

622 COMMUNICATIONS FLIGHT

MISSION

LINEAGE

622 Communications Flight

STATIONS

Langley AFB, VA

ASSIGNMENTS

622 Regional Support Group

COMMANDERS

Maj John R. Vogt

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Two organizations that have reaped the benefits of Reservists seamlessly fitting in with their regular Air Force counterparts are the two integrated network operations and security centers — one at Langley Air Force Base, Va., and the other at Peterson AFB, Colo. Maj. Michael Allen recently completed a tour as director of operations for the 561st Network Operations Squadron at Peterson.

Maj. William Monahan is currently serving as director of operations for the 83rd NOS at Langley. Majors Allen and Monahan, both communications flight commanders, were called upon to fill in for regular Air Force officers who deployed. INOSC responsibilities include active directory management, mail relay, firewall management, web proxy services, gateway management and other operations associated with Air Force networks. Major Allen, 310th Communications Flight commander at Peterson, and Major Monahan, 622nd CF commander at Langley, are just two of hundreds of Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members contributing to the stand-up of 24th Air Force units and the cyber mission.

“When I arrived here in November 2007 during my first activation at the 561st, there were only 20 Airmen in the unit,” Major Allen said. “Because of the low numbers, AFRC personnel provided up to 50 percent of the manning to ensure operations were able to be sustained. We solicited the AFR and ANG for additional support to ensure critical functions were maintained until the 561st was able to build up to sustainable levels.”

The 561st NOS has increased its manning level to 180 people and will eventually grow to 300, the major said. The 624th Operations Center, located at Lackland AFB, Texas, is the hub for all Air Force network operations and provides cyber tasking orders to the two I-NOSCs. Within the 624th, 29 of the 108 people assigned are from the reserve components. Over the next year, the center is expected to reach a manning level of 203. Reservists and Guardsmen typically serve on 179-day orders to help fill the shortfalls until the unit becomes fully manned. “This is the best foundation I’ve seen; there is plenty of work to go around,” said Col. Kathleen Barrish, 24th AF reserve adviser. “We are working smartly to capture mission sets that are best for the Guard and Reserve to fill.”

The experience Reservists and Guardsmen are receiving as a result of assisting where they are needed is strengthening the relationship between the regular Air Force and reserve forces. “This activation is allowing me to see the mission from a new perspective, which will allow me to shape the 310th CF to be an even better partner in this critical mission,” Major Allen said. “I believe the experience gained and relationships developed as a byproduct of this activation have already yielded substantial improvements in the customer support and service that the 622nd CF provides our active-duty brethren,” Major Monahan said. In addition, the civilian businesses that support these Reserve and Guard members reap benefits from the activations as well. “When someone like Major Monahan puts on his Reserve hat, he brings with him his skill set from the private sector to enhance his military activation, and it is reciprocated when he returns with new skills from his unit,” said Daniel V. Mullen, assistant vice president, Business Management DOD Network Services Operation Enterprise and Mission Solutions, SAIC.

“As a defense contractor, we have many great Americans who activate as Reservists, and it is an honor to have them work for us. We ensure they have their (civilian) jobs to return to,” Mr. Mullen said. “While it is a hardship while they are gone, we overcome, and it truly is a win win situation for the Air Force and for SAIC.” “I’ve shared best practices from my civilian position and am planning to introduce a myriad of innovative process improvements I learned from my

activation at SAIC,” Major Monahan said. Since its inception Aug. 18, 2009, 24th Air Force has been a model of TFI, Colonel Barrish said. With the rapid nature of development of the mission and units, the Reserve and Guard have been integral in the organization’s stand-up. 2010

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