

2157 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

2157 Communications Squadron is a Type I communications squadron situated on an Air Force Reserve base. Serving Air Force, Navy, Marine, and Army active duty, Reserve and National Guard components, the 2157th daily participates in the total force concept of the Department of Defense. The gigantic Lockheed-Georgia Company also uses our services. Located 16 miles north of Atlanta, the area is the central hub of communications, transportation, and commerce for the Southeastern United States. These are the characteristics that mold the requirements of the 2157 Communications Squadron.

The mission of the 2157th Communications Squadron is to provide voice communications, record communications, and air traffic control services to Dobbins Air Force Base and collocated Naval Air Station Atlanta. The Commander, 2157 Communications Squadron, serves as the communications staff officer to the Commander, 94 Combat Support Group. Dobbins' status as an Air Force Reserve base means that the 2157 Communications Squadron is a geographically separated unit (GSU). There are five main branches to the Communications Squadron: Communications-Electronics Operations, Air Traffic Control Operations, Communications-Electronics Maintenance, Communications-Electronics Programs, and Unit Administration.

The Communications-Electronics Operations Branch is the focal point for ground communications in and around Dobbins AFB. The base switchboard provides tele- phone communications on-base and connects with the off-base exchange, as well as providing AUTOVON capability and trunk lines with the Lockheed-Georgia exchange. The Telecommunications Center (TCC) is equipped with the AB-215 DSTE system and provides low speed paper tape, card, and page print capability. The AUTODIN terminal is secured by KG-13 on-line CRYPTO equipment.

The Air Traffic Control Operations Branch provides Dobbins AFB with air traffic control service in conjunction with Atlanta Approach Control and Atlanta Center. Dobbins AFB is located in the second busiest terminal control area in the world. Its close proximity to several other satellite airports and Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport gives it a traffic density almost unequaled in the world. Dobbins' location places a set of special requirements on controllers to be flexible in supporting the frequent arrivals of distinguished visitors, foreign dignitaries, and governmental support aircraft.

ATC Operations runs both a VFR control tower (equipped with a GSA-135 console and BRITE radar) and a ground controlled approach radar unit (GPN-24 equipped with TPX-42 and FPN-62). ATC services are provided to an extreme mixture of aircraft, including the F-105s and C-7s flown by the Air Force, the A-7s and A-4s flown by the Navy, OV-10s and AH-1s flown by the Marines, and OV-1s, UH-1s and U-8s flown by the Army. The Lockheed Company frequently flies C-5s, C-141s, C-130s, and Jetstars in and out of Dobbins.

The Maintenance Branch of the 2157 Communications Squadron keeps the equipment of the other branches "on the air" as well as maintaining equipment for other units on station. The main sections of the Maintenance Branch are Radio Maintenance, Radar Maintenance, DSTE-Teletype Maintenance, Weather Maintenance, and NAVAIDS Maintenance,

The Communications-Electronics Programs Branch manages all programming and planning activities for the communications facilities at Dobbins. Also handled in this branch are manning actions, plans management, and the annual budget in excess of \$800,000.

Unit Administration ties the other branches together with administrative support and management. The parent CBPO is located 150 miles away at Robins AFB GA. The 2157 is one of three AFCC squadrons authorized personnel technicians and the GSU, which falls under the Administration Branch services over 200 active duty personnel on Dobbins and in the surrounding communities.

LINEAGE

2157 Communications Squadron

STATIONS

Dobbins AFB, GA, 1 Apr 1972

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Cpt Douglas A. Miese

Cpt Robin L. Turner

Cpt William Welch, 1982

Cpt Robert Bennet 1984

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

The organizational emblem for the 2157 Communications Squadron has received formal approval from Air Force Military Personnel Center. The emblem was specifically designed to depict the role the 2157th plays, not only as members of the Air Force Communications Command (AFCC), but as an organization supporting the total force policy. The central feature of the emblem is a communications facility with transmission beams/electronic flashes emitting outward through 360 degrees. The communications facility is symbolic of all communications- electronic equipment used for transmission of command and control communications. The "Total Force" motto covers the multitude of recipients of our services. These recipients are: Air Force Communications Command (AFCC), United States Air Force (USAF), Air Force Reserve (AFRES), United States Navy (USN), Military Airlift Command (MAC), United States Marine Corps (USMC), United States Army (USA), Air National Guard (ANG), and the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). The transmission beams/electronic flashes are the means by which the squadron accomplishes its air traffic control and communications operations missions. The maintenance responsibilities and programs functions are symbolized by the fact that the communications facility is operational. Operating 24 hours a day, the communications squadron continually provides its services and sheds the light of command and control communications throughout the Dobbins AFB and Naval Air Station/Atlanta communities. (Approved, 1983)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 27 Aug 2011
Updated: 21 Jul 2021

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Major Command history. *A Salute to Air Force Communications Command Leaders and Lineage*. Office of Air Force Communications Command History. Scott AFB, IL. 1 Oct 1990.