

## AIR FORCE PENTAGON COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY



### MISSION

The Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency is a field operating agency reporting to the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force. Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency's mission is to provide communications and information technology systems and services for the National Military Command Center, Headquarters United States Air Force and other organizations and within the National Capital Region, as directed by HQ USAF. The Agency also provides travel communications support to the Secretary of Defense; the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and the Chief of Staff, United States Air Force. In addition, Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency develops management information systems for HQ USAF and provides decision support tools for senior officials to evaluate events worldwide and respond to crises. Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency is also the executive agent for the National Military Command Center.

### LINEAGE

1061 USAF Communications Squadron designated, 18 Dec 1950

Organized, 1 Jan 1951

Redesignated 2044 AACS Squadron, 1 Jan 1953

Redesignated 2044 AACS Squadron (Point-to-Point), 1 Apr 1954

Redesignated 2044 AACS Squadron, 15 Dec 1954

Redesignated 2044 Communications Squadron, 1 Jul 1961

Redesignated 2044 Communications Group, 1 Jan 1966

Redesignated Teleprocessing Services Center, 8 May 1984

Redesignated 1 Information Systems Group on 1 Oct 1984

Redesignated 7 Communications Group 1 Nov 1986

Status changed from a subordinate organization of the Air Force District of Washington to a Field Operating Agency of the USAF, 5 Feb 1991

Redesignated Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency, 1 Jul 1994  
Status changed to a subordinate unit of the Air Force Communications and Information Center,  
1 Apr 1997  
Status changed to a field operating agency, 1 Oct 2000

### **STATIONS**

Washington, D. C.  
Fort Myer, VA. 1 Jan 1953  
Washington, D.C., 1 Jan 1966

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

USAF Communications (later, 1834th AACS) Group  
1802 AACS Group on 1 Jul 1954  
1800 AACS Wing 15 Jul 1955  
1802 AACS Group (later, Northeastern AACS Region) 18 Jul 1956  
2045 AACS (later, 2045th Communications) Group, 18 Dec 1957  
Eastern Communications Region, 1 Jan 1966  
Northern Communications Area (later, Continental Communications Division, 1 May 1970  
Air Force Communications Command, 8 May 1984  
Air Force District of Washington, 1 Oct 1990  
USAF, 5 Feb 1991  
Air Force Communications and Information Center, 1 Apr 1997  
USAF, 1 Oct 2000

### **COMMANDERS**

Col Joseph H. Weeks, Jan 1968  
Col August C. Mahon, Jun 1968  
Col Merle N. Fiste, Apr 1970  
Col G. G. Gilchrist, Jr., Jul 1970  
Col L. G. Robinson, Jun 1972  
Col Jack E. Lambert, 25 Feb 1974  
Maj Bruce G. Bowers (Interim), 3 Jun 1974  
Col Stanley A. Taylor, 1 Jul 1974  
Lt Col Gerald E. Bronnenberg, 26 Jul 1979  
Col Charles D. Lewis, 1 Jul 1981  
Col David D. Igelman, 1 May 1982  
Col Ben I. Gomez, 15 Nov 1984  
Col William A. McKenny III, 31 Jul 1987  
Col William B. Rankin, 24 May 1989  
Col Stephen E. Anno, #1995  
Col Richard H. Hange, #1997  
Col Joseph E. LaPosa, #2001  
Col Howard A. Bower, #2002  
Col Gerald F. Alexander, #2004

Col Kim M. Johnson, #2006

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Feb 1970-28 Feb 1971

1 Mar 1971-29 February 1972

1 Jan 1975-31 Dec 1975

1 Jan 1977-31 Dec 1977

1 Jan 1980-31 Dec 1980

1 Jan 1983-31 Dec 1983

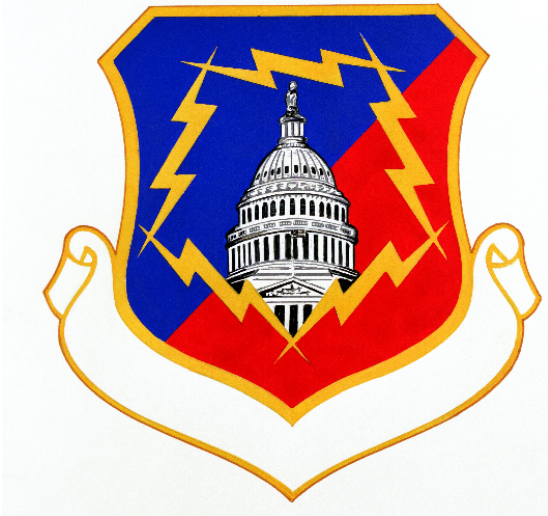
1 Jan 1985-31 Dec 1985

1 Jan 1988-30 Jun 1989

1 Jan 1992-31 Dec 1993

### **EMBLEM**

Blue and 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 Pentagon represents the primary location of the 7th Communications Group. The satellite represents the telecommunications aspect of the group's mission, accentuating the state-of-the-art technology in use. The satellite further symbolizes the extent of the group's potential responsibility for the flow of information across the globe and even to the stars. The lightning bolts allude to communications and indicate the flow of information which often must be encrypted and carried via "red" current in order to protect the nation's security. The computer refers to the information processing aspect of the Group's mission. The globe alludes to the worldwide responsibility for data collection, communication and teleprocessing services in support of users. The Capitol, in addition to alluding to the location of the group, also illustrates the broad scope of support to federal agencies outside the Department of Defense. (Approved, 13 May 1986)



2044 Communications Group emblem

7 Communications Group emblem: Celeste, a Pentagon, one point down. Overall in base, an ovoid, brick, gray-lined, argent, all within a diminished border bore. Attached below the shield is a blank white scroll with a narrow yellow border. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and Yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of operations for the Air Force. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Pentagon represents the primary location of the group and its principal users, the Air Staff Offices of Secretaries of Defense and Air Force, the Joint Chief of Staff, and the National Military Command Authority. The capital dome also indicates the location of the group and further represents the broad scope of support offered by the group to other federal agencies. The globe symbolizes the group's worldwide responsibility for data collection, communication, and teleprocessing service. The satellite denotes the telecommunications aspect of the group's mission and accents the state-of-the-art technology in use. The computer terminal emphasizes the information processing aspect of the group's mission. The lightning bolt alludes to communications and symbolizes the flow of information, which often must be encrypted and carried via a red current in order to protect nation's security.

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

A merger occurred on 1 May 1984, when AFCC's two units at the Pentagon were merged into one. The Air Staff deactivated the Air Force Data Services Center and merged its mission and assets with the 2044th Communications Group which was then redesignated the Teleprocessing Services Center. The term "teleprocessing" was eventually discarded from unit nomenclatures and "information systems" used instead. Consequently, on 1 October 1984, AFCC redesignated the Teleprocessing Services Center as the 1st Information Systems Group.

A third major initiative centered on the management of AFCC's data automation centers. The benefits that had been anticipated in 1978 when AFCC assumed responsibility for the Air Force

Data Automation Agency's centers had not materialized. Although a Deputy Commander for Data Automation was established at Headquarters AFCC to direct the activities of the centers, the command still lacked an appropriate organizational structure to apply a systems approach to the management of automated systems as it did with communications systems.

To correct this situation, AFCC activated the Air Force Teleprocessing Center at Gunter AFS, Alabama, on 8 May 1984. The center was to provide specified general purpose data automation and related telecommunications systems design, acquisition, and life-cycle management at bases and major commands worldwide. At the same time, the Air Force Data Systems Evaluation Center at Gunter AFS was deactivated and its resources and functions became part of the new center. In addition, AFCC redesignated three other data automation centers and made them direct reporting units of the new center. The Air Force Data Systems Design Center and the Air Force Automated Systems Project Office, both located at Gunter AFS, became the Data Systems Design Office and the Automated Systems Program Office respectively. The Air Force Communications Computer Programming Center at Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, became the Command and Control Systems Office. On 1 March 1985, AFCC redesignated the Air Force Teleprocessing Center as the Standard Information Systems Center. These moves provided an organizational unity that could capitalize on the efficiencies and effectiveness of systems management.

6/9/2006 - BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, D.C. -- The Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency, commanded by Col. Kim M. Johnson, was realigned under the Air Force District of Washington Wednesday in a ceremony at Bolling. Maj. Gen. Robert L. Smolen, AFDW commander, served as the presiding official for the ceremony. "Today, the men and women of the Air Force District of Washington will observe the inactivation of the 11th Communications Squadron, the redesignation of the 89th Communications Squadron under the 89th Airlift Support Group (which will stand up June 19), the redesignation of the Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency under the Air Force District of Washington, and the subsequent activations of the 844th Communications Squadron and the 744th Communications Squadron," said General Smolen.

"Approximately nine months ago, we received additional guidance on the CSAF's (chief of staff of the Air Force's) vision for the AFDW. After several months of hard work the team developed a brief that sold itself to senior leadership. This communications vision is now a reality as a unit. The challenge for all personnel in our new group is to take this opportunity and make a viable and meaningful asset providing beneficial information technology tools to the warfighter," said Colonel Johnson. The Air Force is looking for more resourceful and efficient ways to conduct business. By changing our mindset and behavior, we can define smarter ways to conduct business across the National Capitol Region, the colonel said.

According to AFDW officials AFPCA will serve as the AFDW's single communication and information service provider in the National Capital Region. Until now, these services were provided by AFPCA, the 89th Communications Squadron at Andrews AFB, Md., and the 11th Communications Squadron at Bolling. AFPCA is the Air Force lead agency for providing communications systems and services for Air Force headquarters, Office of the Secretary of Defense, the National Military Command Center and other agencies within the National Capital Region. AFPCA can trace its organizational lineage back to 1951.

As part of the squadron activation portion of the ceremony, the 744th Communications Squadron at Andrews and the 844th Communications Squadron at the Pentagon were established. Lt. Col. Randy Robertson, former 89th CS commander, will serve as the new 744th CS commander. Mr. Paul Boland is the new executive director of the 844th CS. Mr. Boland previously served as the deputy commander of AFPCA.

The realignment of Air Force communications assets will result in a "single Air Force voice" whose main responsibility will be to work joint issues throughout the National Capital Region in support of the Global War on Terrorism, said General Smolen. This reorganization will increase communications reliability, survivability, information capabilities and user support. As a result of this, communications operations will be better by establishing unity of command, function and effort for day-to-day and contingency communications operations throughout the AFDW and Air Force National Capital Region's area of responsibility. "As a result of this reorganization, there will be enhanced network survivability as well as the enabling of seamless continuity of operations," said General Smolen. "It will eliminate redundancies and maximize interoperability and efficiencies."

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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