

2189 COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

2189 Communications Squadron designated and activated, 1 Oct 1982
Redesignated 2189 Information Systems Squadron, 1 Oct 1984
Redesignated 2189 Communications Squadron, 1 Nov 1986
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1990

STATIONS

Comiso AS, Italy

ASSIGNMENTS

2187 Communications Group (later, 2187 Information Systems Group)

COMMANDERS

Maj Terry J. Elton, 4 May 1983
Capt John S. Ellis, 18 May 1984
Capt John R. Button, 8 May 1985
Capt George F. Bettis II, 18 Nov 1985
Maj Martha E. Mauer, 15 May 1986
Maj Paul M. Besson, 10 Aug 1987
Capt Dennis Jauch, 14 Jul 1989
Lt Col James L. Hartzell

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Blue and 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 lightning bolt, symbolic of communications, signifies the mission of the 2189th Communications Squadron of providing telecommunications and data automation support at Comiso Air Station, Sicily. The globe represents the unit's role in providing an essential link in the Air Force's worldwide communications network. The telecommunications dish pointing to the NATO star reflects the unit's support of NATO. The griffin, mascot of the 487th Tactical Missile Wing, reflects the squadron's relationship to the wing. The flaming sword, symbolic of United States Air Forces in Europe, signifies the squadron's contribution to the USAFE mission. The three stars represent the merging of the data automation, telecommunications, and Autodin Switching Center career fields to form the new 491 career field.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The Air Force's 2189th Communications Sq, based at Camp Darby, Livorno, Italy operates 20 radio relay sites between Sardinia, in the west, Sicily, to the south, and the Austria border in the north. These sites are part of a much larger network of radio relay stations that stretches from the north of England southward across France and Germany to Italy and then down the length of the Italian boot and east to Greece and Turkey.

Det 20 is located on a 7,000-foot mountain 80 miles north of Livorno. The site is co-located with an Italian Air Force radio station.

The Det staff consists of a site chief (SSgt) and four airmen - radio maintenance specialists.

Each site is equipped with transmitter-receivers, power units and spare component parts for on-site repairs. Some of the sites maintain 12 voice channels, others 24.

The sites are basically set up in a similar fashion for self-sustaining operations: site buildings are equipped with stove, refrigerator, television, record player, radio, living room furniture, sporting equipment, games, and a small library.

USAF Unit Histories
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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.