

A
BRIEF HISTORY
OF THE
274th COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS
SQUADRON



Made from sheet Aluminum and painted with its original colors, this bee hung at the White Plains airport. Picture shown is slightly clipped at the outside edges. The full emblem measures approximately 113/4" high by 91/4" wide.

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FOWARD

The following was written by CMS John S. Mandinec (retired), a member of the 274th Communications Squadron from 1965 to the re-missioning of the 274th Combat Communications Squadron and closure of the Roslyn Air National Guard Station in 2000. Below is a brief and sincere effort to relate known history of the 102nd CS to its final years as the 274th CCS.

Much discussion is on HF radio equipment, a mainstay of the organization throughout much of its history and is included to demonstrate the complexity of its communications equipment. Dates are approximate with a few name spellings a best guess. Information is as accurate as memory and surviving records will allow.

Like many historical documents, organizations over time update information, deleting what is considered less pertinent, too old or outdated. Only by accident did one sheet survive to tell the opening of “In the Beginning” starting on page 5. More recent documents that replaced it had, been so re-edited and updated as to be worthless from an historical prospective.

Almost 15 years of squadron growth and development is unaccounted for. Therefore I cannot say this work is a comprehensive history of the 274th, but feel justified in calling the work a brief history.

Anyone reading this document and wishes to contribute material, updates, corrections or comments please feel free to forward them via e-mail to: johnm47010@aol.com for possible inclusion in future updates.

A BRIEF HISTORY

In the Beginning *102nd Communications Squadron*

The below was taken verbatim from an undated squadron brochure:

“On 29 March 1948, this unit received Federal recognition as the 102nd Communications Squadron (Wing), with the mission to install, maintain and operate communications facilities for the 52nd Fighter Wing, New York Air National Guard. The unit was located at the State Armory, White Plains, New York. Since that time the 274th has grown, moved, developed traditions and outstanding esprit-de-corps, and established a reputation for “can-do” which has resulted in accomplishment of its mission in an outstanding manner as well as continuous accolades for its leadership in compiling a record of “firsts” with the active military establishment and guard.



In 1949 it was the first Air National Guard unit authorized to use the United States Army communications Teletype network complex at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, New York. Strict requirements and regulations were adhered to in order to continue operating in this network.

In 1951 the 274th Communications Squadron conceived and operated the configuration for mobile communications complex within the State of New York.

In July 1952 the unit underwent major manpower and mission changes and was officially re-designated the 274th Communications Squadron. In this same year the unit was the first organization to conceive and promote the “Buddy System” type training with active Air Force counterparts during field training at Mitchell Air Force Base, New York.

January 1953 saw the unit assigned to the 253rd Communications Group, Wellesley Massachusetts and with this reassignment came more manpower and new equipment which required more space. Consequently the unit moved to Westchester County Airport, New York.

During 1954-55 the unit continued to demonstrate its aggressiveness and ingenuity when it became the first Air National Guard organization to request and receive a cryptographic account with the same procedures for its use as the active Air Force. It installed the first Air National Guard telephone central office complex in the state of New York, which was ultimately used by all organizations training at the permanent Field Training site, Syracuse, New York. This was the first organization in the Air National Guard to incorporate Teletype equipment (FGC-38, 3 each) into the squadron relay center network (using semi-automatic torn tape equipment). During a field training exercise, the squadron operated a major relay center on a 24 hour basis.

In July 1959 the 274th was assigned the primary mission to provide highly mobile communications teams in support of contingencies and relocated to its present location at Roslyn Air National Guard Station, New York. In 1960 the exceptional quality of the personnel in the unit was illuminated when one of its Airman was admitted to the United States Military Academy. He was graduated and commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in 1964.

One of the first “Talking Bird” operations in the Air National Guard was accomplished by the 274th during field training exercise. An, AN/GRC-26D with antenna and power unit was housed in a C-119 aircraft. Equipment was flown from Floyd Bennett Naval Air Station, New York to

Hancock Field, Syracuse, New York and established contact within 20 minutes after touch-down of aircraft.

In 1963 the 274th was the only unit in the nation chosen to represent the Air National Guard at the annual Air Force Communications Electronics convention held in Washington D.C. Established Radio Teletype between convention site and home station, Roslyn Air National Guard Station. Favorable communications received noting appearance and performance of equipment and personnel.

In 1965 the unit was chosen to host the nationwide National Guard Bureau, Single Sideband school contracted by Air Training Command. School covered a period of (9) weeks and enabled technicians of all National Guard units within the country to acquire fruitful technical knowledge and experience in the operations and maintenance of the Air Force Single Sideband radio equipment. National Guard Bureau personnel have been exuberant in their praise of the manner in which the unit conducted this school.

In 1965 selected as the outstanding unit within the 253rd Communications Group, with an airman in the organization receiving the Group Outstanding Airman Award. Assigned Air Force Advisors were selected as Outstanding Advisors within Eastern Communications Region. The unit has continued to set this outstanding pace to present with other noteworthy accomplishments mentioned elsewhere in this brochure”



*The original home of the 102nd CS
White Plains Armory*

Mission Statement:

Changing with each Command served, the basic mission of the 274th was to provide, site, install, operate and maintain deployed tactical communications equipment in support of a Tactical Air Base (TAB), providing commanders in the field with record and voice communications back to rear / area command headquarters via long haul radio systems and or in country circuits.

Note:

Communications was provided via long haul HF/ISB radio and later satellite radio systems. TAB telephone, record communications and Command and Control HF/SSB systems were the primary services provided. Local Area Networks (LAN) for computerized supply, personnel and maintenance reporting services were added later. All communications systems were highly complex and all were secured.



AFCC



AFCS

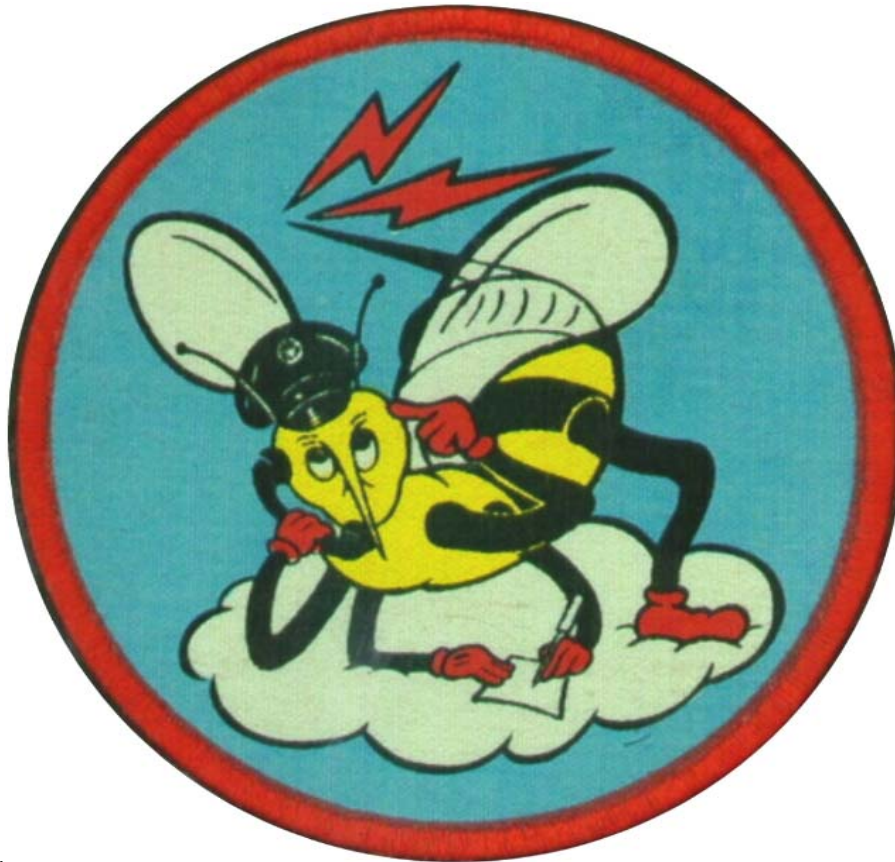


TAC

*Commands the 274th served under
The first Command served, starts clockwise at the bottom left*

Squadron Insignia:

The unit insignia or “Motif” was suggested by then SGT Larry Iannarelli. From his concept a drawing was created and painted by A3C James Lilly with assistance from A1C Passamonte on the frame. The newly designed patch was announced completed on the 12 June 1955 in the then un-named squadron newsletter. The patch was submitted for approval on 26th April 1955 and became official on 22 Sept 1955. The squadron patch a Bumble Bee, symbolized a very busy communicator performing multiple communications tasks, listening to received radio signals, while writing and sending messages



An original Bee patch

The Squadron Newsletter:

A monthly publication was first published in February 1955, several early issues were without a name of the newsletter and at times the name of the organization. It was several months before a contest was announced at Hancock Field on 10 June 1955 to name the newsletter.

The 12 June 1955 newsletter said “approximately 20 well trained individuals arrived in front of the orderly room under the hawk-eyed supervision of a well coached officer. It seems these stalwart gentleman, were personally submitting suggestions for the unit newspaper individually. The suggestions submitted by the few that knew how to write are being considered: namely the Grumble Bee, the Toilet Paper and the Daily Physic”.



A 1960's printing of the Bee Line at Roslyn

It is unknown who suggested the winning name ***Bee Line***, which first appeared during an Annual Field Training Newsletter published at Hancock Air Force Base, Syracuse NY on 13 June 1955. Looking back, it seems uncanny for it to have first appeared at Hancock? Airman Lilly was also a contributor with his illustrations and popular cartoons. The following was extracted from that 13 June 1955 Bee Line and is included for the pleasure of the 274th ASOS:



SONG OF THE COMMUNICATOR

We wanted the work and we got it, we were sent to the ends of the earth.

Yes, up to the wilds of Hancock, far from the land of our birth.

Out midst the dust and corruption, in the land the lord forgot, where there are no smiles or sunshine, ours was an unhappy lot.

“ Put in the phones” – and we did it –

“Get on the Air “- it was fun

Gripping - and moaning - and wailing - But as for the job - it was done.

Someday in the far hereafter, when war is declared on hell we’ll climb the poles among the coals and swear the base is swell.

For we will have been to Hancock and Hades will be no chore

And when the Devil sends his surrender, it will route through the *two - seven - four*.

Writer unknown

Strength of the squadron was about 30 Ground Radio Equipment Repairmen, 30 Telephone installation/maintenance personnel, 30 Teletype Repairmen, (unkn) Motor Vehicle, 30 Telecommunications/Operations and (unkn) Ground Power personnel. In addition 18 Food Service, 8 Medical, 10 Air Police (unkn), Utilities Construction flight (unkn), Administrative and Command personnel completed the authorizations. The squadrons overall assigned strength in the 1960's was approximately 217, in its final years, authorization would be reduced to 118.

Enlistments during the early 1950's was 8 years, basic training was 8 weeks. Senior NCO's wore blue campaign hats while in formation. For a time if they had mustaches their ends were twisted and waxed. You didn't want to mess with a Senior NCO.

Early fatigue uniforms were sage green in color, later came the familiar Olive drab fatigues with extra starch. Leather button on name holders came first, cloth nametapes were added later. The first name tapes came in white with names printed in black, then blue tapes with white lettering. Late in 1978 subdued patches became authorized with name tapes green with black lettering and for a while Velcro leather name and rank patches, while forest green fatigues came later.

The squadron cap also varied over the years. In the 1950's it was all gray, later orange in color with a gray flannel bill, a full color squadron patch was sewn the front of the cap. In the early 1970's it was Blue with yellow lettering, then a Black and white cap with a black bill. In the late 1980's and through part of the 1990's it was Black with the 274 in red velvet. The final cap was camouflaged with black velvet lettering.

Few individuals in later years knew that the squadron had an Air Police Flight. During the 1950-60's individuals who missed a drill were "Collected" and brought to the station by the squadrons Air Police.



274th CS Air Police Flight (taken at Roslyn ANGS Main Gate early 1960's)

274th CS Basketball Team

Like many squadrons of the time the 274th had its own basketball team, which began playing organized basketball Oct 1953. The 18 men on the original team were known as the *HOOPSTERS*. TSG Zivica coached, SSG Ricci and A2C Helwig were business managers. Years later a team member was Mike Reardon of the New York Knickerbockers. The last team played in the late 1960's to the 1970's.



*274th Basketball team of the mid 1960's
Extreme left then Capt. Charles Gilchrist, extreme right SMS Frank B. Zivica*

Pipe Band

The squadron had its own and very unique 5 man Bag Pipe marching band which participated in local parades and during deployments. They sure kept everyone's head held high and in step. The squadron just seemed to glide as we marched.



274th CS Pipe Band

Chow hall inspections were conducted by an officer wearing white gloves. The officer would show up when we were cleaned up and ready to go home. Boy did I hate white gloves.

Reveille each morning during deployments was by bugle with barracks and footlocker inspections. After the bugler left for a time old 78 records were played, then all went quite..... getting up in the morning wasn't quite the same.

MARS The 274th had a Military Affiliate Radio Station (MARS). During the early to mid 1960's equipment consisted of a BC-610 transmitter and R-388 radio receivers. The transmitter required changing quartz crystals and load coils when changing frequency. Prior to 1984 equipment was a Collins radio transceiver KWM-2A.

Sometime in 1959 the 274th CS received newer equipment to support its new mission as cited in the above paragraphs. Equipment consisting of:

10 - AN/GRC-26D AM High Frequency Radio Sets

1 - AN/MGC-2 Cryptographic Teletype shelter consisting of: Cryptographic equipment, patch panel, Teletype Keyers and Converters of the 170 series, Model 14, 28 Typewriters and Model 15 Tape Distributors (TD), work tables and Heater/Air Conditioning equipment.

1 - AN/MGC-6 Teletype Communications shelter consisting of: The same series teletype keyers and converters, Typewriters, Tape Distributor (TD), work tables and Heater/Air Conditioning equipment as the AN/MGC-2 above.

1 - AN/TTC-7 Manual Telephone Switchboard, containing 3- F-80 type cord switchboards.

PE-75 1.5KW gasoline generators

10KW gasoline generators

AN/GRC-26D radio set was housed in steel and wood roofed canvas covered shelter. While at home station the AN/GRC-26s were placed on the ground. For deployments shelters were mounted after 1962 on new International Harvester Model 1600 2½-ton gas operated cargo trucks with manual transmissions. The radio set consisted of a 500 watt Amplitude Modulated manually tuned Collins transmitter Model T-368, Antenna Tuner, radio receivers R-390A/URR, teletype convert URA-8 and 2 sets of Klienschmitt teletype and TD machines provided full Duplex High Frequency AM radio communications.

Equipment was connected via adaptor boxes using multi-pair cable with Bendix aircraft type connectors and 52 push terminals for connecting field wire to communications equipment. A 10 KW gasoline operated generator supplied power. Communications was first established using voice with a distant Station. Once communications was verified "*LOUD and CLEAR*" voice communications was stopped so Radio Teletype communications could begin. Radio Teletype messages were critical written communications between higher headquarters and subordinate field units. The AN/GRC-26D was the mainstay of the squadron. Radio sets over time were given the nickname **ANGRY 26**.

During the 1960's AN/GRC-26D's were painted Air Force blue, with a white roof. International Harvester trucks the primary transport vehicle, were also Air Force blue, with yellow identification lettering, tire rims were painted silver. When returning from a deployment a broom (handle down) would be displayed on the outside of truck to symbolize a clean sweep for successful communications.

The 274th CS pioneered a major communications upgrade by modifying (3) of its Amplitude Modulated (AM) AN/GRC-26D Radio Sets into then a new technology Single Sideband (SSB). The newly redesigned radios sets were designated AN/GRC-129 and proved the viability of single sideband voice and Teletype communications.



274th CS Modification of a Collins Radio AM Transmitter T-368 to Single Sideband

The 274th CS also locally fabricated its own transportable communications center, it became known as the C-11B after its original designation as a C-119 aircraft simulator. The Simulator was gutted and Teletype Corp. FGC-20 Teletype machines, FGC-25X, Model 15 Tape Distributors (TD) units and work areas were installed. This provided improved central management for the receipt and transmission of message traffic passing through the AN/GRC-26D radio sets.



C-11B, Communications Center fabricated from a C-119 Aircraft Simulator

Mobile Communications Squadrons of this era were very limited. Up to 5 AN/GRC-26D's may have been used at the same time to provide (5) Voice or (5) 60 Baud rate Radio Teletype channels. Additional AN/GRC-26D were usually left ready to operate as "hot spares". Using 5 AN/GRC-26D's at the same communications site was a real estate and radio frequency nightmare. Each radio set required 2 dipole antennas, one for transmitting and 1 for receiving. Each antenna had to be lowered to change their physical length each time a new transmit or receive frequency was changed. Physical spacing between each antenna and radio hut was critical to ensure optimum radio communications.



Vehicle mounted Radio Set AN/GRC-26D

During winter operations a change of frequency was dreaded. Manually tuning radios was a chore in its self. First the radio set had to be warmed-up for sometime to prevent the numerous electron tubes from cracking from the cold, then transmitters had to be connected to a home made light bulb dummy load, tuned using a BC-221 frequency meter, then connected to the antenna. Personnel then had to go outside lower the antenna to change its length if frequencies were changed. A final transmitter fine tune was then accomplished, with no guaranty that radio communications would be established or improved.

During 1959-1960 was a period of increasing change and challenge for the 274th. A move from the White Plains Airport to the recently closed Air Force Station at Roslyn New York again greatly increased space for equipment and personnel. A consideration to move the squadron to Mitchell Field in Uniondale, Long Island New York was nixed for unknown reasons.

Outstanding Squadron Contributors

So many individuals contributed so much over time it is difficult to be objective in selecting a only a few to be considered for inclusion in 274th history. Individuals selected below as far as this writer knew contributed the most to the success of the 274th in so many ways as to be quintessential, some may not agree.

Note: (*) indicate an original 274th squadron member from White Plains Airport

***Major Lorenzo Magrini**

He rose through the ranks and became a senior squadron officer. In line for promotion he stepped down to allow another to be promoted in his place. Unfortunately he unexpectedly passed away from a heart attack before he could be promoted. He was well liked and very respected by all. For his many contributions to the squadron an annual Major Lorenzo Magrini award for excellence was established to be given annually to deserving squadron members.



Major Lorenzo Magrini

Col. Charles Gilchrist

A former Canadian Air Force and 213th GIEEA squadron member, He rose through the ranks to become an officer. He proudly wore his Canadian Air Force wings throughout his career. He was well admired by his peers. He often would talk with enlisted members throughout the squadron and always asked how family members were doing, always by name, we couldn't figure out how he could remember us all. His leadership became legendary. After his retirement he was returned to duty twice to assist (2) station organizations and achieved promotion to full Col., retiring as Group Commander of the 152nd Tactical Air Control Group.



LTC Charles Gilchrist

***CMS Frank B. Zivica**

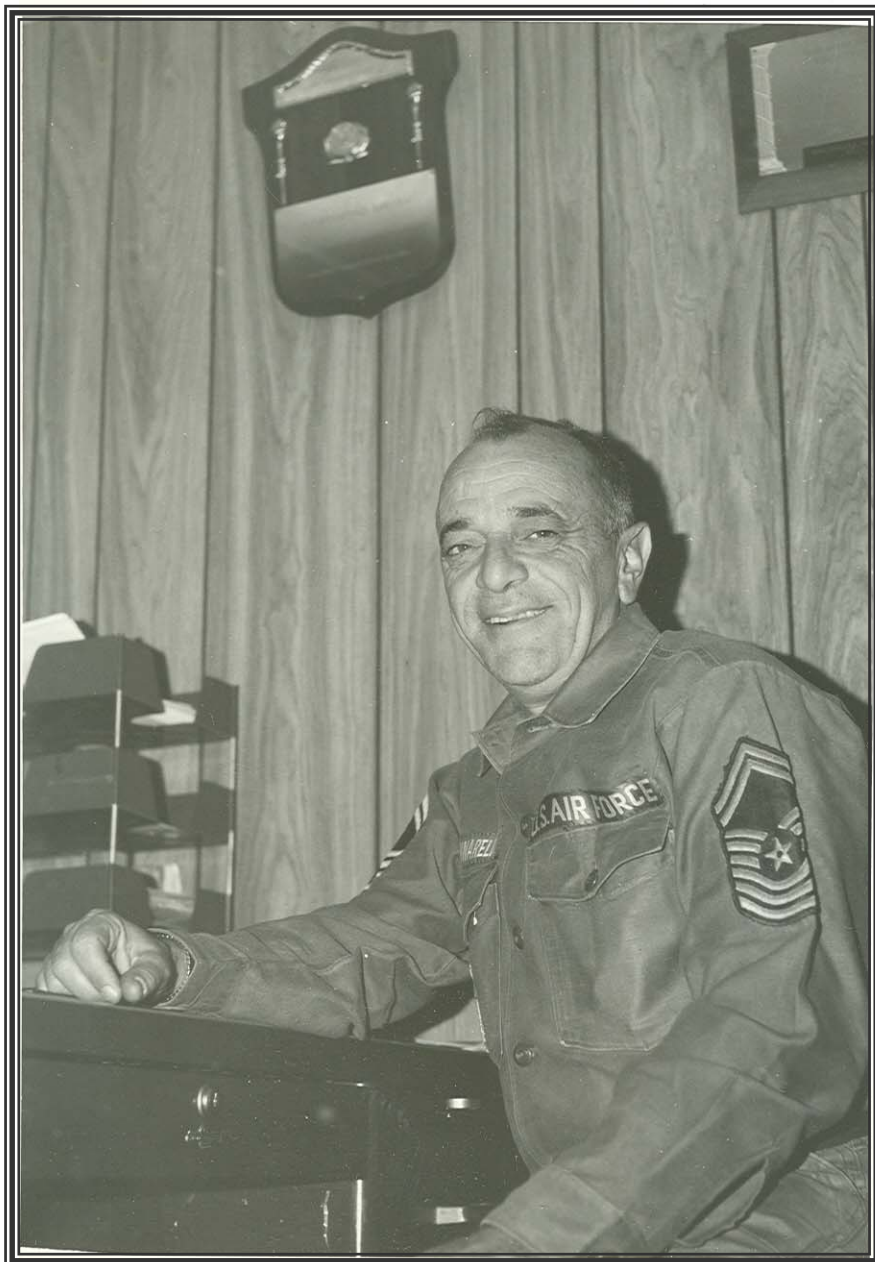
A highly respected and beloved First Sergeant, Nicknamed “Smoky” by the ranks, some say because of his middle name Blaze, he was for many of us the only first Sergeant we ever new. He was there in White Plains and at Roslyn, he did so many things we took for granted. He guided the squadron Basketball team and helped many squadron members. He was always at squadron events. There were times troops would be in fear if they needed a shave, for Smoky was always prepare to give a dry shave on the spot, he carried a razor in his pocket!



*Chief Frank B. Zivica outside the
Motor Vehicle Maintenance building Roslyn ANG*

***Chief Lawrence Innarelli**

An original 102nd CS member, Chief Innarelli made 274th Operations one of the best sections in the 253rd CGP. His ability to mentor was superior. The 274th CS overall became a superior squadron due to his experience and contributions from the beginning. His concept for a unit emblem made the squadron recognizable to all and helped instill pride in our organization.



Chief "Larry" Innarelli shown at his desk, building 5 Roslyn ANG

Roslyn ANG Station Was nearly 52 wooded acres with uneven hilly terrain. The station was one of the largest non-flying installations in the Air National Guard. At the time of station closure 27 buildings remained. Many, who visited, called the station a country club because of its appearance and atmosphere.



Main gate of the Roslyn ANG Station

The sign posted outside the Roslyn Air National Guard Station reads:

**ROSLYN AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATION
NEW YORK AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

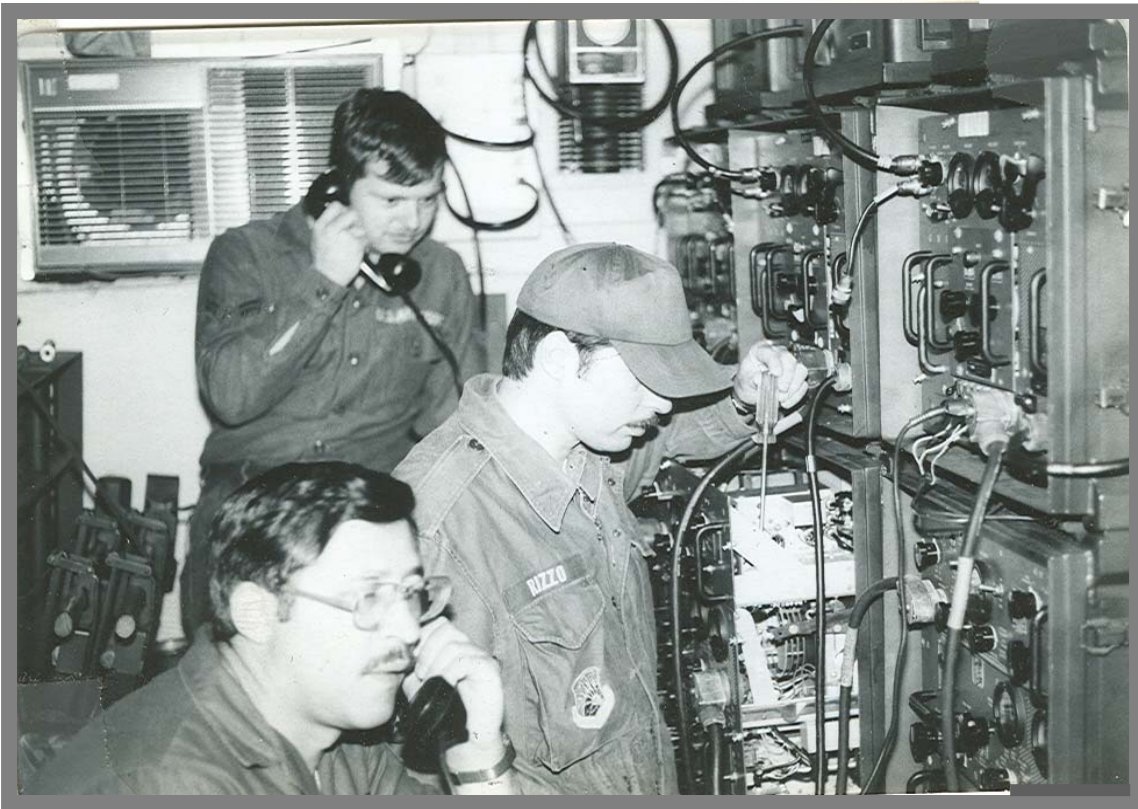
152nd TACTICAL CONTROL GROUP
106th TACTICAL CONTROL SQUADRON
274th COMMUNICATIONS SQUADRON (TT)
213th GEEIA SQUADRON
552nd AIR FORCE BAND

Visible behind the sign inside the fence is building 25, to its left is the Guard booth and left again is the original wooden flag pole.

During the 1960's the 274th conducted its Military Balls, which had been held at Carl Hoppls of Baldwin or Huntington Long Island. Events were full military dress, catered and with a dance band. This was the event of the year.

In the early 1960's during drill weekends the 274th deployed AN/GRC-26D's to local sites at Fort Totten in Bayside Queens the FAA/CAP site in Bellmore and Coast Guard Stations on the north shore of Long Island.

In the late 1960's Radio Relay equipment was received and deployed to Coast Guard Stations throughout Long Island. Also later to Short Beach, Gilgo Beach, the Thumb at Jones Beach State Park, the Army's Weekend Training Site (WET) in Farmingdale and as far away as New Jersey and Connecticut. Radio links establish communications between member squadrons of the 253rd Communications Group from as far away as Georgia to Maine all within a UTA weekend.



Inside a 274th Radio Relay Set AN/TRC-36

A difficult period in history was 1969-1973. At times main gate was kept locked during daylight hours for increased security due to threats by protestors. At one time fire hoses from the old station firehouse were laid out one evening in preparation for a morning threat, only to find the hoses chopped into little hoses in the morning. Some convoys returning to Roslyn had things thrown at them from bridge overpasses by protestors holding derogatory signs. The uniform was not worn in public. We also began experiencing vehicle shortfalls and nation wide fuel shortages.

The Viet-Nam Conflict delayed receipt of newer Troposcatter Microwave Radio equipment AN/TRC-97D. Once a complement of (2) radio sets had been received, it vastly increased the

ability to simultaneously send and receive up to (23) voice and (16) 75 Baud rate Teletype communication channels for distances equal or greater than of all of the combined AN/TRC-36/61 radios sets. Also early in the conflict Telephone Terminal AN/TTC-7 was recalled by the Air Force for duty in Viet-Nam. Temporary use of a portable manual telephone switchboard SB-86 is used until the return of an AN/TTC-7.



AN/TRC-97D Repeater Site showing 8 foot Parabolic dish Antennas

The above picture is probably the shared Microwave Repeater site at Church Hill, most likely during exercise Sentry Castle. The 274th CS microwave antennas can be seen in the background, while the TAC squadron's AN/TRC-97D and antennas can both be seen in the foreground.

During the 1970's heavy rains caused large areas of upstate New York to flood. MRC-108 Communications equipment was called up for use. Individuals remained in these canvas covered jeeps for extended times to maintain communications between affected areas and Authorities. It was not realized until sometime later when a 274th AN/TSC-15 is deployed that an environmental enclosed, built to run for extended times and contain a switchboard to extend telephone service to front line personnel was available.

This and other emergency events were communications could have contributed to more timely control, the 274th CS met with different Adj. Generals laying out proposals for use Communications equipment possessed by Communications Squadrons within the state. Unfortunately no known plan was agreed upon.

As the quantity of tactical equipment increased at Roslyn so did the requirement for more real estate. The 152nd TACS primary mission was to support the 152nd TACGP. Deploying for them during a UTA was not an option. The 274th CS with an increasing need for deployment and operational training and for Long Haul and Wideband communications sites began to develop larger off station sites to deploy to.

At the squadron's peak of HF radio use an excess of 8 acres was needed to satisfy the installation of (2) air pump 50 foot high towers, supporting 500 foot long sloping Vee antenna's used by the AN/TRC-96, up to (2) 210 foot long dipoles used by the URC-119's for command and control and Maintenance Nets, (2) 75 foot high tri-towers (3 were actually required) supporting 310 foot wide curtain arrays used by the AN/TSC-60V2, (2) 16 foot diameter MRT-2 parabolic microwave dishes used by the AN/TRC-97D's and space remaining for communications and support equipment.

Over time sites used by the squadron disappeared to the development of stores, homes and parking lots. A critical need for a site to call it's own led to an agreement for joint use of a former Mitchell AFB communications site, then used by the FAA for a Microwave repeater and Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Eastern Regional Headquarters site 10 miles south of Roslyn in Bellmore. The use of this area disappeared over night when the FAA decided to close the site.

Deployment training, equipment setup and operational training is critical to meet Air Force mission taskings, the squadron kept looking further and further away from Roslyn. The closed Air Force radar station at Montauk Point was considered, but was so isolated and distant for UTA purposes it never was pursued.

For a brief, time equipment was setup at the Coast Guard Station located at Short Beach. Prior to the 1986 Operational Readiness inspection of the squadron a site large enough to support the squadron at the Coast Guard Station Moriches was developed and used.

The inspection at the Moriches Coast Guard Station was the most successful the squadron ever received. Readiness was at its peak. Once again security concerns and high corrosion of equipment and antenna systems forced abandoning the site and other coastal Coast Guard sites. Over the years the 274th applied many communications system configurations, which at the time applied only to fixed active duty organizations to successfully train and accomplish its mission.

For a time the HF/ISB AN/TRC-96 and AN/TSC-60V2 were relocated to separate off station sites large enough to support their respective antenna systems. One HF/ISB radio would be operated in the receive mode, while the other would be in the transmit mode, either radio set was configured to back up the other HF/ISB site if propagation was poor or if there was equipment failure.

Systems were tied back to Roslyn via AN/TRC-24 and AN/TRC-97D radio links into the AN/TSC-62A Tech Control and distributed to the Communications Center and Telephone switchboard. HF/SSB nets were also used to coordinate dispatch of personnel, shift arrivals departures etc. This utilized all Radio systems provided Radio/Wideband Maintenance, Technical Control, Communications Center, Telephone and Ground Power Maintenance personnel with much needed training.

Terrain shielding at the Roslyn ANGS after years of growth began to prevent successful Wideband and long haul HF/ISB multi-channel communications. HF radio propagation was also at an all time low. Wideband and Radio Relay antennas were being extended beyond their tactical limits by being mounted on top of buildings and telephone poles in an attempt to overcome the high tree line.

The below picture, taken in 2004 and shows years of heavy tree growth over taking an AN/TRC-24 antenna, mounted on an 80 foot long telephone pole. The antenna, apply named Flyswatter after its appearance was originally installed in the 1970's. AN/TRC-24 radio equipment provided UHF multi-channel communications covering the south shore of Long Island to as far as the 103rd TCS in Orange Connecticut.



*AN/TRC-24 UHF antenna at area 31
(Picture: courtesy of Jan Klebukowski Jr.)*

The 253rd in an attempt to provide reliable training for operations personnel decided to use leased commercial circuits. This did not improve the Radio system installation and operational training required by Maintenance and Technical Control personnel.

Finally in 1987, Headquarters NYANG under advisement of the Adj. General for Air sponsored a field trip throughout the New York state to locate a suitable site, 2 squadron representatives were sent. At this time the old side of Stewart ANG base in Newburg New York was the only suitable location. Although supported by the Adj. General, the squadron Detachment Commander so strongly disagreed that further consideration for a move was abandoned. Later a proposal to divide the squadron in two parts is suggested by the Adj. General for Air, but was also turned down.

In 1995 Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) announced the proposed closing of the Roslyn Air National Guard Station in the March 1995 Beeline.

In 1998 word is received, the 274th would be re-missioned and moved to Stewart ANGB. The move was however changed to Hancock Field. In 1999 a wholehearted effort was placed on developing temporary quarters and permanent new construction suitable for the new mission. GSA supplies and office equipment was stock piled and delivered to Hancock Field to support the new organization. Again things changed, the future 152nd AOG was also to occupy the same building and as an AOG exerted its concept of how new construction should be developed and used.

Throughout its history the 274th CS supported exercises and missions not all listed by date. Empire Glacier, Empire Endeavor, Solid and Brave Shield, Bold Eagle, Sentry series, Coronet Brigade, Enduring Freedom and Fuertes Caminos conducted in Honduras are just a few. The

squadron supported, clandestine radio intercepts with the FBI, additional HF development work with RADC Rome Laboratories, Radio Operator support in the Republic of Panama and exercises at Camp Lejeune NC, Eglin FL. and Korea.

The 274th provided training to the 152nd TACS maintenance personnel assisting them in passing a previously failed command inspection and assisted the 213EIS in radio repairs. When the 213th EIS had a command deficiency the former retired 274th CS commander Charles Gilchrist was assigned as their commander, he turned the organization back on track. and when the 152nd TCGP had command shortfalls LTC Gilchrist was again recalled from retirement and was assigned as Group and Station commander.

The 274th became a subordinate squadron of the 253rd Communications Group in 1953. The 253rd at its peak consisted of the following squadrons:

114 ATCF MD (not part of the original 1953 253rd Communications Group)
224th CS Saint Simons Island GA (not part of the original 1953 253rd Communications Group)
231st CS Washington DC
265th CS South Portland ME
267th CS co-located with the 253CGP at the Wellesley ANGS, MA
271st CS located in Holmes AFB PA
274th CS, White Plains, NY

Since the Groups formation the Group Headquarters and most all of its subordinate squadrons have relocated while the 224th CS was again reassigned to another Communications Group. The 274th has now been reassigned to other mission and headquarters.

Buildings occupied at Roslyn ANGS:

Building 5: Operations (all functions) /Chief of Maintenance and staff / QA / Ground Radio / Supply office / Teletype / Telephone / later adding Radio Relay then Wideband Maintenance and Drafting occupied building 5, later Operations moved to building 9 then building 27 for more space.

During new construction the following Maintenance functions make a temporary move: Ground Radio /Radio Relay now named Wideband, the new Satellite Maintenance work center move to building 31, while Telephone /Teletype and Crypto Maintenance work centers move to building 32. All but the now defunct Teletype Maintenance work center and Drafting make the final move to the newly completed building 37.

Building 7: This building was the old station Fire House, later expanded by 274th MSG George Dodd and others adding additional storage space. Building 7 was jointly used by the 106th TACS and 274th MCS AGE maintenance work centers. Storage space was provided for 213EIS power equipment. All sections moved to the new Ground Power Maintenance building 36 constructed O/A 1968 on the site of the old station dump. Building 7 was eventually torn down to make room for construction of building 37.

Area 7: After the 152nd TACS was inactivated, the 274th Ground Radio, Wideband and Satellite Maintenance sections then used the old station Baseball field area near building 7.

Building 8: Used by both 106th TACS and 274th CS medical sections. During new construction the 274th Medical section made a temporary move to building 19. Building 8 is torn down to make room for new construction of building 37. The 274th Medical section makes its final move to building 37.

Building 4: Renumbered to building 9 was first used by the 274th CS for its Headquarters and Administration functions, later functions are moved to building 10, later building 141/21, then building 27 and finally after new construction has been completed building 37, completed O/A July of 1991.

Building 10/3: Building 10 is last used for warehousing. Building 3's original use is unknown, was demolished to make room for a new station warehouse also numbered building 3, completed about 1967. All station squadron supply functions moved into offices into this new facility. For a time a BEMO was operated. Later in the 1970's building 10 is torn down to make room for an addition to building 3 increasing storage capacity for the 152nd TACS. In later years is taken over by the 274CCS for use as additional UTC/mobility storage.

Building 19: Shared by all station organizations for a barracks on first floor for UTA personnel and the 2nd floor was used for a time to house Air Force sponsored school attendees. Later the building 2nd floor was used also to house UTA attendees.

For a time a station gym was installed and used. Later the building was closed for housing due to roof leaks and only the first floor could be used. The 722nd Medical Squadron for a time used it for storage, during new construction the 274th Medical section moved temporarily into the building, and finally for additional storage by the 274th.

Building 27: Was first used by the 106th TACGP, later the 152nd for their headquarters, administration and station GSU functions. After the 152nd group moved the 274th used the building for the same functions. After new construction of building 37 had been completed and most of the staff had moved, the 274th Commander elected to remain in building 27.

Building 36: Built to replace the older converted building 7. The building houses the 152nd and 274th Ground Power Maintenance functions and provided storage for the 213th EIS ground power equipment.

Building 37: This facility replaces buildings 5,7,8,9, 11, 25, 31 and 32 used by the 274th and other station organizations. The building becomes the main building used by the 106th CE/OL and 274th CCS.

Building T14: A temporary shed moved from area 21B and placed opposite building 7. For a time it was used for storage by the 152nd TACS, then later used by the 274CCS for a MARS station. During new construction of building 37 it is torn down.

Old station communications sites: Usage was split between the 106th TACS located at building site 21A, while the 274th CS operated from building area 21B an area opposite the station headquarters building 27. A large number of telephone poles used by the Air Force for their receiving and transmitter sites are used for tactical HF radio equipment dipole antennas.

During the 1970's building 21B is renumbered to 32 is modernized to provide workspace and storage for the additional DSTE, cryptographic and Teletype work centers. Building 21A, now renumbered to 31 was upgraded at an earlier time in anticipation of receiving Radar training equipment for the 106th TACS, however equipment was never received.

Roslyn Air National Guard Station Organizations:

The following organizations occupied the Roslyn ANGS (1959/60-2000):

106th Tactical Control Group (TACGP) occupied buildings 25, 27 and 6. Later re-designated 152nd TACGP, moved by 1984 to Hancock Field NY, later re-missioned to the 152nd AOG.

106th Tactical Control Squadron (TACS) occupied buildings 3, 6, 7, 12, 24, 25 and 36, later re-designated 152nd TACS. The 152nd TACS was inactivated prior to the move of the 152nd TACGP to Hancock Field.

106th Civil Engineering OL occupied part of building 3, 11 and 37.

213th GEEIA Squadron moved from Floyd Bennett Field, then Roslyn ANGS occupied buildings 1, 3, 14, 25, 26, 29, 30, and a portion of buildings 7, 36 and area 32. Later re-designated 213th EIS, relocated to new quarters, building 213 at Stewart ANGB NY upon closure of Roslyn.

274th CCS last moved from WhitePlains Airport then Roslyn ANGS. Re-designated several times and finally re-missioned as the 274th ASOS. The squadron was reformed at Hancock Field, NY.

552nd Air Force Band occupied building 28 then 12, moving to Stewart ANGB, later was disbanded.

722nd ASTS Medical Squadron occupied basement offices in building 6 for its operation and used the 1st floor of building 19 for storage, moving prior to station closure.

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Headquarters Eastern Region moved from Bellmore NY to Roslyn ANGS occupied building 24. The CAP moved prior to Roslyn closure to Farmingdale Airport NY

Elements of the 187th Signal Group occupied building 9.

Federal Bureau of Investigation occupied building 6, 28 finally 20, moving to new quarters in Islip NY prior to station closure.

Navy Exchange used a portion of the first floor of building 19, then to expand services to building 12. The exchange closed prior to station closure.

Deployment sites used by the 274th Long Island, NY:

Bellmore FAA site Bellmore, NY. Once part of Mitchell AFB, Uniondale NY (closed)

David Sarnoff, Radio Corporation of America (RCA) site (closed)

Coast Guard Station, North Shore, Long Island (closed)

Farmingdale Army Weekend Training (WET) Site Farmingdale, NY

Fire Island Light House, Long Island (now closed to Military)

Fort Totten Bayside Queens, NY

Giglo Beach (known as the thumb) Jones Beach State Park, Long Island (closed)

Moriches Coast Guard Station, Moriches NY

Old Dock near West End 1, Jones Beach State Park, Long Island

Short Beach Coast Guard Station, Jones Beach State Park Long Island

106th Tactical Control Group

The following is provided to help understand the size and scope of communications equipment at the Roslyn Air National Guard Station. Keep in mind the 106th Tactical Control Group (TACGP), the combined communications equipment of the 274th and the vehicle fleets of (3) squadrons were all located at Roslyn.

The 106th TACGP also moved from the White Plains Armory. The 106th TACGP was a manual group and one of the last to receive the newer computerized 407L system equipment.

Active duty Advisory Group: 507th TACGP, Shaw AFB

In Oct. 1971 the 106th was re-designated the 152nd Tactical Control Group. As of their 35th anniversary 29 March 1983, the group consisted of the following organizations:

101 st TACS	113 th TACF Hancock Field, Syracuse NY
102 nd TACS, RI	114 th TACF
103 rd TACS, Conn.	124 th TACF
*152 nd TACS Roslyn ANG, NY	123 rd TACF
108th TCF Hancock Field, Syracuse NY	128 th TACF
112 th TACF	

Note: the below equipment listings are from the 1970's for both organizations.

The 152nd TACS at its peak was
**authorized the below equipment:

AN/FRC-153 (KWM-2A)
AN/TGC-27

AN/TRC-75
AN/TRC-87

AN/TRC-97D (5 each)
AN/TSC-15 (2 sub for 1 TSC-60V1)
AN/TSC-60V1 (2 authorized 1 O/H)
AN/TSC-62
AN/TSQ-91/92/93
AN/TTC-30
EMU-30 Turbine Generator Pallets

MRC-108
VRC-46

The 274th CS (C) was authorized the below
equipment:

AN/FRC-153 (KWM-2A) 5 each
AN/TGC-20 (1 each sub for AN/TGC-27)
AN/FYQ-71
No equivalent authorized
No equivalent authorized
AN/TRC-24 series (5 subs for AN/TRC-97D)
AN/TRC-97D 2 each
AN/TSC-15 (2 sub for AN/TSC-60V2)
AN/TRC-96 (sub for AN/TSC-60V2)
AN/MS-22B (sub for AN/TSC-62)
No equivalent authorized
AN/TTC-7 (sub for AN/TTC-39)
MB-5 (20 each includes squadron support)
EMU-19 (6 each)
MEP-116 (4 each)
MB-17 (2 each)
No equivalent authorized
No equivalent authorized

(*) Note: The 152nd TACS was inactivated Sept. 1979

(**) Note: The above equipment was typical for the 152nd TACS only. Equipment for subordinate squadrons and flights varied according to authorization.

274th Combat Communications Squadron Equipment 1990's

At its peak the squadron was authorized a vast array of highly complex transportable TRI-TAC digital and analog communications equipment. The below UTC is a composite of different UTC's designed to provide Bare Base communications within 8 hours of arrival on site. Everything was self contained, including management personnel:

- 1 - AN/TSC-107 Quick Reaction Package (QRP) - 21 personnel
- 1 - MJQ-18 (2- MEP-3A 10KW diesel generators) trailer mounted
- 1 – 21/2 Ton cargo truck
- 1 – Line Truck

- 1 - AN/TSC-93BV1 Satellite Terminal – 5 personnel
- 1 – Portable GPS unit
- 1- Mobilized OE-361 QRSA antenna pallet
- 1 – AN/MJQ-18 (2-MEP-003A 10KW diesel generators) trailer mounted
- 1 – 5 Ton cargo truck
- 1 – 21/2 Ton truck

Also included:

- 1 – AN/UYC-9 (TASDAC) –4 personnel each (4 total)
- 1 - AN/TRQ-35 T Path Sounder,
- 1 - SB-3614A Switchboards
Management Personnel

The below UTC's upon arrival at the deployed location had 24 hours to establish communication circuits supporting an expanded bare base or a new Tactical Air Base. Equipment used 407L boxes and cables, Fiber Optic cables and CX-11230 Video cables to interconnect shelters and customers. The following is a listing of equipment and personnel:

- 1 - AN/GRC-206V/MRC-144 – 2 personnel
- 1 – MEP-026B Diesel generator and trailer

- 1 - AN/TRC-176

- 1 - AN/TGC-27M Communications Central – 16 personnel
- 2 - MEP-6A 60KW diesel generator sets
- 3 – 21/2 Ton cargo trucks

- 5 - AN/TRC-170V2 Troposcatter Radio Set – 5 personnel each (25 total)
- 5 – Mobilized Antenna pallets
- 10 - MEP-6, 60 KW diesel generator sets
- 5 – 2/12 Ton cargo trucks
- 5 – 5Ton cargo trucks

- 1 - AN/TSC-94AV1 Satellite Terminal – 5 personnel
- 1 – Mobilized OE-361 QRSA antenna pallet
- 2 - MEP-4A 15KW diesel generator sets
- 2 – 5Ton cargo trucks
- 2 – 21/2 Ton cargo trucks

- 1 - AN/TSQ-111 CNCE – 9 personnel
- 2 - MEP-6 60 KW diesel generator sets

1 – 5 Ton cargo truck
2 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck

1 - AN/TTC-39A Telephone Central – 17 personnel
2 - MEP-6 60 KW diesel generator sets
1 - 463L pallet for 407L/CX-11230 cable
1 – 5Ton cargo truck
2 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck
1 – Telephone line truck

1 – AN/UYC-9 (TASDAC) –4 personnel each (4 total)
1 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck

5 – AN/GRC-239 (TSSR) – 5 personnel total
10 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generators sets

2 - AN/URC-119 HF/SSB Radio Set – 5 personnel each (10 total)
4 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generator sets
2 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck

2 - AN/UXC-7 Tactical FAX

1- CGS-100M (STAMPS) Communications Terminal

1- AN/TSC-129 Hammer Rick Satellite Radio Set

2 - SB-3865 portable switchboards
2 - LIPS 3 KW air cooled diesel generator sets
1 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck

1 - Small Management Package – 22 personnel
1 – 2 1/2 Ton cargo truck

2 – Portable GPS units

375 items of Cryptographic equipment (total for all above UTC's)

28 – 463L aircraft pallets (total for all above UTC's)

Support vehicles: M-49 Fuel trucks, A1B fuel trailers, M-200 water trailers, 5Ton wrecker, 10 Ton all terrain forklift 4K and 6K forklifts.

During this time there was a critical shortage of tactical generator sets. Newly received equipment could not be deployed training was limited. Over time the 274th was successful in obtaining all the generators needed for its new tactical equipment by reclaiming generators from salvage and repairing them, ho-rah for our Ground Power personnel.

Squadron designations:

102nd Communications Squadron (Wing)
274th Communications Squadron
274th Mobile Communications Squadron (Tributary Teams)
274th Mobile Communications Squadron (Contingency)
274th Combat Communications Squadron
274th Combat Information Systems Squadron (CISS)
274th Combat Communications Squadron (Contingency)
274th Combat Communications Squadron (CCS)
274th ASOS (final designation)

Active duty Advisory Unit:

5th Combat Communications Group, Robins AFB GA

Former Commands the 274th was assigned to:

Air Defense Command (ADC)
Air Force Communications Service (AFCS) / (2) AFSC Outstanding squadron awards.
Air Force Communications Command (AFCC)
Tactical Air Command (TAC) (final assignment)

Squadron Commanders/Detachment Commanders from 1955 – 2000:

*LTC William J. Sullivan (effective May/June 1955 -) / Capt Charles Gilchrist
*LTC Frank Cilento / Maj. Charles Gilchrist

After the passing of LTC Cilento a memorial plaque was placed in front of Bldg 21. The plaque was later moved to the front of Building 27 and finally retired in 2000 and given to LTC Cilento's family.

LTC Charles Gilchrist / LTC Charles Gilchrist
LTC Rudy shipeke / Capt Robert McNamara
LTC Thomas Ingargiola / Major Robert Dusek
LTC William Palafox (effective 6 Jan 86) / Major Robert Dusek (effective 16 Feb 86),
Then Major William Canavan
LTC Thomas Ingargiola / LTC Thomas Ingargiola
LTC Philip Napolitano / LTC Philip Napolitano

Note: (*) An original 274th member from White Plains

Air Force Advisors and Section NCOIC's (all known years):

Note: Below personnel are listed from first to last known, (*) indicates an original 274th member from White Plains Airport, NY, some of these individuals may also have dated back to the squadrons beginning at the White Plains Armory.

Active duty Advisors:

SSG Cyrus Lovelady (December 1955 – 1959)

Maj. George B. Hanson (transfers from the 2146th CGP Osan, Korea Mar 62) and
MSG Donald J. Takac as Technical Advisor

MSG Bob Sheppard (transferred from the 507th Shaw AFB, SC.)
TSG Patrick Gallagher (transferred from MacDill AFB, FL.)
MSG Brendan (BJ) Nohilly
TSG William Murray (transferred from the 2nd CCGP, Patrick AFB, FL.)
MSG Tom Elgesem
MSG Les Smith (final Air Advisor)

1st Sergeants:

*SMS Frank B. Zivica
MSG Antonio M. Velez
CMS Joseph S. Cali
SMS William (Bill) Downes
SMS Frederick (Buddy) Ullman

Administration NCOIC'S:

MSG Nick Bocalino (1966-1974)
TSG Tony Velez
TSG Richard Banks
MSG John Motherway
SMS Frederick (Buddy) Ullman

AGE/Ground Power/EPP NCOIC'S:

MSG George McLellan
MSG Howe Baez
TSG Frederick Hertel
MSG Kenneth Mullins
SMS Carlo Didonato
MSG Frank Ingargiola
*SMS Dominic Triolo
MSG John Alexander

Air Police Flight:

Unknown Senior NCO's

Communications Center:

TSG Rose Bonamico

Utilities Construction Flight:

*Special Service Officer Lt. Lozaris
*MSG Burt Green (only known NCO)
A1C Pass (section member)

Cryptographic Maintenance NCOIC's:

SSG Chris Braun
SSG Carlton Copp III
SSG Robert Sprovieri
SSG John Lindner

DSTE Maintenance NCOIC's:

SSG Michael Majorka
TSG Richard Kobolack
SSG Robert Zuneska

Engineering OIC's:

2nd Lt David Salano
2nd Lt Fransen

Food Service NCOIC's:

*MSG Lacaruba
MSG Tom Marlow
MSG Frank Cosentino
MSG Augustino Bitetto
MSG Frank Bonomo

GSU NCOIC's:

TSG F. Chung
MSG Al Deconsiglo
MSG James Greenfield
MSG Al Smith

Chief of Maintenance:

*Maj. Steve Marino (19XX-1967)
Maj. Bob Elliott a key engineer at Fort Monmouth in the development future TRI-TAC systems
Maj. McIlwain
Maj. Don Eargle
Maj. Robert Dusek
Maj. Frank Nicolini
Maj. Claudett Martin
Maj. Donald R. Horton

Maintenance Superintendents:

SMS Walter DiMaria (19XX-1966)
MSG Bill Secongoust (1966 – 19XX)
*MSG A. Paul Schnable (19XX-1970)
CMS Joseph S. Cali (1970-1990)
CMS John S. Mandinec (1990-2000)

Logistics NCOIC's:

MSG Frederick Hertel
OIC Major William Phillips
MSG James Stauner

Operations OIC's:

*Maj. Frank Cilento
*Maj. Steve Marino
Maj. Robert McNamara
Maj. Daniel Chan
Maj. William Palafox
Maj. Robert Dusek
Maj. Hinda Katz
Maj. Philip Napolitano
Maj. Leonard Volpe

Operations NCOIC'S:

*CMS Larry Iannarelli also an original 102CS member
SMS John Garey
*CMS Jerry Carmarda
CMS George McDonald

Quality Control NCOIC's:

*SMS A Paul Schnable
TSG Fred Hertel
MSG Dennis Winkler
SMS Dennis Terrell
SMS Walter Olszewski
OIC Lt David Solano
TSG Andrew S. Harman

Radio/HF Radio Maintenance NCOIC's:

*SGT Steve Marino
*SGT Larry Iannarelli
*SGT Jerry Carmarda
*MSG A. Paul Schnable
MSG Michael Cresci
MSG John S. Mandinec
MSG Pasquale (Pat) Marino

Radio Operations NCOIC's:

MSG Baker
MSG John Saller
MSG Kevin Felici

Radio Relay/Wideband NCOIC'S:

SMS Hank Knoth (1967-1968)
SMS Mike Cresci (1968-1974)
CMS John Mandinec (1974-1990)
SMS Walter Olszewski (1986-19XX)

Safety OIC/NCO's:

Capt Robert Healy
2nd Lt Charles Franssen
SMS Joseph S. Cali
SMS John S. Mandinec
TSG Nat Goodwin
SSG Jose Molina

Satellite Maintenance NCOIC'S:

MSG Robert Zuneska
TSG Richard Martino

Supply OIC/NCOIC's:

*MSG Lou Cracco (19XX-1967?)
MSG (name lost)
CAPT Robert Healy (OIC)
MSG Gerry Beard
Capt William Phillips (OIC)
TSG Bill Mckeen
MSG Grover Prince
MSG Bob Schaefer

Tech Control NCOIC's:

MSG Frank Iocono
MSG Fred Schwanewede
MSG Donald Kovacs
TSG Dorothy Hackley
MSG Brad Bumgardner

Telephone/Electronic Switch Maintenance NCOIC's:

*MSG Gaiser
MSG Frank Iocono
TSG Chris Sfakianous
MSG Karl Gustafson
MSG Guy Petraglia
MSG George Stenz

Teletype Maintenance NCOIC'S:

SSG Richard (Dick) Shoder
SSG Karl Gustafson
SSG Robert W. Townsend

Training NCO's:

TSG Raymond J. Sanzone (19XX - 1966)
SMS John Knoth
TSG Antonio M. Valez
TSG Thomas Hoyt
TSG Arthur (Art) Langer
TSG William (Bill) McLoughlin
TSG Fern Cadogan
TSG Fredrick (Buddy) Ullman

Vehicle Maintenance NCOIC'S:

*MSG George Cody
MSG Teddy Urban
*SMS Dominic Triolo

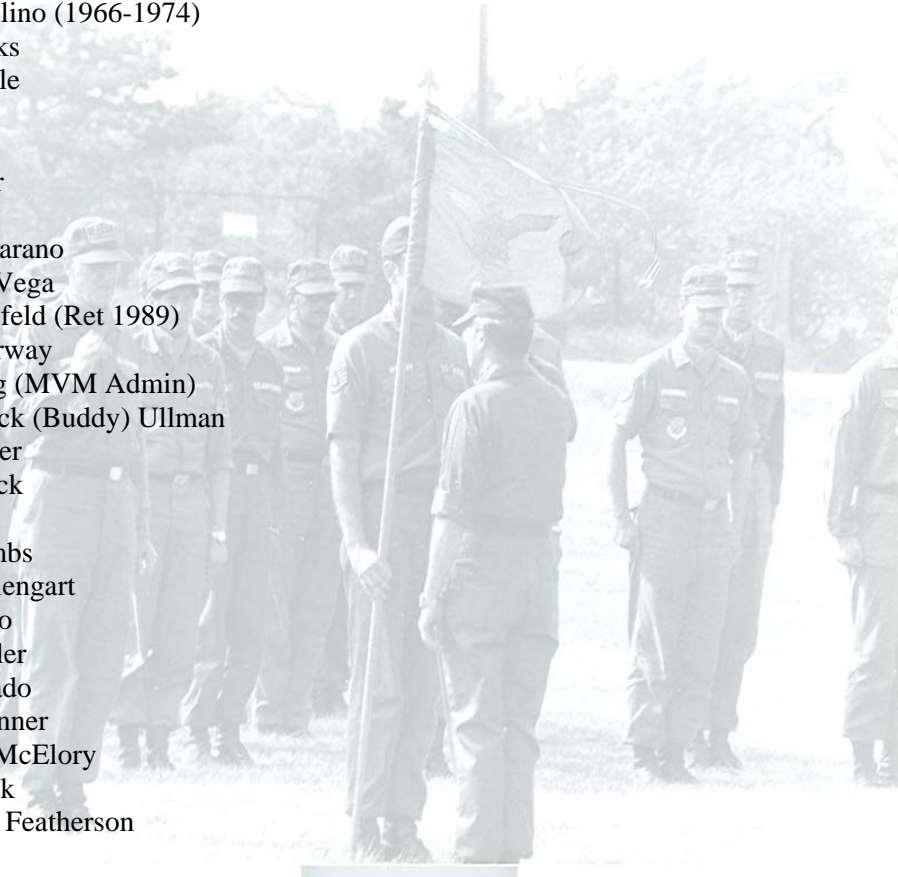
Workload Control NCOIC's:

SMS George Dodd
SMS Joseph S. Cali
TSG Fred Kastner
SMS Steve Diaczun

Many names have been lost, or could not be associated with any section and are not listed. Some names below are missing first names and or rank, but were associated via the Bee Line listings. Also section names are not all listed first to last, and ranks shown may not be accurate due to accuracy of available information.

Administration

MSG Nick Boccallino (1966-1974)
TSG Richard Banks
MSG Karen Clipple
TSG Tony Velez
TSG Irv Hitzler
SRA Joyce Hitzler
TSG Robert Klien
SSG Wendy Permarano
AMN Desiree A. Vega
MSG William Alefeld (Ret 1989)
MSG John Motherway
MSG Wanda Long (MVM Admin)
SGT SMS Frederick (Buddy) Ullman
TSG Phyllis Booker
SRA Amanda Black
TSG Anna White
SSG Michael Gumbs
TSG Maralyne Wiengart
SGT Gigo Chiappo
TSG Yolanda Miller
SGT Oscar Alvarado
SSG Daniel O'Conner
SRA L. Michelle McElory
SRA Angela Hacck
AMN Christopher Featherson
AMN Campos



Communications Center

MSG Rose Bonamico

Cryptographic Maintenance

A1C Steve Brauner
SSG Chris Braun
SSG Kevin Wheeler
SSG Carlton Copp III
SSG Robert Sprovieri
SSG Michael Smyth
SSG Robert Croasdaile
SGT Robert Weingaertner
SSG John Linder

DSTE Maintenance

TSG Mike Majorka
SSG Richard Kobolack
SSG Robert Zuneska

Food Service

MSG Lacaruba (1955 -)
MSG Tom Marlow
MSG Frank Cosentino
MSG Augustino Bitetto
MSG Frank Bonomo
TSG Leo Whol (member)
TSG Al J. Nigro (member)
TSG Dominick Milazzo (member)
SGT Kawah Kong (member)

AGE/Ground Power/EPP Maintenance

MSG George McLellen
MSG Howe Baez
*MSGT Dominic Triolo
TSG Frederick Hertel
TSG Anthony Sommerlad
MSG Nat Goodwin
MSG James Williams
TSG Dennis Winkler
TSG Walter Arnessen
SSG Thomas Manning
SSG John Hoffman
SMS Carlo Didonato
MSG Kenneth Mullins
MSG Frank Ingargiola
MSG John Alexander
TSG Derrick Hunt
TSG Jose Molina
TSG George Smith
TSG Frank Marino
SSG Fern Cadogan
SSG Robert Ayhens
 Jay Denise
 Kennth Graham
 Kevin O'Donnel
 Henry Young
SSG George Diaz
 Sullivan
SSG J. Dean
 Cruz-Rivera
SGT Rodeny Brown
 Enrique Casareno
 Edwin Glover

MSG Al Deconsiglio
MSG James Greenfield
SSG Marcelle Palladino (later Leis)
TSG Maureen V. Johnson
SGT Sacha Osborn
MSG Al Smith

Logistics

MSG Frederick Hertel
OIC Major William Phillips
TSG Charles Turano
MSG James Stauner
MSG James Provost

Chief of Maintenance

Maj. Steve Marino (19XX-1967)
Maj. Bob Elliott a key engineer at Fort Monmouth in the development future TRI-TAC systems
Maj. McIlwain
Maj. Donald Eargle
Maj. Robert Dusek
Maj. Frank Nicolini
Maj Claudett Martin
Maj. Donald R. Horton

Maintenance Superintendents

SMSGT Walter DiMaria (19XX-1966)
MSGT Bill Secongoust (1966 – 19XX)
SMSGT A. Paul Schnable (19XX-1970)
CMSGT Joseph Cali (1970-1986)
CMSGT John Mandinec (1986-2000)

Medical Section

AMN David J. Dittrich
MSG Mort Strizver NCOIC
MSG Daniel (Danny) Vazquetells (NCOIC)
MSG Patrick Clifford
TSG James Provost



Operations

*MSG George Ricci
*CMS Larry Iannarelli
TSG Chalson (1965 and earlier to 1967?)
SSG Angelo Lamantia
A1C John Batista
Finocchio
SSG Michael Kearns
MSG George McDonald

MSG John Cantante
 MSG Joseph Feignbaum
 MSG Michael Limaita
 MSG George Wezer
 TSG Walter Musurak
 SSG Barbuto (Brother in Wideband)
 SSG Ping Chu
 SSG Peter Gong ?
 SGT Thomas
 SGT T. Booker
 SMS John Garey
 CMS Jerry Carmarda (Ret. Jan 1990)
 TSG Anthony Venetz
 SGT Eva Molina
 SSG Peter J. Gonzales
 SGT Peter Gong
 TSG Byron Howell
 SSG Edwin Martinez
 MSG Evans
 SSG George Bell
 SSG L. Porrello
 SGT Rose Condello
 Russell
 McQueen
 Tagaca
 Cooper
 SGT Ralph Brathwaite
 SSG Beldeo
 Esteves
 SSG Kevin Felici Jr.
 Vallejo



Quality Control

TSG Fred Hertel
 MSG Dennis Winkler
 SMS Dennis Terrell
 SMS Walter Olszewski
 TSG Andrew S. Harman

Maintenance Control/Maintenance Analysis

MSG George Dodd
 SSG Michael Majorka
 A1C Cucchiara
 TSG Fredrick Kastner
 SMS Steve Diaczun
 MSG Walter Bowden

Ground Radio Maintenance Section Members

(Pre 1965)

SGT Steve Marino (1950-1952 years later to become LTC)
SGT Larry Annarelli (?)
SGT Jerry Carmarda
MSG A Paul Schnable
SSG Robert Heyman (Airman of the Year 1965)
SSG Neil Hogenlocker
SSG Eric Stuve
SSG Donald Cassell
SGT Schrofnagel
SGT Daniel Troug'e
A2C Giacoia
MSG John Waxner
SSG Richard Scarlotta
SSG William (Bill) Jones (274th Hoopster member)

(1965)

A2C John Mandinec
A2C Kurt Weyman

(1967)

A2C Steve Hamsen

(1970's)

SSG Stanley Cerniak
SSG Edward Galto
SSG Steve Kessler
SGT Robert Szandrowski
A1C Kevin Brady
A1C Gabriele
A1C Ronald Lanza
SGT Dennis Terrell
SSG Walter Bowden
SGT Anthony Caldarella
SSG Michael Devlin
SSG Michael Hepp
SSG James Shea
A1C Keith Wilson
A1C Robert Brakman
A1C Robert Chi
A1C Robert Marin

(Late 1970's - 1980's)

SSG Steve Elster
SSG James Fitzgerald
SSG Richard (Dick) Rogers
SSG Robert (Bob) Casell

SSG Pasquale Marino
MSG John Murphy
TSG Richard Skelaney
SSG Francis (Todd) Rus
SGT Michael Graves
AIC Michael Lefer
AIC Michael Matos

Radio Operations

MSG Baker
MSG John Saller
MSG Kevin Felici
MSG Mitchell Yarmel
SSG David Shapiro
SSG Robert Johnson
SSG Dean Prince
SGT Glen Hamer
SGT Lillie Hinton
SGT Robert Glenn
SGT Jill Truchie
Boone
SGT Karen Dean
SSG Armor
Jeffery Bloom

Safety

Capt Robert Healy (OIC)
TSG Richard Wassmer
SMS Joseph Cali
SMS John Mandinec
TSG Nat Goodwin
TSG Jose Molina

Satellite Maintenance

MSG Robert Zuneska
TSG Richard Martino
TSG Werner Juran
TSG George Stenz
TSG Richard Walston
SSG Roger Sherman
SSG Sheryl Newsome
AIC Louis Daniels
SRA Barrett
SRA Wulfert

Information Security OIC

Capt Stephen R. Lander Jr. (an original Hoopster member)
Capt. Rudy Skipek
TSG Michael Kearns

Air Police / Security Flight (dated O/A 1962)

SSG Charles DeSimone
SSG James O'Connor
SSG John Merk
A2C Joseph Marsala
A2C Richard Bestafka
A2C John Paul
A3C Mathew Sabatello

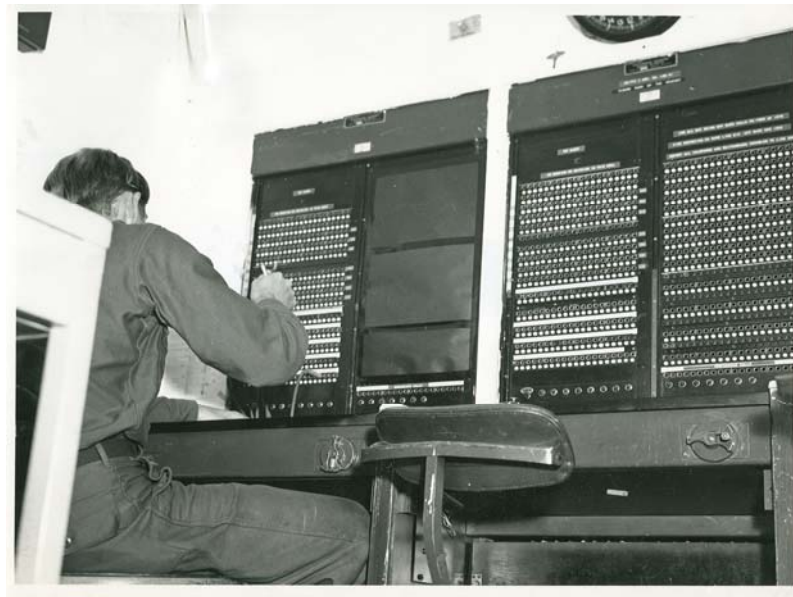
Supply / Materiel Control

MSG Louis Coracco (19XX-1967?)
MSG (name unknown, picture available)
MSG Joseph Turciano also Food Service, a memorial plaque was placed in Station Chow Hall
MSG Gerry Beard
TSG Bill Mckeon
Capt William Phillips (OIC)
MSG Grover Prince
MSG Bob Schaefer
MSG Al Perone
SSG Brian Grosvale't
SSG Emile Gaskin
SSG Steve Hogenlocker
AB Sam Blue
SSG Grodnick



Telephone/Electronic Switch Maintenance

MSG Giser
SGT Sullivan (early 1960's)
A1C Varnet (early 1960's)
MSG Frank Icono
SGT Tom Kapacne
TSG Chris Fakianous
SSG Karl Gustafson
TSG Guy Petraglia
MSG George Stenz
SSG Peter Leis
SGT Gene Kirton
SGT Darryl L. Purdy
SGT Castillo
SSG Edward Hicks Jr.
SSG Samuel Parris
SSG Brian Fox
SGT Steve Maroney



Telephone/Electronic Switch Maintenance cont'd

SGT Alinea
SGT Raymond Lang
SGT Mark Foushee
SSG Pedro Orengo Jr.
AMN Wizzard
AMN Charles Zoolkowski

Tech Control

MSG Frank Iocono
TSG Richard (Dick) Stream
MSG Fred Schwanewede
SGT Philips
SGT Robert Flores
MSG Donald Kovacs
TSG Dorothy Hackley
MSG Brad Bumgardner
TSG Edward Saller
TSG Jesus Velazquez-Perez
SGT Peter Nichik
SSG Richard Paquette
SSG Nelson Perez
A1C Peter Caradonna
A1C Clark
A1C Raymond Montefusco
A1C Dino Santos
Sullivan

Teletype Maintenance

SSG Richard (Dick) Shoder
SSG Karl Gustafson
SSG Robert W. Townsend
SGT Kenneth Grey

Training

TSG Raymond J. Sanzone (19XX - 1966)
SMS John Knoth
TSG Antonio M. Valez
TSG Thomas Hoyt
TSG William (Bill) McGloughlin
TSG Fern Cadogan
TSG Fredrick (Buddy) Ullman

Radio Relay/Wideband

(1967/68)

SMS Hank Knoth
SMS George Dodd (Team Chief)

(1967/68 cont'd)

MSG Dick Hartsel (Team Chief)
MSG Al Krist (Team Chief)
MSG Charles (Chuck) Turano (Team Chief)
SSG Frank Keegan
TSG Thomas Brandt
SSG Berry
SSG E. Johanning
SSG Walter Conza
SSG Donald Delaney
SSG David Schwarts
SMS Mike Cresci (1968-1974)

(1970's - 1980's)

SMS John Mandinec (1974-1986)
SSG Joseph Graham
SSG John May
SSG William Moncrief
SSG John Pallideno
SSG Richard Schultz
SSG Richard Wassmer
AIC Deconstanza
AIC Rizzo
SSG Dominic Barbuto
TSG Roy Diers
SSG Aquillina
SSG James Brennen
 Falbo
 Kelly
 Richard Jankowski
SSG Andrew (Andy) Anderson
SSG Albert Koller
SSG Walter Olszewski
SSG Postilone
SSG David Solano
SSG Robert Zuneska
SSG Marcus Byron
SGT Ed Saller
SSG Werner Juran
TSG Mario Mazzie
TSG Ronald Wisniewski
MSG Victor Barnes
TSG Elmer Patzkowski
MSG Fred Vega
TSG Frederick (Buddy) Ullman
SGT Richard Walston
SGT Brian Banks
SSG Guy Petraglia
SSG Steve Diaczun
SGT Fitzpatrick
TSG Randy Howell

(1980's - 1990's)

A1C James Moses
SGT Victor Lucente
SGT Fransco Osorio
SGT John Blenman
SSG Andrew Berniak
SSG Sheryl Newsome
A1C John Lucyk
SRA Henry Vanderwerken
SRA David Winston
SGT Nicole Locke
SSG Peter Leis
SRA John Mele
SRA Dominic Fracalossi
Vescio
AMN John James
A1C Nicole Locke
AMN Lucente
Edgar McDoniel

Vehicle Maintenance Section

MSG George Cody
MSG George Ricci
MSG Teddy Urban
*SMSG Dominic Triolo
MSG Al Mion
SSG Michael Michelsen
SSG Richard Stream
MSG Thomas Kelly
SSG George Wezer
TSG John McGinnis
TSG Leo Gasparik
TSG McDough
SGT Carl Berry
SSG Tim Devita
TSG McBride
SSG Gerald Gibbons
SSG Steve Dalin
SSG Al Allocco
SSG James Fanaro
TSG Steve Cantante
SSG Frank Marino
TSG Elizabeth Miller
Abbatiello
Paul Amon
Denis
O'Donnell
Osborne
Orenstein



Historical Time Line (1962 – 1999):

Many squadron historical records were lost due to several building moves at Roslyn. Unit records and reports that survived were thrown away when the squadron headquarters made their final move to building 37. What survived provided scant information covering the below years:

1962: Squadron deploys to Griffiss AFB and (3) other northern bases in New York to establish a minor relay station and a tributary teams at the AFLC base. The other bases involved were Hancock Field, Plattsburg AFB and Schenectady Airport.

1967: The squadron participates in the first all Air National Guard exercise Sentry Post, which was designed around the then active duty Strike Exercises at Otis AFB, MA.

1967-1969: An update to the mission dropped Tributary Teams from Mobile Communications Squadron. Equipment changed from High Frequency only radio communications to the more reliant Frequency Modulated (FM) Radio Relay equipment. Personnel were retrained from the Ground Radio Maintenance AFSC 304X4, Navigational Aids or recruited to the newly authorized career field, that of Radio Relay Repairman AFSC 304X0. 2 each Multi-Channel Radio Terminals AN/TRC-61's and 5 Radio Repeater AN/TRC-36's, constructed by the 265th MCS of transit cased equipment and mounted into gutted AN/TRN-6 shelters were received. One additional AN/TRC-61 was received through transfer from the 106th TACS.

The AN/TRC series were capable of 12 channels of voice or a combination of 11 voice and 8 Teletype 60 Baud rate communications channels. Communications was limited to line of sight or about 15-25 miles between each radio set depending on terrain features. Equipment was connected via spiral 4 cable, field wire or locally built interface boxes and cables. The 274th "Summer Camp" later called Annual Field Training (AFT) began to frequent Otis AFB, mainly due to the location of the 253rd CGP, deploying Radio Repeaters throughout New England.

1968: the squadron was re-designated the 274th Mobile Communications Squadron. An updated High Frequency Independent Single Sideband Multi-Channel Radio AN/TSC-15 was received. Its first use was during a deployment to McGuire AFB, New Jersey. Prior to the satellite communications age, Long Haul HF communications was the only means of Long distance radio communications. Radio Relay/Wideband was typically used to provide communications to or from fixed Long Haul HF sites or between Air Bases. Although the AN/TSC-15 was medium range equipment it could provide with improved antennas reliable links up to 800 miles.

1969-1970: ANGRY-26's, which lied dormant, are retired. Most went to the salvage yard at Fort Tilden with some transferred to the Civil Air Patrol Eastern Regional Headquarters located in Bellmore Long Island. The squadron begins locally fabricating a new Technical Control facility (TCF) from plans developed by the 272nd MCS.

The new TCF was designated AN/MS-22B. During this time the squadron makes a commitment to locally fabricate a new type tactical cable that has quick attaching connectors. Cables are known as 407L cables, named for the Air Force's newest tactical system 407L. 407L cables were sorely needed to replace aging 5 pair cable and time consuming field wire interconnects. Also the older BENDIX interface boxes are also modified, adding the newer 407L connectors. Sheltered equipment is also upgraded to include the new 407L connectors.

Also about this time MSG George Ricci designed and helped build with the assistance of Ground Power and Vehicle Maintenance sections the fabrication of dual mounted generator trailers for all the squadrons single ground mounted MB-5, EMU-10 and later EMU-19 generator sets. This was a major contribution to rapid deployment of the squadron's tactical communications equipment.

In 1970 the U.S. Postal Service strikes, the squadron was activated. The squadron performs Annual Field training at the newly re-opened Westhampton ANGB on Long Island.

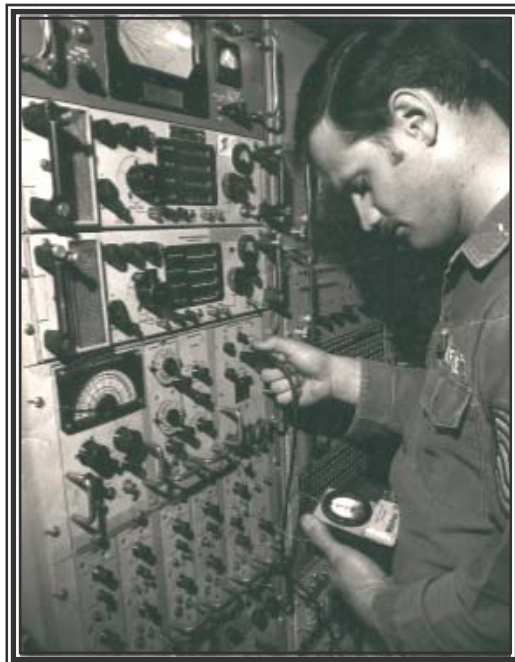
1972-1973: Radio Set AN/TRC-96 and Teletype Communications Center AN/TGC-20 are transferred from active duty organizations. The AN/TRC-96 in poor condition remained for almost 3 years as a hanger queen, until full repairs could be accomplished. In 1973 the squadron again received the 253rd Mobile Communications Group award as “Outstanding Squadron” of the year.

AN/TRC-96 Radio Set was one of the most difficult equipments to setup, operate and maintain. Antenna systems required the fabrication of open wire transmission lines, use of 24 - 12inch long insulators, balun transformers, terminating resistors for antenna directivity and the installation of multiple ground array systems. Tuning of the radio transmitters required a lengthy process of testing, tuning manually operated syntherziers, up-converters, excitors and using spectrum analyzers, frequency counters and dummy loads to achieve harmonic reduced transmission.

The radio set also contained Teletype Corporation Teletypewriters with Tape Distributors and locations for cryptographic equipment, a switchboard and a full array of rack mounted test equipment for radio and DC Teletype adjustment, analysis and maintenance. Equipment was prone to overheating and syntherziers required periodic internal readjustments while operating.

As originally used by the Air Force Radio Set AN/TRC-96 was paired with Teletype Communications Central AN/TGC-20, also containing Teletype Corporation Teletypewriter equipment and cryptographic equipment to form a complete initial Air Base communications system.

Systems used DC signaling to communicate Teletype information between shelters. Both systems were built from off the shelf commercial equipment and sheltered in larger transportable shelters. Each shelter weighed as much as 13,000 pounds. Together they formed a system known as “Project Redwood”, one of the first deployable Air Force built communications systems.



Inside Radio Set AN/TRC-96 (showing radio receiver rack)

274th personnel participate in Active Duty exercise Exotic Dancer 6 in Willington North Carolina. Also the squadron supported the Rome Air Development Center (RADC) at Griffis AFB, NY testing of improved Microwave Antenna systems.

The squadron deploys to Windsor Locks CT., supporting the 103rd Tactical Fighter Squadron. AN/TSC-15 HF/ISB Radio Set, AN/TRC-36/61 and AN/TRC-97 Radio Relay/Troposcatter Radio Sets, AN/MS-22B Tech Control Facility, AN/FRC-153 HF/SSB Radio, AN/TTC-7 Telephone Central and Teletype trailer C-11B were used.

The Squadron supports its first active duty JCS exercise EXOTIC DANCER 6 in Willmington NC providing personnel and an AN/TSC-15 HF/ISB Radio supporting a fighter squadron.

1974: The squadron receives the Air Force Outstanding unit award for the period of 1 Jan 73 to 31 Dec 74. AN/FYQ-71 Digital Subscriber Terminal Equipment (DSTE), built by the Army Signal Command at Bluegrass Army depot was received. Equipment is so large it was built into (2) 40-foot long-trailers.

One trailer was so heavy equipment was transported in the trailer center and moved into position by hydraulic positioning motors at the deployment site. Equipment utilized bubble memory and was programmed by strapping a rat's nest of jumper boards. Equipment processed data up to then an unheard of 2,400 Baud rate.

Elements of the 274th deploy to Robins AFB Ga. borrowing additional AN/FYQ-71 from the 5th CGP and AN/TSC-15 Radio Set from the 224th CS establishing a radio system linking 2 AN/FYQ-71 high-speed data terminals. The AN/FYQ-71 also supported the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH) at Camp Giger, NC and annual Field training at Otis AFB, MA.



Loading the on-line half of AN/FYQ-71 (DSTE) into a C-5A aircraft

Vehicle Maintenance personnel deploy to Barstow CA., assisting in much needed repair of vehicles returning from overseas. The vehicles became a boon to our and other squadrons that were critically short 2-1/2 and 5ton cargo trucks. Later Barstow vehicles become known as Barstow Beauties for reasons other than their looks



Barstow Beauties

1976: A 3 day Communications Evaluation was conducted by the 253rd CGP. The squadron deployed to Jones Beach State Park to an area known as the thumb. HF communications was established with MacDill AFB a Defense Communications System (DCS) entry point. An AN/TSC-62 is borrowed from the 152nd TACS. The squadron is re-designated a Combat Communications Squadron.

1977: Radio Set AN/TSC-60V2 was received. 3 - AN/TSC-60V2's were authorized, only 1 was ever received. When the 105th ASOC at WhitePlains was disbanded (1) AN/TSC-60V1 (previously owned by the 152nd TCS) was received through transfer. The AN/TSC-60V1, V2 and the older AN/TRC-96 filled the 274th HF Multi-channel Independent Sideband (ISB) authorizations.

This also marked the beginning of the final era of HF/ISB. The AN/TSC-60V2 was capable of up to (16) 75 Baud rate Teletype channels and (7) voice plus data channels, using (2) transmitters and (2) Radio receivers. Later addition equipment was added, Time Diversity Modems (increased Radio Teletype reliability) and (2) AN/FTA-28 Telephone Terminals to provide over the air DTMF telephone dialing capability. AN/TSC-60V2 and AN/TRC-96 performed well and provided worldwide HF Long Haul communications up to 2,400 miles.

1978: Squadron members participate in a winter JCS exercise Empire Glacier at Fort Drum, NY. Radio Set AN/TRC-96 deploys with personnel to Wallkill New York, a drop zone used by West Point Black Knights jump team and Cadets. Voice and Teletype circuits are established to the 265th CCS in South Portland Maine.

1979: Squadron deploys to Fort Monmouth, NJ. 253rd sponsored AN/TSC-60V2 training was conducted as well as AN/TRC-36/61 and TRC-97 radio links to Long Island via Jones Beach. The squadron borrows portable UHF satellite equipment from the army and ties it into the 274th AN/TGC-20 Communications Center. Although messages are only looped back it is a first for the 274th to tie into satellite radio equipment and systems. The squadron also participates in JCS exercise Solid Shield 79.

1981: The squadron supports the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH) located at Fort Drum, NY during exercise Sentry Castle. The squadron provides personnel and equipment. AN/TRC-96 Radio Set provides its Air to Ground AN/URC-9's and added AN/TRC-68's to establish communications between aircraft and the Exercise Director Headquarters (EDH). Also for inbound/outbound aircraft communications are (5) KWM-2A radio transceivers and (4) Telephone terminal AN/FTA-28 and (2) AN/FTA-20. Microwave Radio Sets AN/TRC-97D are also supplied supporting Troposcatter links to remote sites.

1984: AN/TSC-94A Satellite Terminal received. 2 squadron members deploy to Hayward CA. to receive training on the new equipment. The squadron supports the 106th National Guard Association (NAGUS) conference, New York City. Squadron personnel were responsible for the vast Hand Held Radio system equipment, assisted in establishing Public Address systems and telephone communications for the 5,000 attendees. The squadron also participated in exercise Sentry Yankee 84, deploying the TAB to Hancock Field, Syracuse NY and AN/TRC-97D's Harrisville, Stockbridge and Gomer Hill and finally Verone NY.

After the 152nd move, the 274th was assigned duty as lead Squadron for the station. A few positions are added to support a GSU function, also the squadron now operates the station Communications Center, provided station frequency management, programmed and maintained the Station DEFINITY G3 Telephone switch, maintained the station Land Area Network (LAN) containing Concentrators, Routers and Servers as well as maintenance of the installations backup power station located in building 18. The power station consisted of 3 - 100KW generators.

1986: AN/TSC-62A Tech Control received. The squadron undergoes an operational readiness inspection at the Moriches Coast Guard Station and receives an outstanding grade.

1987: the 274th receives AN/TSC-107 Quick Reaction Package (QRP) from the 2nd Combat Communications Group located at Patrick AFB Florida. Equipment is in poor condition and plagues squadron training and performance, even to the last Command ORI.

1988: Squadron supports communications for then Vice President George Bush Sr. during the 25 May West Point Graduation. The 274th assists in the design for its new maintenance building. The 274 Communications Squadron deploys to Moron AB Spain, supporting Army Headquarters Command with Satellite links, (3) Portable Telephone Switchboards SB-3614 for secure voice circuits and (3) switchboards for unsecured voice circuits.

Also system circuit monitoring using the newly received AN/TSC-62A was also provided. In addition (12) STU-5M remote telephone converters at various sites throughout the Air Base were installed and maintained. Wideband personnel install more than 50 1,000 ft rolls of 4-wire telephone cable to support exercise communications.

1989: The squadron participates in exercise Healthy Echo at Westover AFB, Chickapee, MA.

1990: 274th Medical personnel augment the 106th Clinic during exercise Red Flag at Soesterberg AB, Holland.

1990's: Radio Sets AN/TRC-36/61 and 97's are retired. Satellite Radio Set AN/TSC-93BV1, 5 each Higher powered Digital Multi-channel Troposcatter Radio Sets AN/TRC-170V2's, AN/TSQ-111 CNCE, AN/TTC-39, 300 Line digital Switch and an AN/UYC-9 Portable Land System equipment are received and complete the units conversion to the same equipment possessed by it's active duty counter parts.

A squadron engineering function is added, greatly enhancing system circuit design/configuration setup prior to UTA exercises or deployments. During the preparation of Desert Storm the squadron deployed a UTC consisting of AN/TSC-94A Satellite Radio and personnel to support communications and assisted preparing site space at Roslyn for the Whitehouse Communications Service.

During this period changes in equipment and manpower authorizations began. The Unit Manning Document (UMD) did not authorize sufficient personnel for newer equipment and later it is learned the squadron was not to receive the AN/TTC-39A or its personnel authorizations. Making matters worse the AN/TTC-39A is eventually received without personnel authorizations.

Delays in receiving all UTC critical personnel authorizations, the receipt of the AN/TSQ-111 CNCE with its poorly designed power up and protection modules delayed critical training and further contribute to a lackluster final ORI performance.

1991: Selected Radio Operators deploy to Soto Cano AB, Honduras in September 91. A UEI is also scheduled for September. The Squadron participates in exercise Display Determination at 2 locations in Turkey.

1992: The squadron deploys via C-5A's from Stewart ANGB, NY to EL Toro MCAS, CA., a deployment of Wideband personnel to Patrick AFB, FL. for AN/TRC-170V2 training from the 2nd Combat Communications Group. The squadron also receives a UEI inspection 17-18 Oct 1992.

1993: A team is sent to Greece to survey communications requirements for NATO. An exercise annex is developed, however the deployment is cancelled.

1995: In June the Squadron under goes an ORI inspection at Westover AFRB, MA. Due to the squadrons performance a retake is scheduled for September. BRAC announces proposed closure of the Roslyn Air National Guard Station.

1996: The squadron again returns to Hancock Field for exercise Global Yankee. All tactical equipment is used, (1) AN/GRC-206/MRC-144, (5)- AN/GRC-239 (TSSR) links, (2)- Satellite systems AN/TSC-93B and AN/TSC-94A, AN/TSC-107 HF/ISB Radio for DCS entry, 2- AN/URC-119 HF/SSB systems for Command and Control, AN/TSQ-111 CNCE, AN/TGC-27M COMM Center, AN/TTC-39A Telephone Switching, AN/UYC-9 Portable LAN systems and a Management package.

1997: The 274th supports Rome Laboratories, during exercise Global Apache. 274th AN/GRC-206/MRC-144 was used to test the use of field video and audio links for medical monitoring, assessment and care of patient wounds/injuries via a radio system to doctors located at rear medical facilities. All other tactical equipment is also used to support other exercise requirements.

1998: Squadron deploys to Dover AFRB and also begins planning for deployment to Iceland. A team is sent to survey and plan exercise support. Word of a mission change is received. Some possibilities are Anti-Artic support for NOAA, Space command and an ASOS mission. Many favored a move to Space Command even though funding was uncertain.

1999: Iceland deployment is cancelled. The squadron receives official word of remissioning. With no one to speak for the new ASOS squadron the 274th passes an updated Bee patch to the new organization.

As the new squadron grew a new squadron emblem was developed replacing the familiar Bee. The new emblem the “Iron Knights” is shown below.



Remember When

During a self- help painting project Paul tried mixing a gallon of paint in the shop drill press. His hand slipped off the drill press handle spraying paint all over him and the room. What a sight, I laugh until I cried.

After a horrendous sideways landing at the Buffalo Airport, George decided to relieve the tension by taking us out to a local bar and show us what a Flaming Jelly bean was. Apparently after lighting the drink and leaving it lit too long he picked it up burnt his lips, spilling the drink down the length of the bar top and almost set the place on fire. I thought we were going to die.

One early morning while Larry was having coffee at his desk a large amount of what appeared to be water poured through the drop ceiling all over the desk he was seated at. A raccoon frequented the attic during the winter decided to pee. What a sight to see Larry's face!

Paul always had coffee ready for all by the time we got in each morning it always had an unusually strong flavor and deep color. Unknown to us he would save yesterdays coffee on top of a steam radiator behind a curtain. UCK.....

John and Karl during a deployment to Jones Beach were assigned as night watch for the site. Deciding it was time to take a walk around the site they opened the shelter door and found the tide had come in. The shelter smelled like fish for weeks.

During an exercise we sent Frank looking for a missing power Phase Ground Power Maintenance had reported lost while running an MB-17 generator. After searching for quite some time he couldn't find it. We gave in and produced a locked box, stenciled "extra phases", this we confessed were kept for just such an emergency.

An annual event at Summer Camp was for someone to secretly remove Tony's heal taps from his boots and shoes and parade them around on the last day of camp. One time someone glued his boots to the floor. In the morning he unknowingly pulled on the boots to hard and left both heals still stuck to the floor. Boy was he mad.

The new First Sergeant, standing proudly in front of the squadron began shouting *ten hut* when suddenly his new false teeth shot out into the first squad, landing at their feet. The squadron still at attention was laughing so hard few could stand upright.

While still in the field, word was received that the squadron had done so well on the inspection there was great jubilation. The squadron began throwing the Site commander and others into the ocean. A Lieutenant became so frightened he ran through the swamp reeds, never to be heard of again...

It had rained for it seemed weeks, one morning Richie ran from the shop very excited and wanting me to see the tarp that covered the AN/TRC-170 antenna pallet, as I looked at the top of the tarp it was full of tiny fish swimming happily in a pool of collected water. I couldn't believe it. It had rained so much, was it possible?

Radio station call signs over the years could be pretty tough. One year we were blessed with Starch Corn, repeating this over and over again overtime it became many different call signs, including Corn Starch. Also over the years some call signs were so difficult to repeat over and over again some turned into near cuss words.

Not Forgotten

Gone or reduced in size are many of the active duty and Air National Guard Combat Communications squadrons and Groups. The 274th CCS like many of its active duty counterparts was too large and heavy to be moved rapidly.

Not forgotten are the countless 274th members who gave their time, talents and most of their working lives for the success of their sections and the squadron. Many were notable and rose through the ranks to become outstanding senior NCO's and officers, some commanding within the 274th while others had the opportunity to grow further in other organizations. Many may still be serving in organizations such as NEADS, Westhampton Beach ANGB, NY, Stewart ANGB NY, Andrews AFB, MD, McGuire AFB, NJ, U.S. Army, U.S. Navy and USAF.

Gone are the sites the 274th once played at, Farmingdale, Bellmore, Fire Island, Gilgo Beach, Roslyn and a dozen others. Silent are many of the HF long haul DCS entry stations that served as worldwide gateway stations for deployed Tactical Air Base (TAB) communications squadrons linking area commanders to the Joint Chiefs (JCS) and later CINCS.

The squadron may still haunt numerous places it deployed to such as Exeter, Ellenville, Wallkill, Maysville, Pine Hill, Pond Ridge, Elephant hill, China Lake and the grand daddy of Long Haul HF sites once operated by Radio Corporation of America (RCA) on Long Island. The familiar call MacDill, MacDill this is Corn Starch, read you loud and clear, will never be heard again.



Good By

I often wake up early expecting to be at my desk, but now instead:

I sit remembering the glory of long ago, the sound of speakers crackling, a smell of wax permeates the air,

I feel the heat and see the glow of many electron tubes reminding me of Christmas lights,

But instead the lights I see come from inside opened radios,

I hear a Radioman's voice, excitedly he says, I got them loud and Clear,

An unbelieving voice replies I've got 'em 5 X 5'!

Quick wake the operators on positions 1 through 5!

Again the COM Center comes to life, the clicking sound of tape distributors so wonderful to hear,

I see them spitting Chad like snowflakes, their tapes resemble ribbons floating through the air,

The whirl of motors, the smell of oil, the persistent click and thud, come from rows of teletype inking letters onto endless rolls for messages,

A Radioman shouts what's that! An arcing sound, the smell of ozone our transmitter now has fried, Hurry power the spare before we lose'em, but the sun's already up,

A weary Tech Controller shouts repeatedly try some other frequency!!!

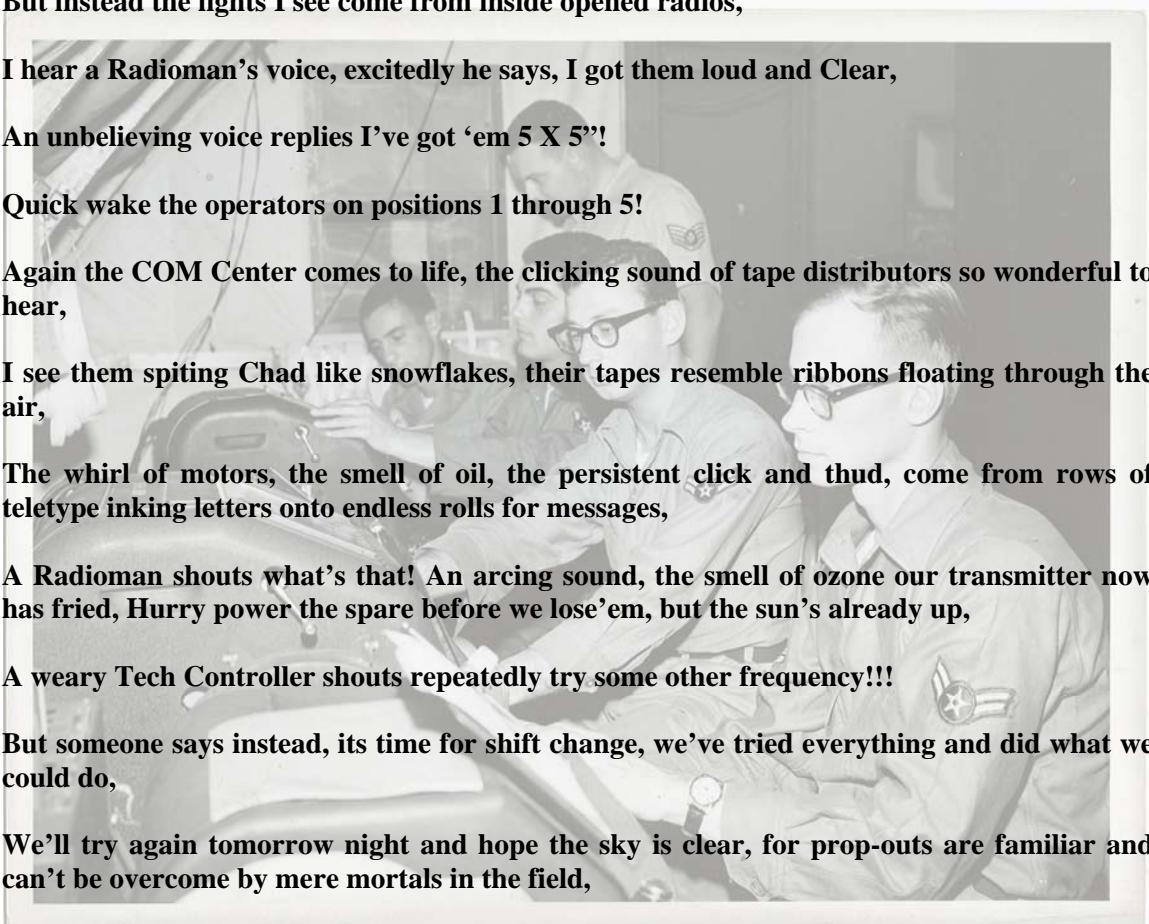
But someone says instead, its time for shift change, we've tried everything and did what we could do,

We'll try again tomorrow night and hope the sky is clear, for prop-outs are familiar and can't be overcome by mere mortals in the field,

But only by those at headquarters who tell us our frequencies are the best, we always get them from on high near God were told at TAC COM Area you see and their fully guaranteed!

At night when all is quite listen carefully outside and you will hear the faint and ghostly singing of long wires sending skyward endless streams of messages,

I miss the people I served with, watching so many come and go, but I was still there, now it's me, not them, time to go, good by.



274th CS Early History in Pictures CD

The below puts names to faces, or events shown on the 274th History in Pictures CD, many are now nameless, but were familiar faces long ago.

Commanders Trophy

Part 18/45

LF MSG Jim Shepard 274th Advisor

CTR Miss 274th

RT SMS Mike Cresci Wideband NCOIC

Part 27/28

LF Unknown

LF of CTR MAJ Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

CTR Miss 274th

RT CMDR 253rd COM GP

Part 29

LF SMS Frank B. Zivica 274th 1SGT

CTR MAJ Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

RT unknown

Part 31

LF 253rd COM GP CC

CTR CMS Larry Innarelli Chief of Operations

RT MAJ Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

Part 39

LF Miss 274th

RT SMS Mike Cresci Wideband NCOIC

Part 40

Miss 274th

Part 43

LF Raised Trophy SMS Frank B. Zivica (274th 1SGT)

Part 54

MAJ Steve Marino 274th Chief of Maintenance

CTR Miss 274th

Behind Miss 274th LT XXX

RT Soon to be LT Steve Hanssen

Part 55

LF Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

CTR Miss 274th

RT Unknown 274th CS Wideband Maintenance

Commander's Trophy (cont):

Part 57

LF Col Paul Sullivan 253rd COM GP CC

CTR Miss 274th

RT LTC Charles Gilchrist

Part 174

LF MAJ Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

CTR SMS Joseph S. Cali 274th Maintenance NCOIC

RT MAJ Robert Healy

Part 344

MSG Antonio M. Velez 274th Administration NCOIC

Recruiting Day (Mitchell Field, Uniondale New York)

Part 14

LF 1st Miss 274th

RT SSG Dennis Layer 274th Recruiter

Part 16

Miss 274th in a crowd at Mitchell Field

Part 25

CTR Capt Rudy Shipeky 274th Operations OIC

Part 32

LF LTC Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

CTR Miss 274th

RT Col Mike Ciraco HQ NYANG

Part 33

LF Col Mike Ciraco HQ NYANG

CTR LTC Charles Gilchrist 274th CC

RT Miss 274th

Extreme RT SSG Dennis Layer 274th Recruiter

Part 35

Miss 274th exiting one of the AN/FYQ-71 (DSTE) Communications trailers at Mitchell Field

Part 36/37

Public entering AN/FYQ-71 (DSTE) Communications Trailer

Recruiting Day (cont):

Part 38
Miss 274th

Part 41
LF MSG John Mandinec 274th Radio Maintenance NCOIC
RT LTC Charles Gilchrist

Part 42
CPT Rudy Shipeky (274th Operations OIC by entrance of AN/FYQ-71 DSTE Trailer

Part 144
274th Telephone Operator inside Telephone Central AN/TTC-7

Part 206
274th 1st Aid Buddy Care in building 6

274th Pictures:

Scan 001
unknown

Scan 002
SSG Jack Cohen (274th Motor Vehicle Maintenance inside a 5TON Diesel Cargo Truck engine)

Scan 003 274th Vehicle Maintenance
SSG Jack Cohen on fender
SSG John McGinness

Scan 004 all 274th Motor Vehicle Maintenance
LF TSG Leo Gasparic
LF CTR Unknown
CTR SSG John McGinness
RT SSG Jack Cohen

Scan 005 all 274th Motor Vehicle Maintenance
LF TSG Leo Gasparic
LT of CTR SSG John McGinness
CTR SSG Jack Cohen
RT Unknown

Scan 006/007009/0010/0011/0012
AN/FYQ-71 deployment (DSTE)

Scan 008
Unknown

274th Pictures (cont):

Scan 0013/0014
SSG Fred Hertel repairing an 400HZ EMU-19 generator

Scan 0015
Unknown

Scan 0016/0018 274th Personnel
Standing LF CPT Steve Marino
 LF of CTR Major Charles Gilchrist
 CTR Major Cilento (274th Exc. Officer)
 RT of CTR LTC Sullivan (274th CC)
RT SMSG Frank B. Zivica (274th 1SGT)
Kneeing all unknown

SCAN 0017/0019
LTC William Sullivan (274th CC)

Scan 0021/0022/0023 unknown

NYANG 1st Bowling Tournament:

Part 117
LF MSG Teddy Urban (274th Motor Vehicle Maintenance)
LF of CTR unknown
CTR TSG Don Tacak (274th Air Advisor)
RT of CTR CMS Larry Innarelli (274th Operations Chief)
RT MSG Antonio M. Velez (274th Administration NCOIC)

Part 118
LF, LF of CTR unknown
CTR MSG Howe Baez (274th Ground Power NCOIC)
 RT of CTR MSG George Dodd (274th Radio Relay)
RT CMS Larry Innarelli (274th Operations Chief)

Part 145
LF CMS Larry Innarelli (274th Operations NCOIC)
LF of CTR and CTR unknown
RT of CTR MSG Hank Knoth (274th Radio Relay NCOIC)

Part
212/213/217221/222/224/225/227/228/229/230/231/232/233/235/237/238239/240,241,
242,243, 246,247/249/250/252/253/255/257/259/261/264/265/266/267/269/270

Part 263
LF unknown
RT SMS Frank B. Zivica 274th 1st SGT

NYANG 1st Bowling Tournament (cont.):

Part 214/219/220/226 unknown

Part 215

3rd from LF (going Clockwise) SMS John Knoth (274th Training

Part 216,218/223 unknown

Part 234

SMS Frank B. Zivica 274th 1ST

Others unknown

Part 236

LF SMS John Knoth 274th Training NCO

RT Major Gen Curtis

Part 244

LF unknown

RT LTC William Sullivan 274th CC

Part 245

LF SMS John Knoth 274th Training NCO

LT of CTR Unknown

CTR Woman unknown

RT of CTR Major Charles Gilchrist

RT MSG Howe Baez Ground Power NCOIC

Part 248

LF unknown

LF of CTR Major Lorenzo Magrenni 274th

Remaining unknown

Part 251/254/256/258/260/262/268/271

CTR LTC William Sullivan 274th CC

Remaining unknown

Part 272

274th Bag Pipe Band Members

CTR Gen Curtis HQNYANG

RT LTC William Sullivan 274th CC

Part 341

LTC Paul Sullivan 274th CC

Woman unknown

SMS Frank B. Zivica 274th 1ST

Major Charles Gilchrist 274th Detachment Commander

Chow Hall Dedication and Plaque (For MSG Joseph Turciano):

Part 324/331
CTR LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC

Part 325
Mrs. Turciano

Part 326/327
LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC
Mrs. Turciano

Part 328
CTR (Green Uniform) TSG Tom Marlow 274th Food Service NCOIC
RT (next to TSG Marlow) SSG Leo Wall 274th Food Service

Part 329
CTR Capt Robert Healy 274th
RT LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC

Part 330
AF Member

Part 332
LF Brother of MSG Joseph Turciano
RT Wife of MSG Joseph Turciano

Part 333
LF LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC
RT Mrs. Joseph Turciano

Part 334/Scan
CTR SGT Fred Hertel 274th Ground Power Maintenance

Part 335
CTR SSG Leo Wall MSG Tom Marlow
Capt Rudy Shipeky (standing in doorway) 274th Operations OIC

Part 336
CTR Mrs. Joseph Turciano and family

Scan 0001/Scan 0006
Turciano Family watching formation during outside ceremonies
With Capt Robert Healy 274th HQ building 21 in foreground

Chow Hall Dedication and Plaque (cont):

Scan 0002

Squadron 1st flight in front of Chow Hall

Scan 0003

LTC Frank Cilento leading the Turciano family to the dedication ceremonies

Scan 0004

CTR LTC Cilento 274th CC

Honor Guard at flag pole CTR SSG Fred Hertel

Scan 0005

CTR LTC Cilento 274th CC with Squadron

Scan 0007

Squadron Present Arms

Scan 0008/Scan 0009

Major Charles Gilchrist 274th Det Commander with Turciano family

Scan 0010

“Adjutant Read the Citation “

CTR Capt Bob Healy

RT LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC

Scan 0011

Squadron passing the station flag pole and returning to the front of building 5

Scan 0012

Its over

Back to camera – LTC Frank Cilento 274th CC

Turciano family

Scan 0013

Plaque and picture dedicated to MSG Joseph Turciano

On wall of Chow Hall entrance
