

## 6 AIRBORNE COMMAND AND CONTROL SQUADRON



### **MISSION**

The 6 Airborne Command and Control Squadron provided aircrews to fly aircraft and to operate airborne command and control communications equipment in support of Atlantic Command.

### **LINEAGE**

6 Photographic Squadron constituted, 19 Jan 1942

Activated, 28 Jan 1942

Redesignated 6 Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, 9 Jun 1942

Redesignated 6 Photographic Squadron (Photographic Compilation), 28 Nov 1942

Disbanded, 1 Jan 1945

6 Liaison Squadron constituted, Nov 1945

Activated, 10 Dec 1945

Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946

Redesignated 6 Liaison Flight, 7 Oct 1949

Activated, 27 Oct 1949

Inactivated, 8 Sep 1952

Redesignated 6 Liaison Squadron, 8 Sep 1952

Activated, 18 Sep 1952

Inactivated, 18 Jan 1954

6 Airborne Command and Control Squadron constituted, 27 Oct 1972

Activated, 31 Oct 1972

6 Photographic Squadron (Photographic Compilation) reconstituted, and consolidated with 6 Liaison Squadron and 6 Airborne Command and Control Squadron, 19 Sep 1985.

Consolidated squadron retained 6 Airborne Command and Control Squadron designation.

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1992

### **STATIONS**

Geiger Field, WA, 28 Jan 1942  
Felts Field, WA, 2 Feb 1942  
Colorado Springs, CO, 16 May 1942  
Jefferson Barracks, MO, 14 Dec 1944-1 Jan 1954  
Frankfurt am Main, Germany, 10 Dec 1945-15 Feb 1946  
Bolling Field, D.C., 15 Feb-31 Mar 1946  
Albrook AFB, Canal Zone, Panama, 27 Oct 1949-8 Sep 1952  
Alexandria AFB, LA, 18 Sep 1952-18 Jan 1954  
Langley AFB, VA, 31 Oct 1972-1 Oct 1992

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

Second Air Force, 28 Jan 1942  
II Air Support Command, 29 Mar 1942  
2 Photographic Group, 7 May 1942  
Army Air Forces, 28 Nov 1942  
Third Air Force, 8 Mar 1943  
1 Photographic Charting Group, 13 Nov 1943  
311 Photographic Wing (Mapping and Charting), 5 Oct 1944-1 Jan 1945  
64 Fighter Wing, 10 Dec 1945  
Continental Air Forces (Later Strategic Air Command), 15 Feb 1946-31 Mar 1946  
5700 Air Base Group, 27 Oct 1949-8 Sep 1952  
Tactical Air Command, 18 Sep 1952-18 Jan 1954  
4500 Air Base Wing, 31 Oct 1972  
1 Tactical Fighter Wing, 19 Apr 1976  
1 Operations Group, 10 Oct 1992-1 Oct 1992

### **ATTACHMENTS**

132 Fighter Bomber Wing, 18 Sep-31 Dec 1952  
366 Fighter Bomber Wing, 1 Jan 1953-18 Jan 1954

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-38, 1942  
F-4A  
L-5, 1945  
L-5, 1949  
L-13, 1950  
L-20, 1952  
EC-135, 1973

## COMMANDERS

## HONORS

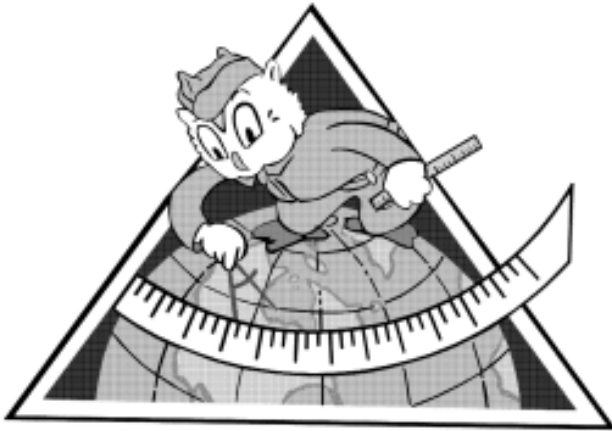
Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

## EMBLEM



6 Photographic Squadron (Photographic Compilation) emblem: On an ultramarine blue triangle, wide border white, edged black, a segment of a relief map sphere green, yellow, and tan, supporting a caricatured white owl in tan flight suit, taking measurements on surface of sphere with red dividers held in right hand, and holding in the left hand a yellow foot rule; a white spherical scale etched with black division lines issuing from dexter side of triangle and passing over segment of sphere. (Approved, 10 Sep 1943)



## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

6 Photographic Squadron (Photographic Compilation) mission, was compiling aerial photographs into aeronautical charts.

Compilation of aeronautical charts, Dec 1942-1945.

6 Liaison Squadron; one of its early missions was to transport senior medical officers to Heidelberg, Germany to attend to seriously injured LTG George Patton. Squadron used enlisted pilots. Squadron flew missions to monitor flooded areas of Kassel and Marsburg, Germany.

In Louisiana, squadron provided courier services, light transport of cargo and passengers, search and rescue, aerial spraying, and disaster relief.

Langley AFB gained an airborne command and control unit with the activation of the 6 Airborne Command and Control Squadron on 3 October 1972. The squadron became operational in January 1973. The "Scope Light" squadron's EC-135 aircraft provided airborne mobile command post facilities for the Commander in Chief, Atlantic Command, headquartered at Norfolk, Virginia. The EC-135s also provided communications between Atlantic Command and the National Command Authorities during contingencies. Furthermore, the EC-135s could provide emergency air refueling to fighter aircraft or to other EC-135s.

Squadron received first EC-135P in Dec 1972. Squadron became operational with single aircraft on 1 Jan 1973. Furnished airborne command post for the Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic. By late 1976 squadron could provide emergency air refueling for F-15s of the 1 TFW as a secondary mission. Squadron frequently deployed aircraft and crews to Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, Iceland, England, North Africa, the Azores, Puerto Rico, Panama, and the Pacific in support of Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic "Scope Light" airborne command post.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 5 Sep 2010

Updated: 12 Dec 2023

Sources

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