

# 601<sup>st</sup> AIR CONTROL SQUADRON



## MISSION

### LINEAGE

601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Squadron established and activated, 31 Dec 1945  
Redesignated 601<sup>st</sup> Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron, 1 Dec 1948  
Redesignated 601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Squadron, 18 Nov 1960  
Redesignated 601<sup>st</sup> Air Control Squadron, 31 Mar 1992  
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1995

### STATIONS

Simmershausen, Germany, 31 Dec 1945  
Hassel, Germany, 28 Oct 1946  
Rothwesten AB, Germany, 24 Jul 1947  
Pforzheim, Germany, 31 Jul 1955  
Sembach AB, Germany, 18 Mar 1963  
Weisbaden AB, Germany, 1 Jun 1973  
Pruem AS, Germany, 15 Oct 1975  
Zweibrucken AB, Germany, 15 Jun 1989  
Alzey AS, Germany, 31 Aug 1991

### ASSIGNMENTS

507<sup>th</sup> Tactical Control Group, 31 Dec 1945  
51<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Wing, 25 Sep 1947  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 20 Dec 1947  
7400<sup>th</sup> Air Force Communications Wing, 1 Jul 1948

7402<sup>nd</sup> Aircraft Control and Warning Group, 21 Dec 1948  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 7 Feb 1949  
501<sup>st</sup> Aircraft Control and Warning Group (later redesignated a Tactical Control Group), 10 Jun 1949  
501<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Wing, Provisional, 1 Jul 1955  
501<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Wing, 18 Nov 1957  
86<sup>th</sup> Air Division (Defense), 18 Nov 1960  
38<sup>th</sup> Tactical Missile Wing, 15 Apr 1961  
17<sup>th</sup> Air Force, 15 Jun 1961  
86<sup>th</sup> Air Division (Defense), 10 Jun 1964  
601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Group, 15 Feb 1965  
601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Wing, 1 Jul 1968  
601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Group, 1 Jul 1973  
601<sup>st</sup> Tactical Control Wing, 1 Jun 1985

### **ATTACHMENTS**

51<sup>st</sup> Troop Carrier Wing [known as European Air Transport Service, Provisional] 25 Jul – 25 Sep 1947)  
USAFE, 1 Jul – 21 Dec 1948  
7402<sup>nd</sup> AC&W Group until 10 Jun 1949

### **MISSION EQUIPMENT**

TPS-43  
MRC-107  
TPS-43E

### **COMMANDERS**

1Lt Douglas Eustace, 31 Dec 1945  
1Lt Gaylord F. St Thomas, 20 Jan 1946  
1Lt John B. Patterson , 2 Mar 1946  
Cpt Own A. Knorr, 8 Apr 1946  
Maj William R. Crooks, 24 May 1946  
Maj Richard G. Hall, 17 Jul 1946  
Maj Lynn A. Breece, 1 Aug 1947  
Maj Fred K. Durni, 16 Dec 1948  
Maj Younger A. Pitts Jr., 1 Sep 1949  
LTC Marshall C. Brown, Nov 1950  
LTC Daniel Wolf, 12 Sep 1953  
Maj Robert J. Murphy, 10 Apr 1955  
Cpt Blaine W. Sweitzer, 1 Jul 1955  
Cpt Louis L. Klose, 28 Aug 1955  
Maj Donald A. Whitcomb, 17 May 1956  
LTC John H. Walker, 20 Jul 1956  
Maj Ronald L. Wolfe, 17 Jun 1955

Maj John Thomson, 1 Jul 1959  
LTC Wendell M. Raschke, 15 Jul 1959  
LTC James M. Wyse, 5 Feb 1963  
Col Emanuel A. Pelaez, 15 May 1964  
Maj Bertram W. Wilson, 15 Feb 1965  
LTC Harold W. Sohrweide, 12 Jul 1965  
LTC Bruce K. Kirkpatrick, 12 Jul 1966  
Maj Angus D. McIntyre, Jr., 30 Jan 1967  
LTC Kenneth L. Gordon, 28 Aug 1967  
LTC James H. Moon, 30 Oct 1967  
LTC Ray A. Skidmore, 11 Aug 1970  
LTC Leonard R. Peterson, 10 Aug 1972  
None – not manned, 24 Aug 1972  
LTC Leslie W. White, 28 Oct 1972  
LTC Bobby D. Wagnon, 6 May 1974  
Maj James L. Johnson, 27 Jun 1975  
LTC David E. King, 27 Sep 1976  
LTC Alexander W. Shearer, 9 Mar 1978  
LTC Robert E. Pontius, 12 Dec 1980  
Maj Richard G. Hoemme, 1 Feb 1982  
LTC Jon C. Campbell, 25 Jul 1983  
LTC Roy D. Brinkman, 21 Jun 1985  
LTC Dan H. Thompson, 29 Jan 1987  
LTC Patrick J. Madden, 6 Apr 1987  
LTC Daniel Kienker, 23 Jul 1990  
LTC John Horan, Aug 1992

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Apr 1959–30 Jan 1961

1 May 1981–30 Apr 1983

1 Jan 1988–31 May 1990

### **EMBLEM**

The original emblem was approved on 19 Aug 1955 for the 601st Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron and is described as follows: “The caricatured bulldog seated on the antenna of a search radar set, signifies the readiness and watchfulness of the squadron in their mission.

Description: Over a light tan oval shape, a caricatured brown bulldog, wearing around his neck a red spike collar, and on his head a gray helmet; the dog seated on the antenna of a search radar set of blue, all outlines and detail in black.”



The second unit emblem was approved on 13 Apr 1964 for the 601st Tactical Control Squadron: The emblem is symbolic of the squadron, its history and present mission. The red spiked collar refers to the unit's history, representative of the Iron Curtain which divided Western and Eastern Germany when the squadron was activated in Germany, 31 Dec 1945, and signified the squadron's readiness and watchfulness. The flaming sword represents USAFE and the lightening flash, communications and guidance capabilities. Together these two symbols denote the squadron's control within the USAFE complex. The globe alludes to the units worldwide mission capabilities. The emblem bears the Air Force colors ultramarine blue and golden yellow.



The third unit emblem was approved on 23 Jan 1979 for the 601st Tactical Control Squadron: Bolts of radiation symbolize electromagnetic radiation/radar of Ground Control Intercept (GCI). They also symbolize communication and control of aircraft. Aircraft: diagrammatic sketch of two jet fighters, the primary weapons system of the Air Force which our squadron supports and controls during airborne operations. The two aircraft are swooping out of the sun, as if rolling in on a target's six o'clock as a result of GCI control. Eagle: Symbol of power, clear eyesight, ruler and predator of the skies, and of the United States of America. The outline of the patch describes an eye, the golden yellow of the eye is also the center and it represents the sun.



## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

DIE ALDERAUGEN--The Eagle eyes

## **CALL SIGN**

## **OPERATIONS**

601st, 602d, 603d, and 604th Tactical Control Squadrons. On 1 December USAFE redesignated these units as aircraft control and warning squadrons. The squadrons had been assigned to the 7400th Communications Wing on 1 July and attached to USAFE from 1 July-20 December. On 21 December they were attached to the 7402d Aircraft Control and Warning Group. (The 7402d was organized as a tactical control group at Wiesbaden on 1 July and assigned to the 7400th Communications Wing. Headquarters USAFE redesignated the 7402d as an aircraft control and warning group on 16 December.) 1948

Originally the 601 TCS and its detachments provided an early warning radar and direction-finding network to support tactical operations of USAFE and to provide navigational aids to friendly aircraft. The unit helped guide air transports along air routes to Berlin during the 1948 – 1949 Berlin Airlift.

On 31 July 1955, the unit began performing installation and maintenance functions for C-E (communications-electronics) systems and facilities.

On 20 July 1956, the unit resumed its early warning radar role.

From 15 April 1961 until 15 June 1962, the unit operated electronic target director posts in support of a tactical missile mission.

From 15 June 1962 until 31 March 1995, the unit was part of the USAFE Tactical Air Control System (TACS).

20 February 1970 Control of the wing's two radio relay sites at Gruenstadt and Hesselberg were transferred from the 601st TCMS to the 601st TCS.

10 April 1970 The TPS-43 radar set of the 601st TCS's control and reporting center was declared operationally ready.

9 April 1971 All nine mobile TACS units (the 601st TCS and its eight detachments) received a MRC-107 communications central on a trial basis. The jeeps were previously assigned to the 601st DASS.

22 March 1977 The 603rd TCS received the first two "E" model TPS-43 radars. After initial

checkout at the 603rd, one of the TPS-43Es was sent to the 601st TCS on 22 April 1977. Eventually, all wing mobile radar units would receive the TPS-43E radar sets.

Det 1, (Forward Air Control Post [FACP]): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Kirchgoens, Germany. In 1968, unit was located at Butzbach, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 21. In 1973, unit was redesignated the 621st Tactical Control Flight under the 601st Tactical Control Squadron.

Det 2 (Control and Reporting Post [CRP]): 1965 – 1973. In 1968, unit was located at Neu Ulm, Germany. In 1968, unit was redesignated Det 22. In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 602nd Tactical Control Squadron (1970 Call Sign: “Biform”) under the 601st Tactical Control Group). Unit was inactivated in 1985.

Det 3 (FACP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Fulda, Germany. In 1968, unit relocated to Sembach AB, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated as Det 23. In 1970, unit relocated to Alzey Air Station, Germany). In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 611th Tactical Control Flight under the 603rd Tactical Control Squadron.

Det 4 (FACP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Wuerzburg, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 24. In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 631st Tactical Control Flight under the 602nd Tactical Control Squadron.

Det 5 (FACP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Bamberg, Germany. In 1968, unit relocated to Rhein Grafenstein, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 25. In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 622nd Tactical Control Flight under the 603rd Tactical Control Squadron.

Det 6 (FACP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Grafenwohr, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 26. In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 632nd Tactical Control Flight (1970 Call Sign: “Console”) under the 602nd Tactical Control Squadron) Unit was inactivated in 1986.

Det 7 (FACP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Straubing, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 27. In 1970, unit was relocated to Sembach AB, Germany. In 1973, unit was redesignated as the 612th Tactical Control Flight under the 601st Tactical Control Squadron.

Det 100 (CRP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Celle, Germany. In 1968, unit was redesignated Det 8 located at Fischbach, Germany. In 1969, unit was redesignated Det 28 located at Fischbach, Germany. In 1972, unit relocated to Gruenstadt, Germany. In 1973, the unit was redesignated as the 603rd Tactical Control Squadron (1970 Call Sign: “Maroon”). Unit was inactivated in 1986.

Det 300 (CRP): 1965 – 1973. In 1965, unit was located at Neu Ulm, Germany. In 1968, the unit

was redesignated as Det 2

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 3 Aug 2011

Updated: 2 Mar 2019

Sources

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

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