

50 INTELLIGENCE SQUADRON



MISSION

The 50 Intelligence Squadron is a classic associate unit that provides combat mission-ready ISR Officers and Imagery Intelligence, Signals Intelligence and All-Source Fusion Analysts in support of Distributed Common Ground System Weapon System operations and Combatant Commanders. The 50th IS also provides fully-qualified system support personnel to sustain and maintain the robust communications and computer network required to fully integrate into the DCGS world-wide enterprise.

The 50 Intelligence Squadron mission to receive, process and analyze raw data derived from various airborne reconnaissance platforms such as the U-2, Global Hawk, Reaper, Predator and MC-12, then disseminate finished intelligence products to supported units. Additionally, all-source analysts fuse intelligence derived from its organic ISR platforms with intelligence derived from sources throughout the Intelligence Community, leading to higher confidence reporting.

The squadron utilizes the DCGS (AN/GSQ-272) Sentinel weapon system.

The squadron is authorized 88 personnel, including 61 Traditional Reservists and 27 Full-Time Reservists.

LINEAGE

7450 Tactical Intelligence Squadron activated, 1 Nov 1974

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1994

Redesignated 50 Intelligence Squadron, 21 Sep 2007

Activated, 1 Oct 2007

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

86 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Nov 1974
United States Air Forces in Europe, 1 Dec 1979
7455 Tactical Intelligence Wing, 1 Sep 1985-1 Jul 1994
610 Regional Support Group. 1 Oct 2007

COMMANDERS

LTC Leslie A. Beavers, Mar 2012
Lt Col Sara A. Reed

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jan 1977-31 Dec 1978
1 Jul 1990-30 Jun 1992

EMBLEM



7450 Tactical Intelligence Squadron emblem: On a blue disc edged with a narrow red border, a black and white chessboard supporting in the top center a gray queen detailed black from which issues two yellow lightning bolts chevronwise, in dexter base a gray knight detailed black and in sinister base a black pawn highlighted white. (Approved, 7 Sep 1982)

50 Intelligence Squadron emblem: Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 two lightning bolts symbolize the dual competencies of Intelligence and Cyber required for operations in the "Information Dominance" mission of the unit. The chess knight symbolizes the ability to hunt the adversary and strike unexpectedly while obstructed. The knight operates in tandem with the queen, the most powerful piece in play, to outwit and defeat the adversary with Flexibility, a key tenet of the Air Force. These pieces are on a black and white chess board, signifying the day and night operations of the Intelligence and Cyber missions. The central positioning of the queen between the lightning bolts evokes the imagery of a communications tower. The red border conveys the goal to help the warfighter act boldly through information and communication empowerment.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

As a part of the buildup for consolidated communications in the Central Region, USAFE activated the 7450th at Ramstein Air Base on 1 November. 1974

The 50th Intelligence Squadron was initially activated as the 7450th Intelligence Squadron at Ramstein AB, Germany 01 November 1974 under the 86th Tactical Fighter Wing. In December 1979 they were realigned underneath United States Air Forces in Europe. On 01 September 1985 they were realigned under the 7455th Tactical Intelligence Wing where they remained until being inactivated 01 July 1994 at Ramstein AB, Germany. They were redesignated as the 50 IS on 21 September 2007 and then reactivated 01 October 2007 at Beale AFB, California and aligned first to the 610th Regional Support Group until 01 July 2009 when they were realigned under the 940th Operations Group. They were realigned to the 655 ISRG on 15 September 2013. The 50 IS maintained classic association partnerships with the 9th Intelligence Squadron and the 48th Intelligence Squadron which were both elements of the 480 ISRW at Joint Base Langley-Eustis. The 50 IS had two commanders this reporting period. Lt Col Steven S. Zasueta assumed command 12 September 2015. He was followed by Lt Col Jason D. Markiewitz who served as the interim commander from 04 January 2019 until 15 May 2019 when Lt Col Sara A. Reed assumed command.

The 50 IS did not have an officially approved emblem but had applied to return to an historic emblem originally approved for the 7450 Tactical Intelligence Squadron 07 September 1982. It featured a chessboard with a gray queen, gray knight, and a black knight. From the queen chess piece, two lightning bolts spread out over the chessboard. The two lightning bolts symbolized the dual competencies of Intelligence and Cyber required for the Distributed Common Ground

System (DCGS) mission of the unit. The knights symbolized the ability to hunt the adversary and strike unexpectedly while obstructed. The knight operated in tandem with the queen, the most powerful piece in play, to outwit and defeat the adversary with flexibility, a key tenet of the Air Force. The black and white chess board signified the day and night operations of the Intelligence and Cyber missions.

The 50 IS remained under the command of Lt Col Sara A. Reed who assumed command in May 2019. The mission of the 50 IS was to "Provide expert, integrated mission ready forces to enable continuous information dominance." Motivated by the squadron vision, which in part was to "provide highly skilled, innovative and professional Airmen" the 50 IS continually devoted time to customer-focused support of their Classic Association Unit's mission and increased training for assigned Airmen. The squadron began innovating with virtual Unit Training Assembly (UTA) options in April 2020 and continued to hone the process throughout the year. By the third iteration, COVID-19 mitigations had relaxed enough to allow limited in- person training for training and currency requirements as well as Individual Medical Readiness (IMR) requirements.

A member of the 50 IS was selected by an active duty partner to lead the first two teams comprised of military and civilian personnel from four different Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) to assist the classic association unit (CAU) as they transitioned Distributed Ground System-2 (DGS-2) to Distributed Ground System Next (DGS NEXT). He later leveraged this multi- team expertise to craft products that identified new Pentagon partners which earned the praise of both the group command and the two-star commander of the Numbered Air Force (NAF).

Another squadron member was selected by the CAU to brief several key leaders such including 25th Air Force Operations Directorate Chief (A3), Ninth Air Force vice commander, and the 9th Reconnaissance Wing Medical Group mental health team on the DGS-2 medium altitude mission. In the third quarter, a squadron member worked operations in three different countries simultaneously and ultimately was credited for reporting intelligence to troops in contact (TIC) that resulted in those troops avoiding a detonation.

(U) In keeping with their mission to provide customer-based, individually-tailored support to their CAU, the 50 IS supported the 480ISRW by providing highly qualified and skilled Airmen in direct support of the CAU mission and requirements and share that expertise freely, two 50 IS squadron members created a training for new members to indoctrinate them into operations in the Area of Responsibility (AOR). It focused on history, leadership structure and impact of regional current events on the mission at DGS-2. Another squadron member led a team effort to create cyber AFSC training and then exported it across several squadrons. They expect to eventually present the plan to Information Dominance Directorate (A6) Functional Area Manager (FAM). Another squadron member created a Multi-Source Analysts (MSA) Starter kit for Geospatial Intelligence Specialists (1N1X1) and squadron members devoted six hours to training eight INI's informally on MSA responsibilities. Two other noncommissioned officers worked 16 hours of operations in the direct assistance of a critical tasker for their CAU the 48 IS. Another Master Sgt and Tech Sgt were on the time Compliant Technical Order (TCTO) team. Another 50 IS noncommissioned officer was certified as a Watch Officer, a role that had him

train seven Airmen across four squadrons for a total of 224 hours of training. This training increased positional staffing by 450 percent. Another 50 IS NCO was made an Initial Qualification Training (IQT) trainer for new analysts heading to the 7 Space Warning Squadron (SWS) which is a direct reflection on his technical competency and capability to integrate into the CAU mission.

Another squadron member, while on orders supporting their active duty partner the 48 IS, was selected as lead training for the Sentinel Weapon System and trained more than 15 active duty Airmen in support of nearly 16,000 hours of server maintenance across the entire Distributed Common Ground Systems (DCGS) enterprise. In this capacity, he expertly oversaw more than 1,000 thousand multi-domain operator accounts ensuring more than 900 hours of MQ-9 processing, exploitation, and distribution (PED) and provisioned 30 Full motion Video (FMV) feeds across three network enclaves.

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