Downeast Communities Welcome you to
765th RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)

CHARLESTON
AIR FORCE STATION

MAINE
WELCOME TO

765th RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)

Charleston Air Force Station

Dover-Foxcroft, Maine

Major Allan R. McClane, Commander; 1st Lt. Thomas A. Heston, Editor. This Publication is published by Furbush-Roberts Printing Co., Inc., a private firm, in no way connected with the Department of the Air Force. Opinions expressed herein are not to be considered official expressions by the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertisements in this publication does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Air Force of the products or services advertised.
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Welcome to Charleston AFS

TO: All Newly-Assigned Personnel

1. I wish to take this opportunity to welcome you personally to Charleston Air Force Station. Whether this is your first Air Force assignment, or your last before retirement, you will find here an organization of dedicated, professional people who are doing an important job in the defense of our Country. I am looking forward to adding your talent and training to their skills, and to meeting you personally on your arrival.

2. You will find that Charleston AFS is presently in a period of growth and expansion. Recently-completed government housing offers families comfortable living. A modern recreation hall provides convenient facilities for sports and relaxation. Installation of the BUIC system, an automated interceptor-control facility, has given Charleston AFS an even more important role in the defense of our Country against enemy attack. You will find a more complete description of our Mission and our facilities in the following pages.

3. Your assignment to Charleston AFS is an important step in your military career. The members of my Staff will do everything possible to make your tour a pleasant and satisfying experience. Please feel free to call upon me at any time, or contact me for any assistance you may need in making your transfer or getting settled. I am looking forward to meeting you upon your arrival, and I hope your association with the 765th Radar Squadron will be a rewarding one.

ALLAN R. MCCLANE, Major, USAF
Commander
SQUADRON MISSION

The mission of the 765th Radar Squadron (SAGE) is to provide search, height, and gap-filler radar to the semi-automatic ground environment (SAGE) system in the Bangor Air Defense Sector, and to provide ground-to-air communications and aircraft control as a back-up to the SAGE system. The Squadron uses the automated back-up interceptor control (BUIC) system to provide a substitute for SAGE in air defense.

SQUADRON HISTORY

The groundwork of the present 765th Radar Squadron (SAGE) was laid in 1948 when the United States Air Force set up the Air Defense Command and gave it the mission of defending the United States from enemy air attack. The next year, 1949, the 657th AC&W Squadron was activated at Dow Field, Bangor, Maine. In 1950 construction of the present site began. In 1951, when the 128th Air National Guard from Nebraska and Iowa arrived at Dow AFB, the 657th AC&W Squadron moved to the present location and became the 765th AC&W Squadron. It was on the first day of June, 1952, that the 765th AC&W Squadron became permanently operational. In that same month the 128th ANG AC&W Squadron was transferred from Dow Field to Virginia and Dow went under the control of the Strategic Air Command.

In May of 1959 the 765th AC&W Squadron was converted to SAGE and renamed the 765th Radar Squadron (SAGE), becoming SAGE operational under Bangor Air Defense Sector and the 26th Air Division (SAGE).
In addition to being a SAGE long-range radar since 1959, Charleston AFS has provided a back-up to the SAGE system with manual control capability. The advent of the BUIC II and BUIC III systems, with their solid-state computers and automated ground-to-air communications, gives Charleston AFS a greater responsibility than ever before in the defense of North America, a responsibility proudly shared by every member of the 765th Radar Squadron.

CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF THE AIR FORCE OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD TO

765th RADAR SQUADRON (SAGE)

The 765th Radar Squadron (SAGE), Air Defense Command, distinguished itself by exceptionally meritorious service from 1 January 1959 to 30 April 1963. During this period, the Squadron consistently maintained support standards that materially and directly contributed to the Bangor Air Defense Sector's successful mission accomplishment. The initiative, resourcefulness, and devotion to duty exhibited by all personnel of the 765th Radar Squadron (SAGE) reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force.
Pyramid Control; the heart of operational activities at Charleston AFS, is located in this complex of buildings atop Charleston Hill. Here are located the consoles and computers that form the nerve-center of the 765th's air-defense mission.
WEAPONS OF AIR DEFENSE: SAGE, BUIC

The people who must know who is in North American air space, where and why, now have two electronic systems with high-speed computers to help them come up with fast answers. Both types are located at Charleston Air Force Station.

One is SAGE — Semi-Automatic Ground Environment — which has been in operation since 1958, processing air traffic data and providing information for battle staffs at North American Air Defense Command combat control posts to use in tracking and conducting intercepts.

The other, called BUIC (Back Up Interceptor Control), is a new supporting partner for SAGE. BUIC will take over in the event direction centers in the SAGE network become inoperative for any reason.

The SAGE long-range radars at Charleston AFS constantly scan the skies over New England and Canada. By means of the AN/FST-2, the coordinate date transmitter, information on airborne objects is transmitted to the SAGE Direction Center at Topsham AFS, Maine.
The BUIC Control Center at Charleston AFS provides back-up support for SAGE in the Bangor sector of the Northern NORAD region.

With its high-speed An/GSA51 computer, the new BUIC system can digest, calculate, and supply in thousandths of a second, information needed by air defense force chiefs to control their interceptor weapons.

BUIC will remain in a back-up, monitor status as long as SAGE is in operation. Should a SAGE Direction Center become inoperative, BUIC will use the same information and automatically switch from its monitor mode to operational status.

Heart of the BUIC system at Charleston is a Burroughs Corp. electronic computer which combines input information such as radar data, weapons status, and winds aloft, to present a symbolic representation of the air picture. In an adjacent room, aircraft information from other Radar sites is received, processed, and displayed on five television-type date display consoles for operators. A sixth is used for simulation training.

Unlike SAGE facilities, which use two tube-type electronic computers—one for operational purposes and the other for maintenance-checking of the system—each BUIC site uses one dual-purpose, solid-state computer to perform both functions.
As an aircraft enters an air defense sector, it is detected by radars which automatically forward their findings to the computer at the BUIC Control Center. The computer generates an aircraft track on the consoles, and the identification section identifies the aircraft as friendly or hostile by comparing flight plans.

Through the computer, console operators can transfer aircraft tracks from one console to another, depending on the specific function to be performed.

Thus, if an aircraft is classified as hostile, a weapons director assigns the track to an intercept director who conducts the air battle. The intercept director scrambles manned interceptors or activates Bomarc or Army air defense missiles to meet the hostile. The computer generates intercept information which is relayed to the interceptors through radio data-link equipment or by voice radio transmissions.

The installation of the BUIC system at Charleston AFS is a sign of the 765th's continuing growth and increased responsibility.
BUIC II Consoles: The Senior Director's position at the AN-GSA-51 Data Display Console in the BUIC II Operations Room is the center of the 765th Radar Squadron's automated aircraft control activities.
View From Bull Hill: This panoramic view of the Family Housing Area and the sweeping Maine countryside is seen from the top of one of the 765th’s radar towers. The spacious yards and nearby picnic area provide convenient recreation room for Charleston families.
FACTS ABOUT CHARLESTON AFS

Location: The Station is located on Route 15, about thirty miles northwest of Bangor, Maine. The Station is ten miles south of Dover-Foxcroft, eight miles northwest of East Corinth, and three miles northwest of Charleston, Maine. A map and directions are on page 19.

Climate & Geography: Located in one of the most scenic mountain areas in the United States, Charleston AFS is nearly one thousand feet above sea level. The climate is windy and dry; temperatures range from the low nineties in the summer to twenty below zero or colder in the winter. Brief periods of extreme cold require that cars be protected with antifreeze to as low as 45° below zero. Snow tires or chains are a necessity in the winter.

Transportation: The Bangor area is served by Interstate Highway 95, by Northeast Airlines, and by the Greyhound Bus Lines and the Bangor and Aroostook Bus Lines. No commercial transportation is available from Bangor to the Charleston AFS area. Personnel arriving at the Bangor airport or bus terminals should call 945-5878 for transportation to the Site.
Housing: Thirty-seven government housing units, twenty-eight of which were built in 1964, offer convenient, comfortable living for Charleston families. The two and three-bedroom homes are tastefully decorated with wood panelling and tile floors. The newer units have an extra half-bath. Each home is heated by its own heating system. All of the homes are furnished with an electric refrigerator and an electric stove. Some of the units also have an electric washer and a dryer. Eligible personnel may obtain Government housing within four to six weeks after their arrival, but this period may vary considerably, depending on the current rate of turnover of personnel.

The majority of families not living in Government housing usually reside in the towns of Dover-Foxcroft, East Corinth, and other nearby communities. The availability of comfortable homes for sale or rent in these areas is usually good, although the supply fluctuates. Two and three-bedroom apartments or homes, unfurnished, presently rent for about sixty dollars a month, with the tenant paying his own heating and utility bills. Because of the severity of the New England winter, the same homes with heat provided rent for about eighty or ninety dollars a month. Due to unpredictable changes in the availability of suitable homes, incoming personnel are encouraged to confirm living accommodations through their sponsor before moving their families. Families with mobile homes will find a variety of trailer parks within convenient distance of the station.
**Schools:** Charleston Air Force Station is served by the Charleston Elementary School for grades one through eight, and by Higgins Classical Institute for grades nine through twelve. Charleston Elementary School, located about two miles southeast of the Site, was built in 1960, with a two room addition completed in 1965. This structure is equipped with modern school equipment, spacious hallways, and large well-lighted classrooms. Higgins Classical Institute is located in the town of Charleston, approximately three miles southeast of the Site. It has the reputation of one of the finest high schools in the State of Maine. At present there are no kindergarten facilities available at Charleston. The only kindergarten nearby is in Dover-Foxcroft, at a special fee to parents. Free bus service is provided all students attending the Charleston School or Higgins Classical Institute. In addition to these schools, the University of Maine is located in Orono, eight miles from Bangor, many Charleston personnel take advantage of the Air Force’s educational programs and attend evening classes at the University of Maine. In addition, the Northern Conservatory of Music, and the Bangor Theological Seminary, one of America’s oldest colleges of theology.

**Signing In:** Newly-assigned personnel arriving at Charleston AFS sign in at the Air Police station at the Main Gate. If arriving during normal duty hours (0730-1630), sign in and go to the Orderly Room to contact the First Sergeant. If arriving after normal duty hours, sign in and then telephone the non-commissioned officer of the day (NCOD). He will give you a room. Report to the First Sergeant at 0730 the next duty day.
Automobiles: All private motor vehicles must be registered with the Air Police within three days after a person signs in. Minimum insurance required is $10,000, $20,000, $5,000, bodily injury and property damage, to register and drive a car on Base. Maine does not allow a three-way split of location, registration, and driver's license. That is, a car may not be located in Maine and registered in some other state, while the driver's license is from a third state. If the car is not registered in the same state the driver's license is from, he must either get Maine tags on his car or a Maine driver's license.

Firearms, Cameras: All firearms and cameras on Base must be registered with the Air Police. Personnel living in the BAQ's will store their firearms with the Air Police and sign them out when they remove them.

Uniforms: The blue uniform is mandatory at Charleston AFS from 1 October to 1 May. It is optional the rest of the year.

Postal Service: The Mail Room is located in the Admin Building. Newly-assigned personnel are given a box number upon their arrival. Letters may be posted in the Mail Room. Your mailing address will be:

Rank, Name, Service Number OR A2C Joe Jinx, AF12345678
Box Number, Charleston AFS, OR Box 999, Charleston AFS
Dover-Foxcroft, Me. 04426 OR Dover-Foxcroft, Me. 04426

"Dover-Foxcroft, Me. 04426" must be included in your mailing address, or your mail may be sent to the wrong post office and be delayed.
BASE FACILITIES

Among the facilities and services available at Charleston AFS are an Office of Personal Affairs, a Dispensary for medical assistance, and a Post Exchange which carries a varied assortment of articles. A civilian contract physician provides medical service to personnel and dependents, and an Air Force dental team visits the Site on a regular schedule. There is no commissary at Charleston AFS, but personnel use all the facilities available at Dow AFB.

Recreation Facilities: The multi-purpose recreation hall at Charleston AFS offers many opportunities for sports, recreation, and relaxation; it contains a basketball court, a handball court, weight room, steam room, bowling alleys, a library and theater. The library is located in the upper deck of the hall and contains 1600 volumes ranging from general interest to children's books. The library also contains a TV lounge, a reading room and music area. A broad collection of records along with the latest stereo equipment is available. The bowling alley, on the main floor of the building, consists of two AMF lanes that are in great demand throughout the year. All types of tools and equipment are available for persons interested in wood working and photography in the hobby shops. A ceramic hobby shop is planned.
The Base theater is located on the main floor of the recreation hall and offers the best entertainment in movies several evenings each week.

Personnel Services Supply contains equipment for all popular sports, including boats, motors, tennis rackets, badminton sets, golf clubs, and camping outfits. Hunting and fishing equipment is also available.

Squadron basketball, bowling, and softball teams compete in Sector and Division Tournaments, as well as in Squadron and civilian leagues. The 765th also has a baseball team which plays in local civilian leagues only.

Seasonal passes to the Squaw Mountain Ski Club and the Piscataquis Country Golf Club are available from the Squadron Recreation Services.

A MARS Station allows Charleston personnel to send messages without charge, and it offers radio enthusiasts a valuable chance to develop their skills.
Officers’ Lounge: The Air Force tradition of the engraved mugs, combined with the rustic decor of a New England Hunting lodge, provides a distinctive atmosphere for comfortable relaxation and for the social activities of the commissioned officers and their ladies.
NCO Club; Considered one of the finest at any ADC radar site, The Charleston NCO Club provides a dance floor, bandstand, a large bar, bumper pool, and a kitchen. The NCO club is the center of many activities for the non-commissioned officers.
Airmen’s Quarters: Airmen’s quarters, Bachelor airmen’s quarters are comfortable dormitories which sleep two per room. Each room has Hollywood beds, bureaus, curtains, and closet space. Many occupants decorate their rooms tastefully with their personal furnishings.
MAINE, VACATIONLAND

From relaxing beside blue waters on the sandy beaches of Sebec Lake, to rounding a snow and spruce-covered mountain trail on waxed hardwoods, the territory surrounding Charleston AFS offers you varied sport and year-round scenic recreation. Trout streams and salmon lakes yield their best in the spring. Warm days and cool nights provide the proper setting for a wide variety of summer entertainment. Swimming, boating, water-skiing, hiking, photography, sunning, bass fishing, fly fishing for trout, mountain climbing, camping, and hiking — these make up only a partial list of summer activities.

Travelling through forests of flaming fall color on early autumn days is followed by hunting for deer, bear, partridge, pheasant, and other game. Winter brings skiing, skating, and ice boating. Major skiing activity centers on the famous Squaw Mountain Ski area with its modern facilities. Squaw Mountain is about one hour's drive from Charleston AFS, near Moosehead Lake. Moosehead itself offers an excellent variety of game fish, including landlocked salmon, lake trout, and small mouth bass.

**Baxter State Park:** Mile-high Mount Katahdin is located in Baxter State Park, a scenic area of wild beauty and wilderness trails. Baxter State Park, a favorite visiting-spot for Charleston travellers, is seventy road miles from Charleston AFS. Spectacular Mount Katahdin, snow-capped and majestic, is clearly visible from the site.
Acadia National Park: A few hours drive south of Charleston AFS, on the famed rock-bound coast of Maine, is America's most beautiful island - Mount Desert Island, in Acadia National Park. From the top of Cadillac Mountain, the highest mountain on the Atlantic Coast, to the crashing roar of the surf in Thunder Hole, the sheer hundred-foot granite cliffs dropping to the sea and the spectacular views of Bar Harbor and Frenchman's Bay leave visitors breathless. No one should come to Maine without a camera. At all times of the year, spectacular views are guaranteed.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Bangor, Brewer: The shopping district in the twin cities of Bangor and Brewer features large department stores with the world's leading lines of Merchandise, fine specialty shops for men and women, furniture and appliance stores handling all national brands, and automobile agencies for all leading American and foreign makes. The downtown shopping district, together with several large, modern, shopping centers, offers every conceivable type of merchandise and service.

The birthplace of Paul Bunyan, Bangor is the home of Maine's largest daily newspaper. The three commercial television channels in Bangor are affiliated with the major networks. An educational television affiliated with the University of Maine also serves the Bangor area.

The Bangor-Brewer community, thirty miles southeast of Charleston AFS, provides opportunities for the enjoyment of, and participation in all
cultural activities. An active art society, a symphony orchestra, the oldest in continuous service in the United States, schools of the dance and ballet, a community band and a number of vocal groups offer complete programs of musical enjoyment. Two local theater groups present excellent plays and musicals. Bangor is host to Community Concerts, Inc., presenting famous artists and ensembles through the fall and winter seasons. The Site is within easy commuting distance of summer colonies of famous artists, musicians, and summer theater plays.

Dover-Foxcroft, An industrial and recreation center of central Maine, Dover-Foxcroft, "Down East" community, is located on the Piscataquis River, ten miles north of Charleston AFS, at the junction of Maine routes 15, 16, 7, and 153.

The Shire Town of Piscataquis County, the County of Lakes, Dover-Foxcroft is the shopping and commercial center for the personnel of Charleston AFS. Heart of Maine's vacationland, it is yet in constant contact through communication and transportation with the commercial centers of the State and the Nation. With a population of about 4,500, Dover-Foxcroft is small enough to retain all the charm and friendliness of the Maine village, and yet it is large enough to offer the advantages of a shopping and recreation center.

The area surrounding Charleston AFS boasts at least eight golf courses within easy driving distance.
The Town of Dover-Foxcroft is composed of what were originally two towns dating from 1806 and 1812. When the towns were united in 1922, there was much debate over the choice of a name for the larger community. "Dover-Foxcroft," a combination of the two older names, was finally agreed upon, making Charleston AFS's largest near neighbor one of the four cities in the United States with hyphenated names.

Mayo Memorial Hospital, which serves Dover-Foxcroft and the surrounding communities, is one of the very few municipal hospitals anywhere that is self-supporting.

Thompson Free Library serves the area as a public library. Originally a gift to the town of Dover-Foxcroft, the Library is now maintained by the Town. It has over 13,000 volumes and several endowed book purchasing funds.

Dover-Foxcroft offers a wide variety of stores and service businesses. There are several industrial concerns, such as Moosehead Manufacturing Company, which produces quality furniture completely from local wood products, the Hathaway Shirt Company, and the Great Northern Paper Company. Lumber and farming are important factors in the local economy. Newcomers to Charleston AFS are often intrigued at the sight of rugged logging camps along area roads. Truck farming and potato farming are the principal agricultural occupations, while dairy farming and poultry raising are becoming increasingly popular.
**Sebec Lake:** The area surrounding Charleston AFS is literally a land of lakes and ponds. Most popular of these is Sebec Lake, five miles north of Dover-Foxcroft. Sebec Lake is fed its fresh, clear water by twenty surrounding ponds, many of which are visible from the elevated terrain of the Station. The combined area of the ponds feeding into Sebec is as great as that of Sebec Lake itself, which measures 14 miles long and 1 1/2 to 5 miles wide. A popular resort, Sebec Lake is surrounded by comfortable cottages and summer homes. The municipally-owned beach is open to the public and is a favorite relaxation spot for Charleston Personnel.

Ice-boating is an exciting sport on most of Maine's lakes in the winter. Peaks-Kenny State Park, a camping and wilderness area to be developed near South Cove on Sebec Lake, will make the natural beauty of the region available to all.

**Other Nearby Towns:** Guilford and Sangerville, on opposite sides of the Piscataquis River, are small industrial and commercial communities, with farming and lumbering in outlying sections. East Corinth, south of Charleston AFS on route 15, is a small town with a convenient shopping area. Milo, to the east, has small industries, lumbering, farming, and commercial facilities. Newport, Dexter, and Corinna are small industry, farming, and highway-center towns, with commercial and service establishments. The Village of Charleston, three miles from the Site which bears its name, is a perfect example of a "Down East" rural community, complete with an old-fashioned, New England general store.
CHURCH SERVICES

Assembly of God
Guilford Rd., Dover-Foxcroft
11:00 AM, 7:30 PM
Church School 9:45 AM

Baptist Parsonage
22 E. Main, Dover-Foxcroft
11:00 AM (nursery provided)
Church School 9:30 AM

Beth Israel Synagogue
York St., Bangor
Fri., Sunset; Daily 7:00 AM
Sabbath Services 8:30 AM

Congregational Church
10 W. Main, Dover-Foxcroft
7:30 AM, 10:45 AM (nursery provided) Sunday School 9:30 AM

Christian Science Society
Lincoln St., Dover-Foxcroft
10:30 AM, Service & Church School Wednesday 7:30 PM

Church of the Latter Day Saints
Meets in the Legion Hall Sunday
North St., Dover-Foxcroft
10:30 AM Sunday School
12:00 noon Sacrament Service
Day Primary Monday, 3:30 PM
YMIA Thursday, 7:00 PM
Women's Relief Society Tuesday,
7:30 PM
East Corinth Methodist Chrch  
Route 15, East Corinth  
11:00 AM Worship  
Church School 9:45 AM

Methodist Parsonage  
88 Pleasant, Dover-Foxcroft  
9:15 AM Worship  
11:00 AM, MYF

Pentecostal Church  
Route 11, Charleston  
1:00 PM, 7:30 PM  
Sunday School 11:30 AM

St. Thomas (Catholic)  
45 High St., Dover-Foxcroft  
Daily Mass 7:30 AM, Sat. 12:00 noon  
Sunday Mass 10:30 AM, 7:00 PM  
Confessions Sat., 7:00 - 8:00 PM

United Baptist Church  
Route 11, Charleston  
11:00 AM, Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Youth Fellowship 7:00 PM  
Prayer Meeting Thursday, 7:30 PM
To Reach Charleston AFS: Take Interstate 95 to Bangor, get off at the Broadway Exit. Turn right onto Route 15 North. Stay on 15 for thirty miles, passing through Kenduskeag and East Corinth, to Charleston AFS. Drive Safely.
Qui Vive? In ancient times the lookout in a castle tower challenged approaching strangers with the question: "Qui vive?" This means: "Who lives?" or "Who reigns?", and carried the meaning: "Who goes there?" As a reply, the stranger named the ruler to whom he pledged allegiance, thereby revealing whether he was a friend or a foe. Thus the mission of the 765th Radar Squadron is portrayed in the Squadron Emblem, as the Squadron stands ready to fulfill its role in the defense of North America: to detect, intercept, and destroy any invader.
NORAD - THE NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND

The mission of NORAD, simply stated, is: "To defend the North American Continent against aerospace attack." This is one-half the formula for deterrence against aggression: COUNTEROFFENSE PLUS DEFENSE EQUALS DETERRENCE.

NORAD has operational control of the air defense forces of both the United States and Canada. These forces are provided by NORAD Component commands - USAF Air Defense Command, the U.S. Army Air Defense Command, and the U.S. Navy.

The NORAD mission has been broken down into three basic actions: detection, determination of intent, and, if necessary, destruction. The role of Charleston AFS as a SAGE Long-Range Radar and as a Back-Up Intercept Control Center (BUIC NCC) in this three-pronged mission of NORAD is an important one. It enters all areas of NORAD's operations, from detection to the control of manned and unmanned interceptors for destruction.

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