



The Regimental emblem consists of a blue shield with a white horse and a bolt of lightning (introduced 28th May 1982). And comprises five squadrons: 223 Signal Squadron, 226 Signal Squadron, 237 Signal Squadron, 245 Signal Squadron and Support Squadron – with typically 5 officers and 95 soldiers per unit. 14th Signal Regiment was originally formed on 9 September 1959 to provide world-wide communications on behalf of the War Office/ Ministry of Defence. A prime role is in SIGNIT – providing signal intelligence which is expanding the capability of the armed forces with increasingly sophisticated forms of electronic communications ... and warfare (or trying to have better

computers than the opposition!) In 1992, the Regiment's Mission was changed to provide electronic warfare support to NATO and to the British elements under its command (Allied Rapid Reaction Corps). Changes in the organisation of the British Army caused the Regiment to move a number of times until in December 1995, the German-based elements moved to Cawdor Barracks, Pembrokeshire.

The Signals Regiments actually have a far longer history – stemming from the squadrons that have been brought together to make up the regiment. **223 Squadron** was formed in 1919, immediately after the First World War, when the need for effective battlefield communications became more evident than ever before – and could have been used to save lives if the importance had been understood earlier! 223 Squadron was formed in Gibraltar – where the need to monitor communications in and around the Mediterranean became obvious in the next two decades and the squadron played a critical role in World War II. **245 Squadron** also had an essential role to play in WWII after forming in Libya in 1943 as a crucial hub in communications between troops in Benghazi, Tripoli and Malta. **226 Squadron** grew out of a later conflict in post-war Europe, in 1959, as the Russian Allies became instead the threat at the height of the Cold War. Formed in Germany 226 was located on an old Luftwaffe airfield and worked with the Americans in intercepting communications – and constantly monitoring the level of threat. During this period it became increasingly importance to be capable of providing a mobile force, something that has been incorporated into modern warfare. **237 Squadron** also was formed in 1959 but in response to a very different area of threat from the Far East. Formed in Singapore they were ideally placed to allow for long-range, high frequency links around the world – and was the only British squadron in Thailand at the time.

The primary role of the Signals Regiment, in modern warfare, is to provide 'a robust and sustainable Electronic Warfare (EW) capability in support of deployed Land Commanders, in order to enable operations in electronic battlespace'. The unit is able to:

- Attack targets by jamming the electronic systems being used and prevent them from working properly. EW can show communications devices on the ground and therefore warn forces of where the opposition is to be found. It can also provide an essential tool in incapacitating enemy communications as well as listening in to exchanges. This means that many of the Signals Regiment have to be skilled linguistics – particularly in Middle Eastern languages – where much of the present and immediate threat is. In gathering intelligence the personnel of the regiment can use intelligence gathered to identify insurgence networks and provide active support in tackling those networks.
- Provide equipment used by the Regiment in order to support any operation anywhere in the world. This enables troops to check borders for possible incursions using advanced 'intercept and find' capabilities as well as being able to pass information to other ground troops with 'fire' capabilities.
- Parachute in with all their equipment or infiltrate on foot to patrol locations in close proximity of the enemy. The Regiment can be called on at any time to provide active support – being the only specialist regiment that can provide the level of EW expertise – and therefore are inconstant demand in hot-spots around the globe.

As part of 1st Signal Group the Regiment provided detachments to numerous locations world-wide in support of deployed units, including: Northern Ireland, Anguilla and Honduras (1969), Jordan (1970), the United Arab Emirates (1971), British Honduras / Belize (1972) and twenty other countries over the following four years, eventually amalgamating with 30th Signal Regiment in Blandford Forum, Dorset. As 14 Signals Regiment it has been involved in Operations all over the World including the Falklands, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and most recently Afghanistan where the Regiment rotated Squadrons continuously between 2006 and 2014. It retains the Freedom of Entry into Gloucester, Freedom of Celle, Freedom of St David's and Freedom of Haverfordwest.