

244TH MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON (CONTINGENCY)

THE MISSION OF THE 244TH MOBILE COMM SQ (CONT) IS TO ATTAIN AN OPTIMUM CAPABILITY TO INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF AFCS/TAC COMM AREA PLANS IN A NATIONAL EMERGENCY. THE 244TH MOBILE COMM SQ (CONT) IS COMMANDED BY MAJOR MARK E. LUEDTKE WHO ASSUMED COMMAND ON 9 FEBRUARY 1973.

## SUMMARY OF PAST YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

The 244th Mobile Communications Squadron (Contingency) is a part of the 252nd Mobile Communications Group. The Group Headquarters is currently located at Paine Field, Everett, Washington and is commanded by Colonel Ray Wilson. The Commander of the 244th was LtCol Benjamin W. Faber until 9 February 1973, when Major Mark E. Luedtke assumed command.

The mission of the 244th during deployments and annual training is to engineer, install, operate and maintain mobile communications systems in support of missions assigned to the 252nd MBI Comm Group.

During the Annual Training period of 30 June through 14 July 1973, this unit was deployed in several segments and to as many different locations in support of the 252nd MCG's mission to provide communications systems for exercise WESTACS II. The Squadron Headquarters deployed to Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho and shared management of the communications complex with the 261st MBI Comm Sq (California) and the 262nd MBI Comm Sq (Washington). The 244th also deployed the WCOM and Communications Center to Gowen Field. One AN/TRC-97, the TRC-22 Switchboard, and two AN/TRC-61's were deployed to Fairchild AFB, Washington with 20 personnel. At Yakima Firing Center a AN/TRC-61, FM terminal, and a TRC-15 HF radio were employed with 20 personnel. The remainder of the unit equipment and personnel were deployed to four (4) remote relay sites at: Mica Peak, AN/TRC-97; Saddle Mountain, AN/TRC-36 (2 ea); Ahtanum Ridge, AN/TRC-36; Greyback Mountain, AN/TRC-36. The 244th was tasked to manage the prime communications circuit between Fairchild AFB and Gowen Field. This circuit, AF-1, was the AN/TRC-97 circuit with relays at Big Lookout Mountain, Oregon; Mt Emily, Oregon; and Table Rock, Washington; and terminals at Fairchild AFB and Gowen Field. This circuit provided telephone, teletype and voice channels for the tactical control of aircraft utilizing Yakima Firing Center and Sailor Creek, Idaho. All circuits functioned exceptionally well.

The 244th MBI Comm Sq conducted three (3) 36 hour deployments during unit training assemblies during the past year. The first deployment was to Camp Rilea during the October 72 UTA, with a AN/TRC-97 circuit to Fort Lewis and a AN/TRC-24 system to Portland. This was during our I.G. Inspection. The second 36 hour deployment was made to Hillsboro, Oregon with a AN/TRC-97 circuit to Bald Peak, Oregon and an AN/TRC-24 system to Portland. This exercise was conducted during the February 73 UTA. The third and last 36 hour deployment was made to Fort Lewis during the May UTA for interfacing equipment in preparation for Annual Training.

# WESTACS II



# GALLANT HAND 73

