



**86th Signal Battalion
11th Signal Brigade
Fort Huachuca, Arizona**

Motto: the varsity

On July 1, 1977, the 86th Signal Battalion was reactivated at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, as part of the 11th Signal Brigade. It consists of an HHD and the 505th, 521st, and 526th Signal Companies.

**Headquarters and
Headquarters Detachment**

Lineage and honors

Constituted 23 March 1966, in the Regular Army as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 86th Signal Battalion.

Activated 1 June at Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Inactivated 30 April 1971 in Vietnam

Activated 1 July 1977 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona

**505th Signal Company
Lineage and honors**

Constituted 13 January 1941 in the regular Army as the 2d Signal Construction Company
Redesignated 7 August 1941 as the 253rd Signal Construction Company
Activated 15 March 1942 at Camp Claiborne, Louisiana
Reorganized and redesignated 12 June 1944 as the 253rd Signal Heavy Construction Company
Inactivated 1 April 1946 at Tokyo, Japan
Redesignated 16 July 1948 as the 505th Signal Heavy Construction Company
Activated 1 September 1948 at Seattle, Washington
Reorganized and redesignated 6 February 1951 as the 505th Signal Construction Company
Reorganized and redesignated 16 October 1953 as the 505th Signal Company
Inactivated 1 May 1958 at Fort Richardson, Alaska
Activated 1 May 1963 at Fort Lewis, Washington
Inactivated 1 July 1975 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona
Activated 1 January 1976 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona

**521st Signal Company
Lineage and honors**

Constituted 18 December 1944 in the Army of the United States as the 3912th Signal Base Depot Company
Activated 25 January 1945 in New Guinea
Inactivated 10 February 1948 in the Philippine Islands
Redesignated 15 April 1947 as the 521st Signal Base Depot Company (Philippine Scouts)
Activated 23 April 1947 in the Philippine Islands
Inactivated 19 June 1947 in the Philippine Islands
Allotted 27 September 1951 to the Regular Army
Activated 28 October 1951 in Korea
Inactivated 15 May 1955 in Korea
Redesignated 24 September 1960 as the 521st Signal Company and activated in Germany
Inactivated 24 March 1964 in Germany
Activated 25 April at Fort Lewis, Washington

**526th Signal Company
Lineage and honors**

Constituted 1 March 1944 in the Army of the United States as the 526th Signal Installation Company
Activated 15 March 1944 at the Central Signal Corps Training Center, Camp Crowder, Missouri
Redesignated 26 May 1945 as the 526th Signal Service Company
Inactivated 15 June 1946 at Schwanheim, Germany
Activated 25 January 1950 at Yokohama, Japan
Inactivated 15 March 1950 at Yokohama, Japan
Redesignated 6 February 1951 as the 526th Signal Relay Company, allotted to the Regular Army, and activated at Camp Gordon, Georgia
Redesignated 12 March 1953 as the 526th Signal Company
Inactivated 10 June 1958 at Fort Huachuca, Arizona
Activated 11 April 1966 at Fort Lewis, Washington

**Campaign Participation
Credit**

**World War II-EAME
Rhineland**

Mission and organization

The mission of the 86th Signal Battalion is to provide mobile/transportable communications task forces and teams tailored for the extension and restoration of Defense Communications Facilities worldwide. The battalion maintains the JCS deployable assets necessary to provide Echelons above Corps (EAC) communications. The battalion is composed of an HHD and three companies with the following missions:

505th Signal Company: the Tactical Radio Operations company which provides support to JCS contingency operations and the DCS. Establishes, extends, and restores the DCS as a complete system using transportable microwave radio, high frequency radio, and technical control facilities.

521st Signal Company: a JCS deployable unit which provides transportable communications centers, AUTOSEVOCOM, and telephone switching with associated instrument terminals.

526th Signal Company: a JCS deployable unit which provides heavy

tropo transmission facilities and technical control facilities.

Operations and Capabilities

The 86th Signal Battalion provides communications by the following means:

Tropospheric Scatter Radio: Provides 60 voice channels and 16 teletypewriter channels using the AN/TRC-132A. This is a heavy-route tropo, microwave FM communications system with a range of 180 miles.

Microwave Radio Provides 48/96 channel multichannel radio communications using the AN/TRC-138 radios and the AN/TCC-62 Multiplex vans for line of sight communications.

High Frequency Radio: Provide single and multichannel HF radio communications using the AN/TSC-38B and AN/TSC-25 Radios.

Telecommunications Centers: Provides mobile telecommunications center facilities which provide high-speed AUTODIN Mode I service to EAC. Provides facilities to provide point-to-point tactical teletype services and Mode V AUTODIN.

Telephone/Switchboard: Provides automatic telephone switching service with computerized Western Electric telephone switches. Provides access to the AUTOSEVOCOM network in both narrow and wide band configurations through secure voice terminals.

Technical Control: Provides tech control services using AN/MSQ-73 and AN/GSQ-166.

**Campaign participation
credit**

- Vietnam
- Counteroffensive, Phase II
- Counteroffensive, Phase III
- Tet Counteroffensive
- Counteroffensive, Phase IV
- Counteroffensive, Phase V
- Counteroffensive, Phase VI
- Tet/69 Counteroffensive
- Summer-Fall 1969
- Winter-Spring 1970
- Sanctuary Counteroffensive
- Counteroffensive, Phase VII

—Capt. Fred Dierksmeir