

SPACE DELTA 6



MISSION

LINEAGE

1879 Communications Squadron designated and organized, Nov 1965

Redesignated 1879 Information Systems Squadron, Jul 1985

Redesignated 1879 Communications Squadron, Nov 1986

Redesignated HQ 1879 Communications Group, Oct 1989

Inactivated, 30 Jan 1992

Redesignated 50 Communications Group, 26 Nov 1997

Activated, 1 Dec 1997

Inactivated, 1 Oct 2002

Activated, 1 Jun 2003

Redesignated 50 Network Operations Group, 10 Mar 2004

Redesignated Space Delta 6, 24 Jul 2020

Status changed officially from unit of the United States Air Force to unit of the United States Space Force, 21 Oct 2020

STATIONS

Nha Trang Aprt (later Nha Trang AB), South Vietnam

Richards-Gebaur AFB, MO, 1 Sep 1971

Falcon AFS, Schriever AFB, CO, 1 Oct 1984-30 Jan 1992

Falcon (later, Schriever) AFB, CO, 1 Dec 1997-1 Oct 2002
Schriever AFB (later, SFB), CO, 1 Jun 2003

ASSIGNMENTS

1964 Communications Group
Northern Communications Area, 1 Sep 1971
Airlift Communications Division (later, Airlift Information Systems Division; Airlift Communications Division), 1 Jun 1981
Tactical Communications Division (later, Tactical Information Systems Division; Tactical Communications Division), 1 Oct 1982
Space Communications Division (later, Space Information Systems Division; Space Communications Division), 1 Oct 1984
2 Space Wing, 1 Oct 1990-30 Jan 1992
50 Space Wing, 1 Dec 1997-1 Oct 2002
50 Space Wing, 1 Jun 2003
United States Space Force (later, Space Operations Command), 24 Jul 2020

COMMANDERS

Capt James F. Mumaw, 1 Nov 1965
Maj Martin J. Granberg, 15 Mar 1966
Maj Herbert N. Long 9 Mar 1967
Lt Col Alexander Gabriels, Jr., 24 Feb 1968
Maj Robert E. King, 1969
Maj Lin wood G. Gooding, 12 Dec 1969
Maj Hector F. Evans, Jr., 24 Dec 1970
Capt Michael C. Moehlankamp, 31 May 1971
Maj Ronald L. Giampietro, 1 Sep 1971
Maj James G. Newman, 15 Jan 1973
Capt James G. Whited, 15 Sep 1975
Maj Lucious E. Bryant, Jr., 1 Nov 1976
Capt Arel D. Elmore, 31 May 1978
Capt Ann M. Testa, 3 Oct 1978
Capt Robert M. Green, 23 Sep 1980
Capt Marianne L. Flick, 25 Apr 1983
Capt Janet L. Hottenstein, 1 Oct 1984
Lt Col Robert W. Alexander, 1 Oct 1985
Lt Col William A. Sample, 19 Jul 1988
Lt Col Roman Synychak, 2 Aug 1990
Lt Col Donald H. Ridolfi, 24 Jun 2006
Col David C. Urich
Col Robert J. Skinner, 10 Jul 2006
Col Michael Finn, II, 14 May 2010

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Vietnam Defense
TET 69/Counteroffensive
Vietnam Air
VN Summer-Fall, 1969
Vietnam Air Offensive
Winter-Spring, 1970
VN Air Off, Phase II
Sanctuary Counteroffensive
VN Air Off, Phase III
Southwest Monsoon
Vietnam Air/Ground
Commando Hunt V
VN Air Off, Phase IV
Commando Hunt VI

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor

1 Jul 1965-30 Jun 1966
1 Jul 1966-30 Jun 1967
1 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1968
1 Jul 1968-30 Jun 1969
1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970
1 Jul 1970-30 Jun 1971
1 Jul 1971-1 Aug 1971

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Sep 1971-15 Apr 1972
1 Jan-31 Dec 1976
1 Sep 1990-31 Aug 1991
1 Oct 1998-30 Sep 2000
1 Oct 2000-1 Oct 2001
2 Oct 2002-2 Oct 2003
1 Oct 2007-30 Sep 2009
1 Jan 2015-31 Dec 2017

Presidential Unit Citation (Vietnam)

21 Jun 1968-30 Jun 1969

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Apr 1966-1 Sep 1971

EMBLEM



1879 Communications Group emblem: 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 globe represents the worldwide communications capabilities as well as worldwide operational locations. The lightning bolts symbolize rapid communication. The satellite, star, and shuttle indicate the satellite operations mission, space based navigation mission, and shuttle operations mission respectively. By providing communications and maintenance support to these three missions, the 1879 Communications Group supports the thrust into space and is serving the space frontier.



50 Network Operations Group emblem: Azure, an opibicus passant Argent, all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "50 NETWORK OPERATIONS GROUP" in Blue letters. **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 opibicus with the strength of a lion and the bold flight of an eagle symbolizes the functions of the wing. Air Force emblem approved on 12 Sep 2012.

Space Force emblem approved on 29 Jul 2022.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS



1879 Communications Squadron MARS station, Nha Trang, Vietnam. 1968. (USAF photo)

The 1879 Communications Group is an Air Force Communications Command unit based at Falcon AFS. It provides operations and maintenance of communication and computer equipment in support of the 2nd SW mission. The group commander also serves as the wing deputy commander for communications. The group also operates two DSCS Earth terminals that support North American Aerospace Defense Command, U.S. Space Command and AFSPACECOM.

On 7 Jul 2011 Colonel Michael Finn II, commander of the 50 Network Operations Group, accepted operations and maintenance responsibility for the new Remote Tracking Station (RTS) Block Change (RBC) antenna at Oakhanger, United Kingdom. The new antenna added another resource to a taxed Air Force Satellite Control Network.

50 NOG is the single focal point for operating and maintaining the \$8.2 billion Air Force Satellite Control Network and all 50 SW communications and computer systems (C-CS). The group provides assured access to space by allowing space operators to command and control satellites around the world through the AFSCN. The group plans, programs, integrates, operates and maintains command and control and common-user C-CS in support of U.S. Strategic Command, Space Innovation and Development Center, 21st SW and 50 SW missions. The group is responsible for command-sponsored and base C-CS and mission systems for satellite command and control that are configuration-managed by Air Force Space Command's Space and Missile Systems Center.

Specific mission responsibilities are accomplished through the group's four squadrons, six detachments and the Program Management Office: 21, 22 and 23 Space Operations Squadrons and 50 Space Communications Squadron.

Schedule satellite contacts on the AFSCN for more than 170 Department of Defense, allied and national agency satellites; publish the daily network tasking order; and provide real-time support for satellite anomaly resolution. Provide frequency interference and space safety analysis. Operate and maintain eight worldwide remote tracking stations for the AFSCN. Direct a launch-critical satellite checkout facility at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Fla. Manage the maintenance support activities of the satellite ground control systems for the AFSCN, GPS and Milstar. Exercise configuration control, technical data management, software management, systems engineering, maintenance and supply management for the AFSCN, GPS and Milstar ground control systems. Establish wing software policy and manage software planning, maintenance, configuration control and performance. Oversee two major wing support contracts and function as a conduit for C4 policy administration for 50 SW systems worldwide. Provide site integration for Schriever AFB by ensuring proposed modifications are properly integrated into the facility infrastructure and properly installed and documented. Perform all base operations for Onizuka AFS, Calif., and New Boston AFS, N.H.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. *Xin Loi? Sorry About That? Nha Trang, Vietnam, Jul 1966-Jun 1968*. 1968.

Major Command history. *A Salute to Air Force Communications Command Leaders and Lineage*. Office of Air Force Communications Command History. Scott AFB, IL. 1 Oct 1990.