

561st NETWORK OPERATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

2161st Communications Squadron designated and activated, 1 Jul 1982
Redesignated 2161st Information Systems Squadron, 1 Oct 1984
Redesignated 2161st Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1986
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1990
Redesignated 561st Communications Squadron, 28 Jun 2006
Activated, 5 Jul 2006
Redesignated 561st Network Operations Squadron, 5 July 2006

STATIONS

RAF Greenham Common, United Kingdom, 1 Jul 1982-1 Oct 1990
Peterson AFB, CO, 5 Jul 2006

ASSIGNMENTS

2147th Communications Group (later, 2147th Information Systems Group, 2147th Information Systems Wing, 2147th Communications Wing), 1 Jul 1982-1 Oct 1990
26th Network Operations Group, 5 Jul 2006
690th Network Support (later, Cyberspace Operations) Group, 18 Aug 2009-.

COMMANDERS

Cpt W. T. Lord, Jul 1982
Cpt Richard Zuber, 15 Aug 1983
Cpt Harold M. VanLeeuwen, 10 Jul 1985

Cpt Armand D. Boudreau, Jr., 18 Jun 1988

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device

1 Oct 2010-30 Sep 2012

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan 1983-31 Dec 1984

[5 Jul 2006] – 31 May 2007

1 Oct 2012-30 Sep 2013

EMBLEM

Polaris, the guiding star and light, allude to Air Force Communications Command communicators who provide the medium for obtaining and providing guidance to all Air Force activities through communications systems. The star also symbolizes the NATO mission, thus, the close coordination with our Allies. The ellipses signify the elements of the atom, the basis of all electronic/electrical equipment that the 2161st Communication Squadron operates and maintains. This is the macrocosm view. In the macrocosm, the ellipses represent the earth and the global-wide communications (connectivity) which the 2161st Communications Squadron provides. The lightning bolt indicates the transmission and reception of signals by the communications equipment and is symbolic of Air Force Communications Command. The blue background indicated the United States Air Force primary theater of operations, the sky.

(Approved, 1983)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Peterson Opens Renovated Network Operations Center The 561st Network Operations Squadron at Peterson AFB, Colo., officially opened the doors to its new operations center this week after a \$4.5 million renovation. The new operations center, dubbed the "bullpen," is designed like a Wall Street trading floor, complete with a 70-foot data wall that "enables the squadron to have direct visual contact to other squadrons with similar missions," according to an April 30 release. Lt. Col. Roy Rockwell, 561st NOS commander, said the new design streamlines communication and simplifies the decision-making process. "A professional organization needs a professional environment to work in," said Rockwell. "This ceremony is a small example of how far cyberspace

operations have come. We have made large steps in a short amount of time." When the squadron first began operations in 2007, there were just 10 military members conducting cyberspace operations. Today, there are more than 560 Active Duty, Reserve, civilian, and contractors working 24 hours a day, states the release. The center is expected to advance overall command and control of USAF network communications by "providing enhanced situational awareness and command and control capabilities" and increasing "cyber crew commander and cyber operations controller influence of situations," states the release. 2014

Detachments

1, activated on 5 Jul 2006 at Hickam AFB, HI

2, activated on 5 Jul 2006 at Randolph AFB, TX

3, activated on 5 Jul 2006 at Scott AFB, IL

4, activated on 5 Jul 2006 at Arlington City, VA, inactivated on 31 Aug 2006.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 June 2014

Updated: 13 Feb 2019

Sources

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

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.