

119 COMMAND AND CONTROL SQUADRON



MISSION

The 119 Command and Control Squadron federal mission is supports the Commander, United States Strategic Command with global situational awareness by performing command and control, and associated battle management to ensure employment of the command's full spectrum of military responsibilities. This mission support includes specialties in space, intelligence, communication satellite management, information operations and command, control, communications, and computer (C4) network systems administration. The unit maintains a very highly trained and technically diverse cadre of professional officers and enlisted personnel.

LINEAGE

119 Aircraft Warning & Control Squadron constituted and allotted to the National Guard, 21 Mar 1949

119 ACWS organized, 1 Oct 1950

Federal recognition, 6 Oct 1950

Redesignated 119 Aircraft Warning & Control Flight, 1 Dec 1953

Redesignated 119 Tactical Control Squadron, 1 Sep 1965

Redesignated 119 Air Control Squadron, 16 Jun 1992

Redesignated 119 Command and Control Squadron, 16 Aug 2002

STATIONS

McGhee-Tyson Air National Guard Base, Knoxville, TN, 16 Aug 2002

Alcoa Air Guard Station, TN, 1 Sep 1965

Otis Air Force Base, Falmouth, MA, 18 Jan 1952

Knoxville National Guard Armory, TN, 6 Oct 1950

ASSIGNMENTS

Continental Air Command, 6 October 1950

154 Aircraft Control and Warning Group, 1 November 1950

32 Air Division-Air Defense Command, January 1952

4707 Defense Wing-Air Defense Command, 16 February 1953
Air Defense Command, 1 December 1953
Tactical Air Command, 29 September 1961
Air Combat Command 16 June 1992
Air Force Space Command, 16 August 2002

COMMANDERS

Col John R. Douglas, 1950-1964
Maj Oscar L. Williams Jr., 1952-1953
Col Arthur P. Wright, 1964-1972
Col James W. Manley, 1972-1974
Col Fredrick L. Bonney, 1974 -1987
LTC Henry N. Hanson, 1987-1993
Maj Harry Ammerman, 1993-1995
LTC John F. White, 1995 – 2003
LTC L. G. Schettler, 2003-2008
LTC David L. Evans, 2008

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 Jan 1984 – 31 Dec 1985
1 Jan 1986 – 31 Dec 1987
1 Jan 1990 – 31 Dec 1991
1 Jan 1996 – 31 Dec 1997
1 Jan 2000 – 31 Dec 2001
1 Jan 1995 – 31 Dec 1995
1 Jan 2006 – 1 Oct 2007
2 October 2007–1 Oct 2008

Joint Meritorious Unit Award

8 Apr 1991 – 27 Oct 1991
1 Jan 1999 – 3 Sep 2002

EMBLEM



Blue and 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 demi-globe represents support supplied by the Squadron to the worldwide Air Force mission. The mountain range suggests the great Smoky mountains and the home area of the squadron. The electronic sweep and aircraft reflect the local direction and control of maneuvers provided by the unit in support of the Tennessee Air National Guard. The blue disc with stars on the red ribbon represents the Tennessee state flag and the commitment of Squadron personnel to serve their state. (Approved, 9 Aug 1990)



MOTTO

Whatever it Takes

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

In 1950, the call went out to Tennessee to establish the first Air National Guard unit in East Tennessee as a Command and Control unit. The first meeting was held on October 6, 1950 on Sutherland Avenue with 80 personnel being sworn in. By the end of 1951 with almost 200

members, the unit was called to active duty and deployed to Cape Cod, Massachusetts to help protect the Northeast coastline.

After two years, the unit returned to Tennessee with only about twenty personnel, due to some members who stayed on active duty. By 1956 the unit had a new home on Mentor Road.

The unit participated in many large exercises across the country as an Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron. The unit mission was twofold, one was to operate a Tactical Air Control Center (TACC) and the other was to operate a Control and Reporting (CRC) with a combined manning of 444 personnel.

The 1970's were a turbulent time for the country. The "total force" concept tried to integrate Reserve and Guard units into the regular active duty forces with the same up-to-date equipment and well-trained manpower.

in 1971, a restructuring took the TACC function from the unit leaving a 255 man CRC. The decade also ushered in the era of inspections as the unit became more mobile and tactical.

Also in 1976, another restructure created the 110th Tactical Control Flight whose mission as a forward Air control Post greatly enhanced the 119 capabilities. The addition of the 110th virtually doubled the equipment on the station and provided additional manning.

The 1980's brought additional changes in the military to both units. Inspections were becoming very important as both units had two Operational Readiness Inspections and two Unit Effectiveness Inspections from Tactical Air Command. The 119 began a long and rigorous road of being recognized as the "best of the best" in the Theater Air Control System. Inspections became a source of pride for the unit as members took the seriousness of being combat ready to heart.

In the 1990's the 119 ACS was the first ANG unit to receive the state of the art Modular Control Equipment and the first to complete an MCE Operational Readiness Inspection. In 1991, Air Combat Command awarded the unit an Excellent rating on the Unit Effectiveness Inspection.

Also in 1991, the unit deployed to Jamaica for a covert drug interdiction mission and succeeded in assisting the DEA to confiscate over \$2 billion in cocaine. For this effort, the unit was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award.

119 Tactical Control Flight FACP Forward Air control Post Tennessee Air National Guard was activated 15 October 1988 at Alcoa Air Guard Station Tennessee as part of 119 Tactical Control Squadron tasked to provide a trained and equipped Forward Air Control Post radar element to provide low altitude or gap filler surveillance and air control coverage within forward combat areas and to provide increased control and navigational assistance to aircraft on tactical offensive or defensive missions during all weather conditions to be available for worldwide Tactical Air

Command deployment. The Flights equipment was housed in transportable shelters or on equipment pallets for rapid deployment and mobility to meet various tactical situations in forward battle zones.

The Flight undertook FACP exercises including mini deployment to McConnell AFB Kansas and Gulfport ANG Base Mississippi in 1981 Exercise Blue Flag 1983 and Sentry Cowboy II. Elements deployed to Jamaica in 199 for a covert DEA drug interdiction mission and succeeded in assisting the DEA to confiscate cocaine valued over \$2 billion. 119 Tactical Control Flight and 119 Tactical Control Squadron were inactivated on 16 June 1992.

In 1996, other priorities, namely in Air Combat Command Operational Readiness Inspection, came into focus. As part of the US forces command exercise Roving Sands 96, the unit was tasked to participate in White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. Unit equipment was shipped over road to Holloman AFB, where the unit met it and convoyed to the desert location to set up operations in 100 degree temperatures. Operating for almost 21 days, the inspection was the culmination of many years of preparation and experience. The unit received an overall Excellent rating and scored the highest overall score ever given an air control squadron - active or guard.

The 119 ACS was to finish its career as a mobile tactical radar system on top of a heap as more downsizing causes the 110th ACS to exit in 1996. Rumors of further downsizing caused the unit leadership to look for other missions which would carry on the tremendous tradition of the 119. In 1998, a mission opportunity in the United States Space Command was presented by National Guard Bureau and Air Force Space command. The 119 was to enter the space age and a new millennium as the 119 Command and Control Squadron, becoming a part of Air Force Space Command, in support of U.S. Space Command. More recently, in October 2002 U.S. Space Command merged with U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt AFB, NE creating new challenges and opportunities for members of the 119 to stay at the forefront of our relations critical Department of Defense infrastructure.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.