



The Gunfighter

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Mountain Home AFB, Idaho

ATSO reflects changing world realities

Gunfighters practice composite wing role in wartime scenario

By 1st Lt. Christina Austin
and SSgt. John Norgren
Gunfighter public affairs

New military priorities triggered by shifting world realities are directly impacting how Gunfighters are practicing for tomorrow's crises.

This new reality became apparent for many Gunfighters during the 366th Wing Ability-To-Survive-And-Operate exercise held here Tuesday-Thursday. The exercise offered Gunfighters an initial glimpse of how that mission has changed.

Despite being the first opportunity for most Gunfighters to work together in this type of scenario, the Home Team emerged from the ATSO fairly well, said Brig. Gen. William S. Hinton Jr., 366th Wing commander.

"For not having done the ATSO before as a single unit, we did very well," General Hinton said. "Operations got better and better each day as the learning curve steadily increased. It was an excellent training exercise."

Gunfighters will have a first-hand opportunity to see how the wing did in the ATSO during outbriefs at the base theater. Post exercise briefings are being held on Nov. 30 at 10 a.m., 2 and 5 p.m.

During the ATSO, Gunfighters faced a scenario very different than the traditional European-style, superpower confrontation where U.S. and allied armed forces faced off against sophisticated Soviet produced chemical weapons and delivery systems.

"During the ATSO we practiced fighting a much smaller conflict against an opponent with limited capability to deliver chemical weapons, rather



U.S. Air Force photo by Ann Gray Taylor

TSgt. Bruce Broustad, left, 244th Combat Communications Squadron from Portland, Ore., TSgt. Loren VonAhn, 244th CCS, and Amn. Sergio Perez, 366th Communications Squadron, set up a satellite antenna dish Monday for the Ability-To-Survive-and-Operate Exercise. The exercise took place Tuesday through Thursday. For more photos from the exercise see Pages 8 and 9.

than the traditional central European scenario of the past," said Col. Bruce Carlson, 366th Wing vice commander and Local Evaluation Team chief.

Under this scenario conditioned responses to attack sequences didn't always apply, so many Gunfighters overreacted by donning their chemical warfare gear too soon. That is one lesson Gunfighters should especially remember for future exercises, explained Col. Robert Priest, 366th support group commander.

"We don't wear chemical gear unless the wing

commander directs it," Colonel Priest said. "During Alarm Red at MOPP 0 (Mission-Oriented Protection Posture) you grab your helmet and take cover — not your chemical gear."

Mistakes of this nature, however, shouldn't be reason for panic, explained Col. Jerrold K. Cullen, 366th Operations Group commander.

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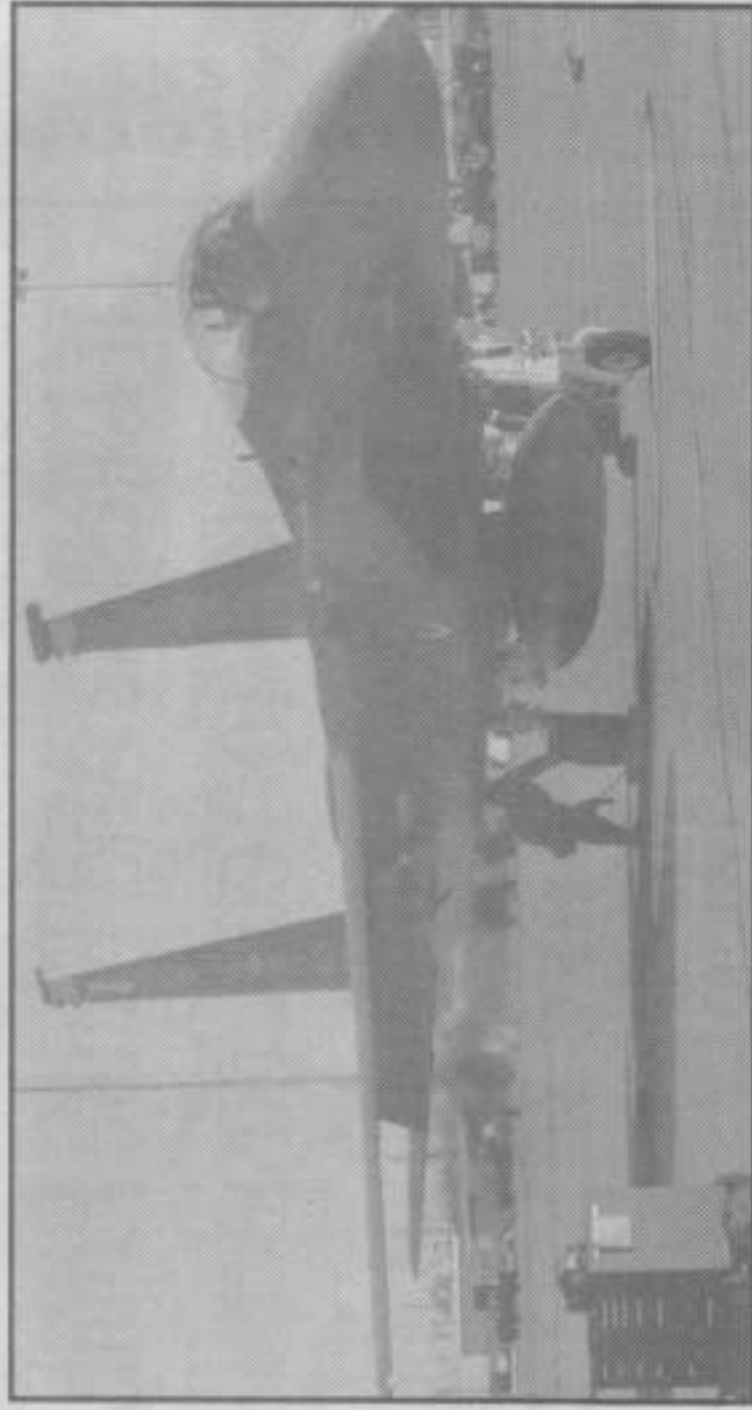
'Exercise,' from Page 1

"We need to be patient and not get overly frustrated. It's our first time exercising as a team and we'll learn from our mistakes and do it better next time," he explained.

With the ATSO complete, the next stage is correcting problem areas and incorporating "lessons learned" from these experiences. General

Hinton stressed that Gunfighters shouldn't just dwell on problems, but should also suggest better ways to get things done.

"I've heard a lot of good ideas come out of this exercise. This is not like Europe or PACAF (Pacific Air Forces) where you have a fixed scenario — we have some flexibility here," he explained. "We want everyone to write down their ideas on how we can do it better next time — don't just focus on what we did wrong, but on any ideas that could be applied later on."



U.S. Air Force photo by SSgt. Ron Mihui

Ready for an exercise sortie.



Earth to just about anywhere

Standing (left) on the frame of a 20-foot quick reaction satellite antenna, MSgt. Jeff Anderson, 244th CCS, instructs members of the 366th CS on its assembly at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

244th CCS shares expertise with active forces in Idaho

By Capt. Pat Judge

244th CCS

Five members of the 244th Combat Communications Squadron lent their expertise to active duty forces with the 366th Communications Squadron at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, last November.

The deployment was the first of many where the 244th CCS will cross train with the 366th CS in support of the Total Force concept and the Air Force's philosophy of "Global Reach, Global Power," said Lt. Col. Wayne Green, 244th CCS commander.

The 366th CS is part of the 366th Fighter Wing—one of the first Air Force composite wings combining several types of aircraft into an aerial combat force. Nicknamed "Gunfighters," the 366th CS was recently assigned an extensive and complex mobility mission called the Wing Initial Communications Package, which tasks them to provide all initial communications support to the parent fighter wing whenever it deploys. To support the new mission, the squadron is acquir-

ing much of the same type of tactical communications equipment that the 244th CCS already uses.

The commander of the 366th CS, Lt. Col. Dennis Damiens, had witnessed the 244th CCS drug interdiction support missions in conjunction with its parent group, the 252nd Combat Communications Group. Damiens liked what he saw, and together with Green formulated an extensive support and training plan between the two squadrons.

Master Sgt. Jeff Anderson led the 244th CCS team on the first deployment, which included support to satellite radio communications and tactical telephone switching, while also training the "Gunfighters" in the many aspects of tactical communications procedures and management, and chemical warfare protective measures. Other members of the 244th CCS deploying to Mountain Home included Tech. Sgts. Cliff McBride, Bruce Brunstad, Loren Von Ahn, and Staff Sgt. Leonard Olson, SSgt. Bill Young, with the 262nd Combat Communications Squadron in Bellingham, Wash., augmented the group.



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JUNE 1992

Combat Comm readiness tested

By 1st Lt. Mike Allegre
Public Affairs Officer

CAMP RILEA -- It looked like an annual training site. Communications antennas, cables, and tents full of communications gear could be found scattered over two different locations April 30 to May 3. For 96 hours, both the 244th and 272nd Combat Communications Squadrons (CCS) from Portland Air Base were on-line for a war readiness scenario.

The results from the four-day deployment helped to identify loose ends which needed tightening up before their respective Operational Readiness Inspections (ORI) in July.

While both units provide complete combat communications near a war zone, their mission applications differ slightly.

Captain Steve Miller, 272nd CCS communications officer, said his unit operated more for a short term mission. "We're what's called a Quick Reaction Package (QRP). We'd operate in a forward area near the action, set up the equipment, and remain until a sustaining unit takes over."

Units like the 272nd are capable



SATELLITE UPLINK -- TSgt. Bruce Brunstad (kneeling) and SSgt. Len Olson make adjustments to ground communication equipment during the May annual training exercise at Camp Riley.

—ORANG photo by 1st Lt. Mike Allegre.

of providing all needed field communications worldwide: voice, teletype, telephone, and ground-to-air communicators so aircraft can pinpoint their locations in the air.

"We're like a mobile telephone company with many more capabilities," said Lt. Col. Alan Stoller, 272nd CCS commander. "We're now in the air traffic control business. Our mission is

constantly changing, and we expect it to change even more as soon as we become part of the new Air Combat Command after June 1," Stoller said.

A small part of the changes ahead were exhibited when unit members activated the new Hammericks satellite system. The system is encapsulated into two

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TSgt. Scott O'Neil honored

142 FG named Federal Agency of the Year

The 142nd Fighter Group (FG) was recognized May 2 by the Portland Federal Executive Board as the 1992 Federal Agency of the Year. The same board also selected TSgt. Scott O'Neil, 244th Combat Communications Squadron, as the Federal Military Employee of the Year.

A panel of Distinguished Citizens evaluated nominees from every local federal agency. The group judged each nominee's accomplishments on the civic and job levels, the

impact of the agency's accomplishments through money saved, improved morale, effective personnel management and its effects on the community at large.

The 142nd FG is the second federal agency to win the prestigious award. The Federal Aviation Administration in Portland won the inaugural award last year.

A full-time member of the 244th CCS, O'Neil was

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Promotions

142nd CAMS

MSgt. Randy Grunt
TSgt. Jess Saxton

142nd FG

SrA. Alexander Fink

142nd CES

MSgt. Michael Sprague
SrA. Lynne Eurick

142nd USAF Clinic

MSgt. Janet Billups

142nd SPF

CMSgt. Robert Coleman
MSgt. Peter LaFranchise

116th ACS

A1C. Jeanne Hawke
Amm. Marcella Caires

244th CCS

Amm. David Britt

272nd CCS

SSgt. Robert Fort

114th FS

MSgt. Joy Connelly
MSgt. Deborah McIntyre
TSgt. William Gardner
TSgt. David Hankwitz
TSgt. Emery Luff
Amm. Tiffany Penniger

Air Scoop Staff

The Air Scoop is the monthly newsletter of the 142nd Fighter Group. Contents of the Air Scoop are not necessarily the views of the National Guard, the Oregon Air Guard or the U.S. Air Force. This publication has a circulation of approximately 800 copies. Comments are encouraged and may be directed to 142nd FG/PA, Portland ANG Base, OR 97218-2797. Telephone: (503) 335-4104; DSN 638-4104.

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Agency of the Year

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judged for his personal involvement with job-related community service, self-initiated development or training, honors and awards, performance ratings, and special on-the-job accomplishments.

O'Neil was recently named the ORANG's 1991 Airmen of the Year (category II).

"These awards are an outstanding tribute to our unit, to Sgt. O'Neil and the leadership of the 244th," said Col. Terry McKinsey, commander, 142nd FG. "We're all very proud of Scott and of the 142nd. I'm very pleased to accept this award on behalf of our unit members."



ACCEPTING the Federal Agency of the Year award are Col. Bill Doctor and Col. Terry McKinsey. TSgt. Scott O'Neil holds his Federal Military Employee of the Year award. He is joined by his commander, Lt. Col. Wayne Green, 244th CCS.

-ORANG photo by 1st Lt. Mike Allegre

Combat Comm Tested

-continued from page 1

suitcases and back pack which two people carry, breakdown, and operate. The breakdown includes voice communications that are bounced off of a satellite using two three-foot antennas. There is facsimile capability too, but the system is not yet part of the unit's operational inventory.

Just over the hill, at the old air field, the members of the 244th CCS are completing securing their encampment five hours into day-one of operations. In wartime this unit would be in place for the "long-haul," according to Maj. Rick Rouse, 244th CCS communications officer. In the first 72 hours, the unit is notified, recalled, mobilized, and on its way to an area of operation for a sustained period of time. Rouse said there are changes in the combat communication's mission ahead, which means changes in the capabilities of the 244th in the future.

"We have about a half-million

pounds of cargo here today, but with new equipment coming into the inventory in the next ten years we'll do the same mission with lighter and more compact equipment," Rouse said.

At Camp Rilea, the 244th has set up a mock air base with all the communication support needed to operate in a war zone.

On this day, the unit had engineered a secure-line telephone to Ft. Lewis, Wash. A satellite stood ready to link the base with any unit worldwide. With generators on-line and all 110 unit members jobs operational, the capabilities of the 244th appeared war ready.

Rouse said, "There's still some fine tuning that's needed before our five-day ORI, but we'll be ready come July."

Major Bruce Marshall, of the 272nd said the unit evaluator's consensus on their performance was better than average.

AIR SCOOP



FEBRUARY 1992



Katke earns second star

Oregon's first Air National Guard Adjutant General received his second star Jan. 28. Maj. Gen. Gene A. Katke was ceremoniously promoted by Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts and his wife, Harleen, at an official gathering in the governor's office.

Katke has been adjutant general since July 1, 1991. Roberts said she was extremely pleased with Katke's leadership during his first six months on the job.

"I'm confident the Oregon National Guard is in capable hands," Roberts said.

Katke, 57, commands nearly 10,000 citizen soldiers and airmen around the state. A member of the National Guard since 1953, Katke rose through the enlisted ranks and received a direct commission in 1966. He's the former deputy commander for the Oregon Air National Guard, assistant adjutant general for air, and was the founding commander of the 272nd Combat Communications Squadron at the Portland Air Base.

At his promotion ceremony, Katke applauded Gov. Roberts' work in balancing the state's budget while maintaining a strong National Guard.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS, OREGON AIR NATIONAL GUARD (ANG)
PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (ANG), OREGON 97214-2797

REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

CC

7 January 1992

SUBJECT:

244th Combat Communications Squadron 35 Year Historical Yearbook

TO:

244 CCS/CC

I have just finished reading the 244th Combat Communications Squadron 35 Year Historical Yearbook given to me at Christmas time. As the slogan state, it truly has been "A History of Excellence." You, your staff and personnel and the contributors are to be congratulated on producing this wonderful document which I will place in the Oregon Air National Guard historical files. You have firmly fixed a fitting tribute to all of those who have formed the foundation to making your organization the great unit it is.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Dave", is written over the typed name of the commander.

DAVID E. B. WARD, Brig Gen, ORANG
Commander

*****Operational Readiness Inspection*****

The purpose of an ORI can be directly related to communication procedures used for denying an enemy information pertaining to the planning, deployment, employment, and recovery phases of this Support Plan. Telephone and teletype communications transmitted over radio circuits are easily picked-up by unfriendly interception equipment and, as such, are under constant surveillance by hostile forces.

All cryptographic, transmission, emission, physical and administrative security practices as required by governing regulations will be strictly adhered to throughout the exercise. Any person observing weak security practices is directed to take immediate action. In addition, the problem will be reported to the CFP, by means other than LMR.

An effective Communications Security program must be utilized during the ORI. All deployed personnel will employ protective measures against unauthorized disclosure of messages and correspondence, radio and telephone security procedures, and use of EFTO procedures.

Operations Security is the action taken to deny the enemy information about current and future planned operation.



All in the family

Senior Airman Judy Riley recently reenlisted in the Oregon Air National Guard as a food service specialist with the 244th Combat Communications Squadron. Riley was sworn in by her father, Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Curt Madsen.