron

- National Emergency Airborne Command Post Communications Division and Strategic Air Command Airborne Communications Division combined into 1850th Airborne Information Systems Squadron

- Various Automated Data Systems Divisions became 1851st Information Systems Support Squadron

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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