

# AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AGENCY



## LINEAGE

Air Force Service Information and News Center established and activated as a separate operating agency, 1 Jun 1978

Redesignated Air Force News Center, 1 Apr 1990

Status changed to a field operating agency of the USAF, 5 Feb 1991

Redesignated Air Force News Agency, 1 Aug 1991

Redesignated Air Force Public Affairs Agency, 1 Oct 2008

## STATIONS

Kelly AFB, TX  
San Antonio, TX

## ASSIGNMENTS

United States Air Force, 1 Jun 1978

## COMMANDERS

Col Joseph S. Panvini, #1995  
Col Harold J. Smarkota, Jr., #1997  
Col Anthony J. Epifano, #2002  
Col Janice L. Gunnoe, #2005  
Robin K. Crumm, #2007  
Col Clifton Douglas, Jr., #2008  
Larry Clavette, #2010

## HONORS

### Service Streamers

None

### Campaign Streamers

None

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

## Decorations

## Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards

1 Jan 1981-31 Dec 1984

1 Jan 1986-31 Dec 1986

1 Sep 1992-31 Aug 1994

1 Sep 1994-31 Aug 1996

1 Sep 1996-31 Aug 1998

1 Sep 1998-31 Aug 2000

1 Sep 2001-31 Aug 2003

1 Sep 2003-31 Aug 2004

## **EMBLEM**

Per fess Vert and Dark Blue the upper portion further divided per pale of the first and Azure overall four directional arrows forming a cross Argent surmounted by a disc divided per fess nebuly Light Blue and Argent, bearing three mullets of five points Or; all within a diminished bordure of the fourth. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "AIR FORCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AGENCY" in Blue letters. (Approved, 14 Aug 1979)

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The sphere in the center indicates the unbroken line of the Secretary of the Air Force Office of Public Affairs. In that circle, the three stars above the field of clouds represent the three major functions of the Air Force's Public Affairs - Internal Communication, Media Operations, and Civic Outreach Operations. The outpointing arrows represent the passing of information to the Air Force, its members, and persons related by affiliation or desire to the US Air Force, the mission of the Air Force Public Affairs Agency. The smaller inward pointing arrows symbolize the input of information to the Air Force Public Affairs Agency from the Air Force and its leaders.

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Air Force Public Affairs Agency creates, prints, and broadcasts Web-based products that support Air Force and DOD communication goals; provides news, information, and entertainment programs through American Forces Radio and Television Service; provides senior Air Force leaders with the means of communicating news and information to the Air Force community and the public.

Air Force Public Affairs Agency traces its history back to 1 Jun 1978, when the Air Force Service Information and News Center (later Air Force News Center) activated at Kelly, formed by the merger of several Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs functions. A year later, the Air Force Hometown News Center moved from Tinker AFB, OK, to the agency, followed in October 1980 by the Army Hometown News Center, which relocated from Kansas City, MO. On

1 Oct 1980, the Air Force Armed Forces Radio and Television Service became a separate directorate within the center to assume full operational control of all Air Force owned and operated Armed Forces Radio and Television Service functions. In Oct 1983, the directorate's name changed to the Air Force Broadcasting Service. The directorate became an Air Force-named unit on 1 May 1988. The unit inactivated in Oct 1997, and its mission transferred to a directorate in the Air Force News Agency.

The importance of Air Force News Agency came to the fore during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, when its personnel set up and operated the Air Force Desert Storm hotline. With the twenty-four hour information line, over 60,000 callers got news about family and friends serving in the Persian Gulf region, getting reassurance from a "real" person instead of a recorded message.

In Oct 1991, Air Force News Agency broke ground on East Kelly for its new, \$4 million headquarters building. Some 160 people located in three separate buildings on main Kelly moved into their modern, 40,000-square-foot facility in May 1994. Since the Base Realignment and Closure commissioners did not specifically direct Air Force News Agency to realign to Lackland AFB, its leaders pushed hard during initial planning in the summer and fall of 1995 to remain in the new building on East Kelly. Kelly, Lackland, and Greater Kelly Development Corporation officials agreed to this arrangement early on. When the Greater Kelly Development Corporation assumed full responsibility for East Kelly on 1 Oct 1997, Air Force News Agency became a tenant to San Antonio's redevelopment authority. Its people continue to keep Air Force members and their families informed about important Air Force programs and policies.

#### Structure

Directorate of News Operations

Air Force Broadcasting Service

Army and Air Force Hometown News Service

Directorate of Staff



---

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Sep 2010

Updated:

Sources

AFHRA