

## SIXTEENTH AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES CYBER)



### MISSION

Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) provides global intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyber, electronic warfare and information operations, and serves as the Service Cryptologic Component responsible to the National Security Agency/Central Security Service and the Service Cyber Component to US Cyber Command.

### LINEAGE<sup>1</sup>

Joint United States Military Group, Air Administration (Spain) established and activated, 20 May 1954  
Redesignated Sixteenth Air Force, 15 Jul 1956  
Inactivated on 29 Aug 2014  
Redesignated Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber), 30 Sep 2019  
Activated, 11 Oct 2019

### STATIONS

Madrid, Spain,  
Torrejon AB, Spain, 1 Feb 1958  
Aviano AB, Italy, 10 Aug 1992  
Ramstein AB, Germany, 30 Sep 2005  
Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, 11 Oct 2019

### ASSIGNMENTS

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<sup>1</sup> Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Strategic Air Command, 1 Jul 1957  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 15 Apr 1966  
Air Combat Command, 11 Oct 2019

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Gen August W. Kissner, 20 May 1954  
Maj Gen Henry K. Mooney, 1 Jul 1957  
Maj Gen John D. Ryan, 9 Jul 1960  
Maj Gen Horace M. Wade, 26 Jun 1961  
Maj Gen David Wade, 5 Jul 1961  
Maj Gen James B. Knapp, 16 Jul 1963  
Maj Gen Delmar E. Wilson, 13 Oct 1964  
Maj Gen Stanley J. Donovan, 30 May 1966  
Maj Gen Eugene B. Lebailly, 1 Aug 1967  
Maj Gen Edward A. Mcgough lii, 15 Jul 1970  
Maj Gen Sanford K. Moats, 17 Oct 1972  
Lt Gen Richard H. Ellis, 14 May 1973  
Lt Gen Joseph G. Wilson, 29 Oct 1973  
Lt Gen Devol Brett, 22 Jul 1977  
Lt Gen Walter D. Druen, Jr., 25 Jul 1980  
Maj Gen Robert W. Clement, 1 Jul 1981  
Maj Gen William A. Gorton, 29 Jun 1984  
Maj Gen Thomas A. Baker, 25 Sep 1985  
Maj Gen Winfield S. Harpe, 6 Jul 1987  
Maj Gen William J. Grove, Jr., 6 Dec 1988  
Maj Gen Gerald A. Daniel, 10 Jan 1989  
Maj Gen Ralph Rohatsch, Jr., 3 Oct 1992  
Lt Gen Joseph W. Ashy, 31 Jan 1994  
Lt Gen Michael E. Ryan, 8 Sep 1994  
Lt Gen Richard C. Bethurem, 11 Apr 1996  
Lt Gen Michael C. Short, 6 May 1998  
Lt Gen Ronald E. Keys, 2 Jul 2000  
Lt Gen Glen W. Morehead, lii, 13 Nov 2002  
Maj Gen Paul J. Fletcher, 14 Jun 2006  
Unmanned, 1 Dec 2006-29 Aug 2014  
Lt Gen Timothy D. Haugh, 11 Oct 2019

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

None

### **Campaign Streamers**

Kosovo

Kosovo Air Campaign, 1999

## Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

## Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Aug 1990-31 Jul 1991

1 Jul 1993-30 Jun 1995

1 Jul 1995-30 Apr 1998

1 May 1998-30 Sep 1999

24 Mar-10 Jun 1999

19 Mar-16 April 2003

1 Jan-30 Nov 2006

## EMBLEM



Approved, 4 Apr 1958; modified, 3 Sep 2003

## MOTTO

### OPERATIONS<sup>2</sup>

Oversaw and managed the construction of bases in Spain, 1954-1957, for US strategic bombers and aerial tankers. Had responsibility for the air defense of Spain, 1957-1960.

On 1 July, SAC assumed jurisdiction over the Sixteenth Air Force in Spain. Since its activation on 15 July 1956 at Torrejon Air Base, near Madrid, Headquarters Sixteenth Air Force had operated as a special organization under the direct control of Headquarters USAF. Its primary responsibility had been to monitor the construction of Spanish bases to be used by

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<sup>2</sup> Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

SAC bombers. In addition to Torrejon, the Sixteenth controlled three other bases in Spain. Concurrent with its assignment to SAC, the Sixteenth assumed command jurisdiction over the Fifth Air Division and its bases in Morocco.

Supported and conducted Strategic Air Command operations from bases in Spain and Morocco until 1965. With assignment to US Air Forces in Europe in 1966, gained responsibility for US Air Force bases in the Mediterranean region and controlled permanent and rotational forces in support of NATO's Southern Region.

1966 Sixteenth Air Force Transferred to USAFE - With B-47 Reflex operations having ceased there in late March 1965, the Spanish base complex became less important to SAC operations. On 15 April, Headquarters Sixteenth Air Force and Moron, Torrejon, and Zaragoza Air Bases were transferred from SAC to USAFE.

After moving to Aviano AB in 1992, Italy, served as the operational command for air expeditionary units established to conduct US Air Force operations in the Balkans, 1994-95 (Operations DENY FLIGHT and DELIBERATE FORCE) and 1999 (Operation ALLIED FORCE), and in Turkey, 1997-2003 (Operation NORTHERN WATCH). With its move to Germany in 2005, designated as the warfighting headquarters for the US Air Forces in Europe to execute aerospace operations through expeditionary force command and control in support of the US European Command and NATO.

In March 2019, Air Force leaders decided to create a new information warfare numbered air force with enhanced missions and capabilities. Sixteenth Air Force activated at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Oct. 11, integrating Twenty-Fourth Air Force, to include Air Forces Cyber, and Twenty-Fifth Air Force into a single headquarters that will provide global intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, cyber, electronic warfare and information operations.

The new information warfare NAF remains aligned under Air Combat Command and draws from decades of innovation and operational experience through the ISR, cyber and electronic warfare enterprises. Both the Air Force chief of staff and ACC commander spoke during the ceremony. "This is an important and historic day for our Air Force and it's an honor to share this event - the stand-up of the 16th Air Force as an information warfare-focused numbered air force - with all of you today," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. "Today's ceremony isn't just about pulling organizations together, it is creating opportunity for new operational art to compete against transregional, all-domain and multifunctional challenges and conduct operations in the information environment."

Goldfein recently spoke at the 2019 Air Force Association Air, Space and Cyber Conference about the need for an Air Force that seamlessly combines weapons, sensors, data and people from air, space, sea, cyber and information. Today, he expounded on those needs. "The time has come to strengthen our Air Force's information warfare capabilities. And the work of this community will provide the tools our nation's leaders need to succeed in the 21st century. Perhaps our adversaries will watch how we are operating and take pause — and if we are successful at causing our enemies to pause and question whether they can achieve their political objectives, perhaps that is what deterrence looks like in the age of hybrid warfare,"

Goldfein said.

Gen. Mike Holmes, ACC commander, reiterated that the activation of Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) was essential to synchronizing the mission areas of ISR, electronic warfare, cyber, and information operations capabilities across the conflict continuum, ensuring the joint force's ability to compete, deter, fight and win wars across all domains.