

960 CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

960 Cyberspace Operations Group established, 31 Jan 2013
Activated, 1 Mar 2013

STATIONS

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX, 1 Mar 2013

ASSIGNMENTS

Tenth Air Force, 1 Mar 2013

COMMANDERS

Col Xavian L. Draper

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



Azure, in base a grid Or, overall a centurion helmet Bronze, detailed and plumed of the second and Sable, flanked by two lightning bolts of the second, fimbriated Gold Brown, all within a diminished bordure of the second. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "960TH CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS GROUP" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The centurion helmet represents the cyber warrior who protects and defends America's cyberspace domain. The lightning bolts symbolize the transmission and reception of signals that link us to our heritage with communications. The grid represents many different networks that are the fields of battle within the cyberspace domain. (Approved, 11 Mar 2014)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

3/2/2013 Air Force Reserve Command activated the first cyberspace operations group in the Air Force March 1. Col. Lloyd Terry Jr., the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group commander, is charged with providing combat-ready forces with specialized expertise in the operation and defense of Air Force and Defense Department global information grids. The 960th CYOG has administrative control of 10 Reserve cyber organizations throughout the country. There are four combat communications squadrons -- the 23rd CBCS, Travis Air Force Base, Calif., 35th CBCS, Tinker AFB, Okla., 42nd CBCS, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., and 55th CBCS, Robins AFB, Ga. - that provide theater-deployable communications during wartime and contingency operations or humanitarian missions in austere locations.

The command's two classic associate network operations squadrons - the 860th NOS, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va., and 960th NOS, Peterson AFB, Colo., - work with their active-duty counterparts to operate sustain and defend assigned Air Force networks. Two classic associate network warfare flights - the 860th NWF, JB Lackland-San Antonio and 960th NWF at Offutt AFB, Neb., - monitor Air Force communications-computer systems to determine if any information is being revealed that may be of intelligence value to an adversary. Finally, there are two 960th CYOG detachments that operate as classic associate units with the 624th Operations Center and the 33rd Network Warfare Squadron at JB San Antonio-Lackland, that are on track to become squadrons later this year. Det. 1, associated with the 624th OC, establishes, plans, directs, coordinates, assesses and provides full-spectrum cyber command & control operations and capabilities in support of Air Force and Joint requirements. Det. 2, associated with the 33rd NWS, produces effects for the Air Force and combatant commands in, through and from cyberspace by employing synchronized network defense operations to detect, respond to and prevent network intrusions.

There are currently about 800 people working in cyber throughout AFRC, and that number is sure to grow. "We are definitely hiring, both TRs (traditional reservists) and ARTs (air reserve technicians)," Terry said. "That's one of our primary challenges right now - to fill all of the openings we have. And, we're not just looking to bring in prior-service people. We know there are kids in high school today who have a lot of the basic skills we are looking for." A lot of the Reserve cyber positions that are currently open are based at Lackland, but Terry said opportunities exist at locations throughout the country. "Besides, you don't have to live near Lackland to serve at Lackland," Terry said. "You just have to be willing to commute. "The cyber mission is constantly changing and evolving," he said. "That's one reason I think it is such a great career field to be involved with and a great mission for the Air Force Reserve."

Air Force Reserve Command redesignated the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group Det. 2 as the 426th Network Warfare Squadron. The squadron, which now falls under the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group at JBSA-Lackland, Texas, includes more than 60 Reservists tasked with protecting USAF's network infrastructure from cyber attack, according to a March 20 release. "We're growing in leaps [and] bounds from where we were last year. [We went] from two detachments to a squadron," said Col. Lloyd Terry, 960th CYOG commander. "We started out small and now just a year later, we have grown the unit to close to 60 and we're continuing to expand that growth." The ceremony took place March 8 at JBSA-Lackland. 2014

Air Force Reserve Command inactivated the 960th Cyberspace Operations Group, Det. 1 and redesignated it the 854th Combat Operations Squadron during a recent ceremony at JBSA-Lackland, Texas. The squadron, now the only cyberspace operations center, has been tasked with integrating citizen airmen into the Active Duty's 624th Operations Center cyberspace command and control mission. The 'Scorpions' join an elite group of nearly 800 Reservists working in cyberspace operations, states the April 5 release. "The unique part of our unit is that we've been fully integrated with the Active Duty mission since day one," said Lt. Col. Samuel McGlynn, 854th COS director of operations. 2014

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 14 Aug 2012
Updated: 9 Feb 2023

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.