

619 AIRCRAFT CONTROL AND WARNING SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

619 Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

At this point in the development of the European TACS, a parallel situation developed in that the 526th TCG was activated at Spangdahlem AB on 1 November 1953. Its operational component units were the 619th TCS (Toul-Rosiers AB, France), the 604th AC&WS (Freising, Germany), the 615th AC&WS (Pruem, Germany), and the 616th AC&WS (Ulm, Germany). These subordinate units came from several sources. For instance, the 604th AC&WS had originally been Company "D" of the 555th and was assigned to the 501st TCG prior to 15 July 1952. At this time, control of the 604th passed to the 155th TCG prior to being assigned to the 526th TCG in November 1953. Conversely, the 619th TCS was a newly activated unit which took over the personnel and

equipment of the just inactivated 121st TCS? an National Guard unit whose main element arrived in Europe on 4 November 1952. In any event, like the 501st TCG, the 526th reported directly to Twelfth Air Force under USAFE.

On 1 July 1955, the 501st and 526th TCGs merged to form the Tactical Control Wing, Provisional. In all, this consolidation process brought a number of elements together to form Twelfth Air Force's tactical control system. These included two tactical control squadrons (the 897th TCS and 619th TCS), six aircraft control and warning squadrons (the 601st AC&WS, 602nd AC&WS, 603rd AC&WS, 604th AC&WS, 615th AC&WS, and 616th AC&WS), and three Shoran Beacon Squadrons (the 3rd, 6th, and 7th Shoran Beacons). The Tactical Control Wing, Provisional, was created as a tentative measure designed to improve the effectiveness of the radar and aircraft control organizations within Twelfth Air Force. After operating as a provisional wing for two years, the unit had ample opportunity to determine the most suitable type of organization for the effective accomplishment of the USAFE tactical control mission. Accordingly, on 18 December 1957, this tentative status was dropped and the unit was designated the 501st Tactical Control Wing. Finally, on 18 November 1960, the 501st TCW merged with the 86th Fighter Interceptor Wing to form the 86th Air Division (Defense). For the next five years the various TACS elements under the 86th Air Division went through a series of relocations, activations, inactivations and redesignations.

The year 1975 was a relatively quiet one for wing radar units. But, 1976 was, altogether, quite a different story. In an effort to provide mobile radar coverage services for Northern Germany, the 601st TCW planned on opening up several new units in 2 ATAF. Final planning stages for Creek North were completed by 31 March 1976, and, by year's end, the wing's mobile TAGS network grew by 40 percent. This expansion project involved the activation of eight units and first took in the development of three new sites in Northern Germany—Hessisch Oldendorf, Bad Muender, and Schwelentrup. Hessisch Oldendorf was the site of a former Royal Netherlands Air Force Hawk missile battery headquarters and the other two locations were its satellite missile launch sites. The 609th TCS and 619th TCF were activated at Bad Muender and Schwelentrup respectively on 1 April 1976. A month later, on 1 May 1976, the 629th TCF was also activated at Schwelentrup. Equipment for the 609th TCS came from Cannon AFB, New Mexico, and that for its two flights arrived from the 103rd TCF, Orange County, Connecticut, and the 101st TCF, Worcester, Massachusetts. Shortly after, on 21 May 1976, Hessisch-Oldendorf Air Station was officially opened under project Creek Control and, on 20 September 1976, the 600th TCG and 600th Combat Support Squadron (CSS) were activated to provide control and support for 2 ATAF radar units. This left three new units yet to be activated. Almost a year later under project Creek Brahman, on 15 March 1977, the 606th TCS, 626th TCF, and 636th TCF were activated at Carl Schurz Kaserne near Bremerhaven. This marked the completion of mobile radar expansion into Northern Germany. But, unknown to wing officials at that time, the final bed-down of these latter two flights would become a monumental headache.

By the close of 1981, the 606th TCS, 619th TCF, 621st TCF, and 622nd TCF also served tours in Saudi Arabia.

In addition to those changes mentioned above, still others were underfoot regarding a general TAGS drawdown in the Central Region. Specifically, in order to meet the Fiscal Year (FY) 1985 and 1986 Department of Defense budget restrictions, the Air Staff directed the reduction of the mobile TAGS by two CRPs and four FACPs in two phases. Phase I resulted in the 1 June 1985 inactivation of the 619th TCF located at Grafenwoehr and the 1 August 1985 inactivation of the 602nd TCS at Turkheim and the 632nd TCF located at Schwelentrup. The second phase of this draw down resulted in the 1 October 1986 inactivation of the 603rd TCS at Mehlingen, the 636th TCF and the 621st TCF at Wanna and Wiesbaden, respectively. In another area of the TAGS drawdown interest, was the newly designated Operating Location C, 601st TCW. The 601st TCW, OL-C was designated and organized at Sembach AB on 1 February 1986, to provide

619th Aircraft Control & Warning Squadron

Formed: 2 July, 1946

Activated: 1 August, 1946, Florida Blanca Army Air Base, Luzon, Philippines

Located: 1 August 1946, Laoag, Luzon Island. P.I.

Notes: 1 November 1946, Received personnel and equipment from the 620th AC&WS

Notes: 14 January 1947, Reduced to Zero Strength

Notes: As per AG 322 Date Unknown. With the reduction of AAF units in the Philippines they will be redeployed to Guam, status: zero strength

Deactivated: 1 April, 1949

Ratidian Point, Guam

Equipment: CPS-1

Subordinate to: 527th AC&WG

Redesignated: TCS, 1 August, 1953

Flight A

Located: 1 November 1946, Laoag Army Air Base, Luzon Is., P.I.

Unit 4

Relocated: 26 October 1946, from Laoag Army Air Base, Luzon, Island to Florida Blanao Army Air Base, Luzon Island, P.I.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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