

*Redesignation Ceremony*  
*for*  
**216th**  
**ENGINEERING INSTALLATION**  
**SQUADRON**



*to the*  
**216th**  
**OPERATIONS SUPPORT**  
**SQUADRON**

6 April 2008 • Vandenberg AFB, California



# **PRESIDING OFFICER**

**COLONEL STEVEN T BECK**

**Commander, 162d Combat Communications Group  
California Air National Guard**

## **SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

### **Seating of Distinguished Visitors, Family and Guests**

#### **Welcoming Remarks**

Capt Jason Knight  
216th Operations Support Squadron

#### **Arrival of the Official Party**

#### **Posting of the Colors**

30th Space Wing Honor Guard

#### **National Anthem**

ANG Band of the Southwest

#### **Invocation**

Chaplain Michael Beyer  
162d Combat Communications Group

#### **Distinguished Visitors' Remarks**

MG William H Wade II  
The Adjutant General,  
California National Guard

Maj Gen Dennis G Lucas  
Commander, California Air National Guard

Maj Gen Emil Lassen III  
Air National Guard Assistant to Commander,  
Air Force Space Command

Col Stephen N Whiting  
Commander, 614th Air & Space Operations Center  
Director, Joint Space Operations Center

Col Steven T Beck  
Commander, 162d Combat Communications Group

#### **Redesignation Ceremony**

#### **Closing Remarks**

Lt Col Brooks E Nelson  
Commander, 216th Operations Support Squadron

#### **Departure of the Official Party**

#### **Reception BBQ**

Cocheo Park, Vandenberg AFB

# OFFICIAL PARTY

## COLONEL STEVEN T. BECK

Colonel Beck is the Commander, 162d Combat Communications Group, California Air National Guard. He commands a composite group consisting of nine subordinate units spread throughout California.

Prior to his current assignment, Colonel Beck was the Air National Guard (ANG) Advisor to the Commander, Air Force Space Command (AFSPC). In his role as advisor, Colonel Beck was the senior ANG member of the Commander's staff and a member of the Space Council. He also served as a consultant on policies, procedures, personnel issues, and direction for accomplishing the ANG role in AFSPC. He advised the ANG Assistant to the AFSPC

Commander and Director of the Air National Guard regarding AFSPC's combat capabilities and requirements.

Prior to his tour at AFSPC, Colonel Beck served as Commander of the 148 Space Operations Squadron (SOPS) at Vandenberg AFB. In that capacity he was responsible for the daily command and control of Milstar satellites in Total Force partnership with the four SOPS at Schriever AFB, CO, providing secure communication to the nation's warfighters.

Colonel Beck received a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics from Whittier College and was commissioned through the Air Force ROTC Cross-Town Program at the University of Southern California. After serving on active duty as a Computer Systems Development Officer and as an Air Weapons Director in Germany, he received an appointment in the California Air National Guard in 1984. Colonel Beck has held several positions as a Combat Communications Officer in the CA ANG including Chief of Operations, Chief of Maintenance, Group Plans Officer and Group Logistics Officer. He has participated in numerous deployments to South America for radar operations in direct support of counter-drug activities and to Central America for Nuevos Horizontes humanitarian exercises, where he provided communications services to Army National Guard engineers rebuilding roads, schools, bridges and medical clinics in Panama and Honduras.



## EDUCATION

- 1977 Bachelor of Arts Degree, Mathematics, Whittier College, CA
- 1987 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2002 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2002 Air War College, Maxwell AFB, AL

## ASSIGNMENTS:

- Oct 1977 - Jun 1981, Computer Systems Development Officer, Scott AFB, IL
- Jul 1981 - Jul 1984, Air Weapons Director, 602 TCS, Neu Ulm, Germany
- Nov 1984 - Dec 1986, Communications-Electronic Systems Officer, 147 CBCS, Van Nuys ANG, CA
- Dec 1986 - May 1988, Maintenance Control Officer, 147 CBCS, Van Nuys ANG, CA
- Jun 1988 - Sep 1989, Chief of Operations, 147 CBCS, San Diego ANG, CA
- Oct 1989 - Jun 1992, Chief of Maintenance, 147 CBCS, San Diego ANG, CA
- Sep 1992 - Jul 1995, Communications-Computer Systems Staff Officer, 291 CBCS, Hilo ANG, HI
- Aug 1995 - Oct 1998, Plans Officer, 162 CCG, North Highlands ANG, CA
- Nov 1998 - Dec 2000, Chief of Logistics, 162 CCG, North Highlands ANG, CA
- Jan 2001 - Jun 2003, Commander, 148 SOPS, Vandenberg AFB, CA
- Jun 2003 - Jun 2005, Air National Guard Advisor to AFSPC, Peterson AFB, CO
- Jun 2005 - Aug 2005, Vice Commander, 162 CCG, North Highlands ANG, CA
- Aug 2005 - Present, Commander, 162 CCG, North Highlands ANG, CA

## MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

- Legion of Merit
- Meritorious Service Medal with one oak leaf cluster
- Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
- Army Achievement Medal
- Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters
- National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star
- Global War On Terrorism Service Medal
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Air & Space Campaign Medal

## EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Second Lieutenant  | 9 June 1977      |
| First Lieutenant   | 15 October 1979  |
| Captain            | 15 October 1981  |
| Major              | 4 December 1988  |
| Lieutenant Colonel | 15 October 1997  |
| Colonel            | 27 February 2004 |

# OFFICIAL PARTY

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL BROOKS E. NELSON

Lieutenant Colonel Nelson is the Commander of the 216th. He is responsible for organizing, training, equipping forces that provide operational support to the 614th Air and Space Operations Center / Joint Space Operations Center, Vandenberg AFB, California. He leads 113 space, intelligence, and communications professionals who provide operations training, standardization and evaluation, weapons and tactics development, exercise operations, and deployment support for evolving missions.



Lieutenant Colonel Nelson entered the Air Force in 1994 as a graduate of Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets ROTC program. After performing nearly 6000 hours combat mission ready nuclear alert at Malmstrom AFB, Montana, he completed an Air Education Training Command tour as a formal instructor and evaluator at Vandenberg AFB. In 2000, the Lieutenant Colonel joined the California Air National Guard where he was responsible for establishing mission ready training programs for the newly redesignated 148th SOPS that command and controls the Milstar satellite constellation. In 2003, he was selected as the first Space Operations Officer assigned to a state Headquarters Air National Guard, where he served as a liaison between Air Force Space Command, National Guard Bureau and Headquarters California Air National Guard, for development of new space initiatives. This position evolved into Chief of Transformation Programs, in which Lieutenant Colonel Nelson managed the California Air National Guard's Planning, Programming, Budgeting, Execution process for all transformational initiatives, including new missions in Intelligence operations and Predator Unmanned Aerial Systems. Prior to assuming his current position, he was the Commander, 216th Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS) during its conversion into the space program

### EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Science, Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M University, TX
- 1994 Minuteman III ICBM Undergraduate Missile Training, Vandenberg AFB, CA
- 1999 Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 1998 Master of Science in Management, Troy State University
- 2001 Milstar Satellite Mission Control Subsystem Initial Qualification, Distinguished Graduate, Vandenberg AFB, CA
- 2003 Advanced Space Operations Course, National Security Space Institute
- 2004 Air Command Staff College, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2004 Space Air Operations Center Course, National Security Space Institute
- 2006 Credentialed Space Professional 300 Course, National Security Space Institute

## ASSIGNMENTS

Oct 1994 - Feb 1995, Student, Combat Crew Missile Training, 392d Training Sq, Vandenberg AFB, CA  
Feb 1995 - Dec 1998, Minuteman III ICBM Missile Combat Crew Commander / Instructor, 10th Missile Sq, Malmstrom AFB, MT  
Dec 1998 - Dec 2000, Minuteman III Initial Qualification Training Formal Instructor/Evaluator, 392d Training Sq, Vandenberg AFB, CA  
Jan 1999 - Mar 1999, Student, Squadron Officer School, Maxwell AFB, AL  
Dec 2000 - Feb 2003, Instructor/Evaluator/Flight Commander, 148th Space Operations Sq, Vandenberg AFB, CA  
Feb 2003 - Dec 2005, Headquarters Space Ops Officer, Headquarters California Air National Guard, Sacramento, CA  
Dec 2005 - Sep 2007, Chief, Transformation Programs, Headquarters California Air National Guard, Sacramento, CA  
Sep 2007 - Present, Commander, 216th Engineering Installation Sq, Hayward ANG, CA

## MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal  
Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster  
Air Force Achievement Medal  
Air Force Combat Readiness Medal  
Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one oak leaf cluster  
National Defense Service Medal with one service star  
Global War On Terrorism Service Medal  
Air & Space Campaign Medal  
Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon two oak leaf clusters  
Air Force Training Ribbon

## EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	29 July 1994
First Lieutenant	29 July 1996
Captain	29 July 1998
Major	24 September 2002
Lieutenant Colonel	15 October 2007

# 216TH ENGINEERING INSTALLATION SQ HISTORY

The history of the 216 EIS stems back to January 1, 1943 when the 98th Signal Company was constituted and assigned to the 7th Service Group under Air Service Command. During World War II, the redesignated 1098th Signal Company arrived in Australia on November 18, 1943 to support the 5th Air Force in the war in the Pacific. During their time overseas the 1098th distinguished itself earning three WWII Asiatic Pacific Campaign Awards as well as the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation.

On May 24, 1946, the 1098th Signal Company was redesignated to the 615th Signal Light Construction Company. In May of 1951, by direction of President Harry S. Truman, the 615th was ordered to active duty and transferred to serve under the United States Air Forces in Europe. On February 1, 1953, the 615th Signal Light Construction Company was returned to state control and redesignated the 216th Communications Construction Squadron.

On May 1, 1970, the 216th Communications Construction Squadron was redesignated as the 216 EIS. Since that date, the 216 EIS has been deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base, in direct support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and recently has deployed unit members to Diego Garcia in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

The 216 EIS's proud and distinguished history has culminated in numerous awards including the California Governor's Outstanding Unit Award as well as the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award and those previously listed.

## UNIT MISSION

The primary mission of the 216 Operations Support Sq (OSS) is to organize, train and equip space, intelligence and communications professionals who provide operational support functions for the Joint Space Operations Center to include:

- Operations training
- Standardization/evaluation
- Instruction and certification
- Development of weapon system tactics, techniques and procedures
- Development and deployment support for evolving space missions
- Operations surge or exercise support.

## UNIT EMBLEM



Blue and yellow are Air Force colors. Blue on the globe represents the sky—the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow represents the sun and the excellence of all Air Force personnel. Black represents our new mission in space. The silver delta and red contrail represents the emergence of a new Air Force space operations mission in the California Air National Guard. The gauntlet holding the globe represents the unit's operational support to Joint Forces Component Command Space within the United States Strategic Command. The seven white stars represent the seven Air National Guard space units.

## UNIT MOTTO

### STRENGTH & HONOR

For centuries prior to modern day democracies, armies of great republics held similar phrases that represented their core belief and how they fought. These words were enough to spark the deepest of emotion and fervor on the battlefield. The motto identified the essence of how they lived, why they fought, and how they wanted to be remembered. The Spartan and Roman centurion was well known for a thousand years, not just because of his physical strength, but rather for his unmatched mental strength and discipline on, and off, the battlefield. Honor came from collective performance of the army not from individual entitlement, so that honor, or *dignitas* (an honorable reputation) was also bestowed on the Republic in which they fought and died to keep. These great armies had similar values; true to their word, solid personal character, strong beliefs, respect for life, liberty, and sacrifice for ideals larger than ourselves. Many of these values are rooted in western civilization, and eventually the America we know today, as evident in the US Air Force Core values: Integrity First, Service Before Self, Excellence In All We Do.

Just as the 216th began in 1943, it assumes a new mission when our country is at war, not peace. So it is the United States warfighter that we remember and least not forget. Albeit he is more advanced and lethal now, it is this same warfighter of decades ago that we continue to support today. Our squadron is here to ensure that the warfighter continues to be the strongest on the battlefield. The 216th will honor him everyday by the manner in which we conduct ourselves as Airmen, and how we perform our mission. We continue because of those that have gone before and paid the ultimate price, and the ideals that we fight for are larger than our individual selves. We will ensure that this legacy lives because this is how and why we fight...with STRENGTH & HONOR.

# AWARDS

## The Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal



Awarded for participation in the "NEW GUINEA CAMPAIGN"



Awarded for participation in the "LUZON CAMPAIGN"



Awarded for participation in the "LYETE CAMPAIGN"

## Philippine Presidential Unit Citation



Awarded from the President of the Philippines for service in the Philippines from the period of 04 Oct 1944 to 4 Jul 1945

## The Governor's Outstanding Unit Citation



Awarded in 1974

## Air Force Outstanding Unit Award



Awarded 31 Dec 1981



*The Air Force Song*  
*By Robert Crawford*

**Off we go into the wild blue yonder,  
Climbing high into the sun;  
Here they come zooming to meet our thunder,  
At 'em boys, Give 'er the gun!  
(Give 'er the gun!)  
Down we dive, spouting our flame from under,  
Off with one helluva roar!  
We live in fame or go down in flame. (Hey!)  
Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force!**

