690 CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE
690 Cyberspace Operations Squadron constituted and activated, 6 Jan 2015

STATIONS
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI

ASSIGNMENTS
690 Cyberspace Operations Group

COMMANDERS

HONORS
Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Emblem approved, 2015

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Recognizing the growing importance of cyber security in the Air Force and the nation, the 561st Network Operations Squadron Det.1 was deactivated here Jan. 6 and activated as the new 690th Cyberspace Operations Squadron.

The squadron will take advantage of the efficiencies gained from the Air Force Network that will allow Air Force cyber experts to be better prepared to operate, maintain and secure the Air Force Information Network. "The 690th COS can provide a more proactive mission of identifying and closing vulnerabilities, as well as interpreting cyber intelligence and implementing new network configurations," said Col. Chad Raduege, 690th COS commander.

The new squadron consists of 144 Airmen who conduct 24-hour operations seven days a week. Their mission is to provide agile cyber combat support worldwide and enable warfighters the ability to leverage advanced weaponry against those who seek to harm the United States and global allies. "What is improving with the 690th COS activation is an effort to develop better network situational awareness [and] to become less reactive and more proactive," Raduege said.

The Air Force is making some big changes to its internal mission and personnel structures in order to better protect assets and interests from cyber threats, according to top Air Force officials. The service is in the process of creating cyber squadrons that will be part of operational groups at various wings across the Air Force – many have not yet been specified, as it's being done essentially on a pilot-program basis.

Air Force leaders also want to empower a cybersecurity role that would oversee the integration of information security into the service's networks and systems. "We're in process of strengthening the senior information systems security official in the Air Force and making that something of an entity that can actually drive change and prioritize fixes for major weapons systems platforms," Peter Kim, deputy director of Air Force cyber operations, said Dec. 2 at AFCEA's Air Force IT Day in Vienna, Virginia. "We're looking at an internal Air Force structure that

starts at the base. So at [the annual Corona Top meeting of Air Force chiefs], the four-stars [made] the decision that we would establish cyber squadrons. The cyber squadrons will be in the operations group. The cyber squadrons in the operations group would be responsible for the mission assurance for that wing." 2015