

HEADQUARTERS AIR TRAINING COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

MISSION

LINEAGE

1 AACS Wing established, 14 May 1948

Organized, 1 Jun 1948

Redesignated 1800 AACS Wing, 1 Oct 1948

Redesignated Continental AACS Area, 1 Nov 1957

Redesignated AACS Continental Systems Region, 1 Jun 1961

Redesignated Continental Systems Region, 1 Jul 1961

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jul 1963

Central Communications Region established and activated, 17 Dec 1962

Organized, 1 July 1963;

Inactivated, 1 May 1970)

Activated, 1 May 1970

Continental Systems Region and Central Communications Region consolidated, 10 Feb 1981

Inactivated, 1 Jan 1986

Redesignated HQ Air Training Communications Division, 1 Nov 1986

STATIONS

Langley AFB, Virginia

Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, 10 March 1949

Griffiss AFB, New York, 1 May 1970

Randolph AFB, Texas

ASSIGNMENTS

Airways and Air Communications Service (later, Air Force Communications Service), 17 Dec 1962

Air Force Communications Service, 1 May 1970

COMMANDERS

Col Anthony G. Hunter, 1 Jun 1948
Col Bruce H. Perry, 8 Jun 1951
Brig Gen Thomas L. Bryan, Jr., 19 Aug 1951
Col Samuel A. Mundell, 10 May 1955
Col J. Francis Taylor, Jr., 15 Aug 1956
Col Algene E. Key, 9 Mar 1959
Col Harry A. French, 2 Jul 1959
Col Glenn C. Coleman (Interim), 1 Jun 1961
Col Frank T. West, 23 Jun 1961
Col Harry G. Dalton, 1 Dec 1962
Col William T. Judkins, 29 Apr 1963
Col Albert H. Snider, 1 Jul 1963
Col Harold L. Hughes, 1 Dec 1964
Col John T. Ford, 30 Aug 1968
Col Wallace J. Jarmon, 1 Feb 1970
Col Robert P. Baumann, Jr., 1 May 1970
Col William R. Sullivan, 15 Jun 1970
Col Robert E. Sadler, 9 Jul 1971
Brig Gen Kenneth P. Miles, 18 Aug 1972
Brig Gen Rupert H. Burns, 16 Jul 1974
Brig Gen William R. Yost, 2 Jul 1975
Brig Gen Charles B. Jiggetts, 10 Jul 1976
Brig Gen Richard W. Pryor, 7 Jun 1979
Col Robert O. Petty, 1 Jun 1981
Col Glenn G. Giddings, Jr., 1 Jul 1982
Col Edward R. Carwise, 19 Mar 1985
Col Theodore E. Vitori (Interim), 1 Dec 1985
Col Kenneth R. Reiff, 1 Jan 1986
Col Jan P. Huggins, 19 Jun 1987
Col Robert M. Chaplin, 24 Aug 1990

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

With a major reorganization of the Air Force's base unit system in 1948 which replaced Air Force base units with table of distribution major command-controlled units, the 1st (soon redesignated 1800th) AACS Wing came into being to provide communications and navigational aids in the United States through its assigned groups, each of which controlled numerous squadrons and detachments. In January 1949, facility checking was added to the wing mission and in October 1956 flight service was added—although the latter responsibility passed to the Federal Aviation Agency between December 1960 and March 1961.

In November 1957 the wing reorganized as an area and its groups became regions. In June 1961 the area was reorganized and redesignated as AACS Continental Systems Region, later changed to Continental Systems Region on 1 July 1961, when AACS became Air Force Communications Service. The region operated and maintained terminal air traffic control and navigational aids needed for the Air Force's all-weather flying mission and operated United States portions of the USAF Communications complex.

In April 1963, in preparation for its replacement in July by the Central Communications Region, the Continental Systems Region began converting to the operation of more normal communications within a specific geographical area. The Central Communications Region provided communications, telecommunications, and air traffic control services in support of the USAF and other governmental agencies in the central United States. On 1 May 1970, in a major reorganization of communications in the United States, the region was absorbed by the Southern and Northern Communications Areas.

The two new areas were formed as part of an Air Force effort to reduce total overhead costs, with three former AFCS and three former GEEIA regions in the United States being reorganized into the two new areas on a geographical basis. The Northern Communications Area (NCA) absorbed all communications and engineering-installation units in the northern United States and in the North Atlantic geographical areas. Initially, control was exercised through detachments of the NCA headquarters (example: The former Eastern Communications Region became, in effect, Detachment 1 of HQ NCA), but after a few months the new area headquarters at Griffiss AFB exercised full control over all of its components and the detachments discontinued.

Besides engineering and installing communications electronics (CE) equipment and operating and maintaining communications, navigational aids, and an air traffic control function, the area also gained CE engineering responsibility for Alaska in 1974, and for western Europe and the Middle East in 1975.

The Northern Communications Area provided limited service—generally air traffic control functions—at SAC bases. On 1 July 1976 the Strategic Communications Area was established, and 17 of NCA's squadrons were transferred to the new area, or inactivated. This greatly

reduced the scope of NCA responsibility. Base closures and transfers to other agencies further reduced the area's responsibility between 1970 and 1980. But on 1 January 1976 NCA gained control over the 1836th Electronics Engineering Squadron, a unit of the European Communications Area, in order to better fulfill its CE engineering responsibilities in the European area. On 1 July 1980 the squadron became the headquarters unit of a new 1836th Engineering Installation Group, while earlier, on 1 October 1977, AFCS assumed ground maintenance Service for CE equipment of the Air Weather Service, with NCA gaining some responsibility in the shift.

Effective 10 February 1981 the Continental Systems Region, Central Communications Region, and Northern Communications Area consolidated as a single establishment which, on 1 June 1981, was redesignated Continental Communications Division.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 20 Oct 2022
Updated:

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