

7122 SUPPORT SQUADRON

LINEAGE

STATIONS

7122 Support Squadron

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The Air Force organized the first Radio and Television squadron in the Armed Forces at HQ USAFE, Wiesbaden, Germany. The 7122nd Support Squadron (AFRS-TV) initially supervised five radio stations and the TV stations at Wheelus Field and Dhahran. It planned to expand the television operation to eleven bases.

While the squadron had supervisory control over the stations, a true network never evolved. Each outlet operated independently. The squadron's stations in Germany at Ramstein, Spangdahlem, Bitburg, and at Landstuhl did not compete with Armed Forces Network. Because

Armed Forces Network made no effort to add television to its operation until the mid 1970s. The squadron's primary job was supplying each outlet with kinescopes of the top entertainment shows. The commercial networks supplied programming to the Air Force free of charge. Resources limitations at each station allowed only news, weather, sports, personality interviews and the chaplains half hour on Sundays to be locally produced.

From the beginning the Air Force in Europe faced a problem in selecting and training personnel to the television stations. The Air Force had no job description for television personnel. SO, the squadron recruited radar and radio specialists to man its operations. On occasion, they find personnel who had civilian television experience from bases throughout USAFE. The 7122nd established a training program at Wheelus where technicians became certified as qualified in television maintenance or production.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 16 Sep 2022
Updated:

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