## **Special Ops Missions (JCSE, JCU, STS)**

**Proficiency Code: A** 

JCSE is a Joint Command consisting of a Headquarters Support Squadron (HSS) and Communications Support Detachment (CSD) three active squadrons, two Air National Guard squadrons, one Army Reserve Squadron.

The three active squadrons, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Joint Communications Squadron (JCS) as well as HSS and CSD are all headquartered at MacDill AFB, near Tampa Florida. The Army Reserve Squadron or 4th JCS is also headquartered at MacDill AFB. The Air National Guard Squadrons are part of the Florida and Georgia Air Guard. The 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron (JCSS) is from the Florida Air Guard, and is headquartered at MacDill AFB. The 224th JCSS is from the Georgia Air Guard and is headquartered at Brunswick Georgia.

On order, JCSE immediately deploys to provide enroute, early entry, scalable C4 support to the Regional Combatant Commands, Special Operations Command, and other agencies as directed; on order, provides additional C4 services within 72 hours to support larger CJTF/CJSOTF Headquarters across the full spectrum of operations.

The Joint Communications Unit (JCU) is the premiere communications organization within the Department of Defense. It is comprised of members from the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and Civilian personnel in a variety of communications, automation, electronics maintenance, and logistic specialties.

JCU members are trained to be communication experts and afforded uncommon opportunities as a member of this unique team. The Joint Communications Unit is an "Airborne" unit. Since it must maintain the highest state of readiness, training encompasses much of the daily routine. Because of deployment status, unit personnel receive a wide-range of training. This training includes: UHF and SHF satellite systems, LAN, WAN, Servers, Active Directory, Networking, VOIP, VTC, Video Distribution, fiber system installation and advanced tactical communication scenarios on various air, land, and sea platforms.

The Joint Communications Unit (JCU) is a technical unit of the United States Special Operations Command charged to standardize and ensure interoperability of communication procedures and equipment of the Joint Special Operations Command and its subordinate units. The JCU was activated at Ft. Bragg, NC in 1980, after the failure of Operation Eagle Claw. The JCU has earned the reputation of "DoD's Finest Communicators".

The Special Tactics Squadrons (STS) are U.S. Air Force components of the Joint Special Operations Command. Combat Controllers are trained special operations forces and certified FAA air traffic controllers. Their mission is to deploy, undetected, into combat and hostile environments to establish assault zones or airfields, while simultaneously conducting air traffic control, fire support, command and control, direct action, counter-terrorism, foreign internal defense, humanitarian assistance, and special reconnaissance.