

AIR FORCE CRYPTOLOGIC SUPPORT CENTER

LINEAGE

STATIONS

Kelly AFB, TX 1 Feb '80-10 Oct '94
San Antonio, TX

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Col Jerry M. Johnson

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Air Force Cryptologic Support Center

The Air Force Cryptologic Support Center, a major organization of the Electronic Security Command, provides support to safeguard the security of space-age communications worldwide. The center's mission includes overall Air Force executive agent responsibilities for communications security, computer security, control of electrical emanations, and operations security, acquisition of management of Air Force Cryptologic assets and maintenance and logistics support to all facets of the ESC mission.

Approximately 800 military and civilian personnel are assigned to AFCSC.

Col.
R.L. Reavis,
Commander

As executive agent for COMSEC, COMPUSEC and TEMPEST, the center provides implementation guidance and technical interpretation

of the Air Force Communications-Computer Systems Security program. AFCSC maintains a multi-disciplined center of expertise to address the technical programs of COMSEC, COMPUSEC and TEMPEST to assist Air Force elements worldwide.

The center assists in reviewing C-CS security programs by providing recommendations relating to C-CS hardware, software and procedural safeguards. It also provides technical assistance to acquisition and development activities. The center provides assistance to Air Force elements in determining risk analysis criteria and performance; performs C-CS security testing; and establishes procedures that lead to certification and accreditation of Air Force communications-computer systems.

The center established and directs contractual efforts and research and development in support of expanding C-CS security technology. It also established special educational material and audiovisual aids in support of C-CS security education awareness training program for all Air Force elements.

As executive agent for OPSEC, the center initiates actions to improve and expand the understanding and application of OPSEC concepts throughout the Air Force by managing, developing and presenting the USAF OPSEC Program Manager Course.

Further, the center develops OPSEC concepts, techniques, procedures and doctrine for USAF application; provides OPSEC survey methodology, technical guidance and assistance regarding surveys and appraisals; develops revisions to USAF OPSEC planning directives; develops

and publishes OPSEC awareness training and educational materials and coordinates with other services and government agencies to adopt and exchange information related to OPSEC to better the Air Force OPSEC program.

AFCSC provides communication and computer system security engineering, programming and management support to headquarters USAF, major commands and separate operating agencies.

AFCSC is the single Air Force organization tasked for the storage, accountability and maintenance of Air Force Cryptologic equipment, supplies and spare parts to USAF, DOD and other users worldwide. In addition, the Air Force COMSEC budget and material requirements program is administered by AFCSC. Also, logistics support is provided to key U.S. government departments.

AFCSC has the unique distinction of being the only military agency authorized to test, modify, maintain and certify communications security equipment used in space vehicles. The center plans, programs, budgets for and manages all space COMSEC material for DOD.

AFCSC has five operating locations outside of San Antonio : Mather AFB, Calif., with the Air Force Communications Command; Hanscom AFB, Mass., supporting the Electronic Systems Division; Los Angeles AFS, Calif., supporting the Space Division; Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, supporting the Aeronautical Systems Division, Foreign Technology Division and Air Force Logistics Command; and Washington D.C., supporting Headquarters USAF OPSEC Planning and Initiatives.

Closely supporting efforts of ESC field units are the Air Force Electronic Warfare Center and the Air Force Cryptologic Support Center.

The AFEWC is a primary source of EW and C3CM analysis. It provides battle commanders with analytical reports on EW systems' effectiveness. AFEWC assists strategic and tactical commanders in making combat decisions and perform analysis to support planning, developing, testing and using EW equipment.

The AFCSC is responsible for the Air Force's communications and computer systems security programs, including COMSEC and emanations security. AFCSC also provides analytical and engineering services in support of these programs to Air Force activities worldwide. The center manages and accounts for cryptologic devices, codes, call signs and documents that protect Air Force communications and computer systems; performs depot-level maintenance and life-cycle support for cryptologic equipment and systems; and develops and distributes multimedia educational materials to Air Force organizations. In addition, the command provides support to the multi-service Joint Electronic Warfare Center, which is collocated with Headquarters ESC. The ESC commander is also the JEW director.

During a reorganization of the COMSEC mission in 1960, HQ USAFSS activated the 6936th Communications Security Depot Group at Kelly AFB, Texas, with a COMSEC depot support mission.⁸⁶ The depot group operated detachments in Europe and the Far East—Det 1, 6936th CDG (RAF Mildenhall, England, 1961-64) and Det 2, 6936th CDG (Hickam AFB, Hawaii, 1963-1964).⁸⁷ In January 1964, USAFSS redesignated the 6936th CSDG the Air Force Cryptologic Depot, and AFCD had a Detachment 4, AFCD at Clark Air Base in the Philippines, 1966-70. Sixteen years later (February 1980), the AFCD became the Air Force Cryptologic Support Center that is discussed later in this chapter.

Air Force Cryptologic Support Center (AFCSC)

Kelly AFB, Texas

Serves as Air Force focal point for Cryptologic matters and AFIC authority for worldwide operational Cryptologic issues. Air Force executive agent for COMSEC, OPSEC, COMPUSEC and TEMPEST. Also provides life-cycle support for all DoD space COMSEC equipment, including depot-level repair & space-flight recertification of space COMSEC equipment.

AFCSC Functions to AFIWC

The Air Force Cryptologic Depot was redesignated the Air Force Cryptologic Support Center on 1 February 1980—one of ESC's many reorganization initiatives. The AFCSC was deactivated on 10 October 1994 with the center's security functions absorbed by the AFIWC.

Published:

Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Major Command history. A Salute to Air Force Communications