

4363 POST ATTACK COMMAND AND CONTROL SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

4363 Post Attack Command and Control Squadron

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

On 20 July 1962, SAC organized four support squadrons at other strategic locations: the 4362d Post Attack Command and Control Squadron (PACCS) at Lincoln AFB, Nebraska; the 4363d PACCS at Lockbourne AFB, Ohio; the 4364th PACCS at Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; and the 4365th PACCS at Plattsburgh AFB, New York. These units, equipped with EB-47 radio relay aircraft, were activated in 1963.

In March 1963, the 34th AREFS received eight newly-configured KC-135As to support a growing command, control and communications (C3) mission at Offutt. In August of the following year, these were replaced with KC-135B aircraft that had turbofan engines, advanced electronics equipment and both tanker and receiver capabilities for air-to-air refueling operations. These new aircraft were soon redesignated as EC-135Cs. Offutt was not the only base to receive the new EC-135Cs. They were simultaneously delivered to other bases as well, expanding the airborne C3 network considerably.

The SAC Airborne Command Post (ABNCP), called "LOOKING GLASS", was supported by the addition of auxiliary command post aircraft stationed at the bases supporting the three Numbered Air Force (NAF) headquarters: the Central Auxiliary Command Post (AUX) at Barksdale AFB, Louisiana (913th AREFS)); the East AUX at Westover AFB, Massachusetts (99th AREFS); and the West AUX at March AFB; California (22d AREFS). This network of airborne command posts was soon designated the Post Attack Command and Control System (PACCS). This new definition of "PACCS" was not a problem because the introduction of the EC-135C aircraft resulted in the inactivation of the 4362d and 4365th Post Attack Command and Control Squadrons that same year (1964) and the inactivation of the 4363d and 4364th PACCS on 25 March 1965. Inactivation of these four units made the PACCS fleet "135 pure". The missions of the EB-47 units were soon assumed by aircraft assigned to air refueling squadrons at Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota (28th AREFS) and Minot AFB, North Dakota (906th AREFS). Thus, by 1966, PACCS consisted of the ABNCP (LOOKING GLASS), EAUX (Achieve), WAUX (Stepmother), CAUX (Greyson) and RELAY aircraft to include A, C, G and L models of the EC-135.

PACCS Force Converted to All KC-135 - On 25 March, SAC's Post Attack Command and Control System (PACCS) force was reorganized. The 4363d and the 4364th Post Attack Command Control Squadrons, located at Lockbourne Air Force Base, Ohio, and Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, respectively, were discontinued. Their radio-relay missions were absorbed by EC-135As that were assigned to air refueling squadrons at Lookbourne and Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota. Thereafter, the PACCS force became an all KC-135 system with EC-135s performing the "Looking Glass and auxiliary airborne command posts' missions.1965

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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.