

450th BOMBARDMENT WING, HEAVY



MISSION

Mission of 450th Bombardment Wing to maintain the capability to conduct strategic bombardment operations on a global scale.

The 450th Bombardment Wing is composed of the 450th Armament and Electronics Maintenance Squadron, 450th Airborne Missile Maintenance Squadron, 450th Field Maintenance Squadron, 450th Organizational Maintenance Squadron and the 60th Munitions Maintenance Squadron.

LINEAGE

450th Fighter Bomber Wing established, 23 Mar 1953

Activated, 1 Jul 1954

Redesignated 450th Fighter Day Wing, 8 Mar 1955

Redesignated 450th Tactical Fighter Wing 1 Jul 1958

Inactivated, 18 Dec 1958

Redesignated 450th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, and activated, 15 Nov 1962

Organized, 1 Feb 1963

Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Jul 1968

STATIONS

Foster AFB, TX, 1 Jul 1954-18 Dec 1958

Minot AFB, ND, 1 Feb 1963-25 Jul 1968

ASSIGNMENTS

Ninth Air Force, 1 Jul 1954

Eighteenth Air Force, 1 Oct 1957

Twelfth Air Force, 1 Jan-18 Dec 1958

Strategic Air Command, 15 Nov 1962

810th Strategic Aerospace Division, 1 Feb 1963-25 Jul 1968

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-86, 1954-1955

F-86F

F-100, 1955-1958

F-100C

B-52, 1963-1968

KC-135, 1963-1968

EC-135, 1967-1968

B-52H, 1963-1968

COMMANDERS

Col Frank L. Dunn, 1 Jul 1954

Col Joe L. Mason, 20 Jun 1955

Col Wallace E. Hopkins, 1 Jul 1957

Col Edmund F. Freeman, 12 Jul 1957

BG Avelin P. Tacon, Jr., 25 Jul 1957

Col Wallace E. Hopkins, 12 Nov 1957

BG Avelin P. Tacon, Jr., 11 Dec 1957

Col Edmund F. Freeman, 11 Aug-18 Dec 1958

None (not manned), 15 Nov 1962-31 Jan 1963

Col Howard J. Fry, 1 Feb 1963

Col Jerrold M. Vivian, 9 Jul 1964

Col Joel A. Carroll, Jr., 10 Aug 1964

Col John R. Hinton, Jr., 8 Jun 1967

Col William W. Culbertson, 10-25 Jul 1968

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

None

EMBLEM

Argent, on a chief dovetailed azure between two mullets of the first, a lightning flash bend sinisterwise or, overall issuant from base in pale a sword of the first, guard of the third and handle striped bendwise gules and dark blue, the sword entwined by an olive branch vert and surmounted in fess by two orbital rings of the fourth and one of the third, all within a diminished bordure of the

last. (Approved, 7 Feb 1964)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Replaced 3580th Pilot Training Wing in Jul 1954. Trained with F-86 and later F-100 aircraft to maintain tactical proficiency for combat operations. Phased down for inactivation in Jul 1958. During final months, active in closing Foster AFB, Texas.

Replaced 4136th Strategic Wing in Feb 1963. Trained in global bombardment and air refueling operations. Added post attack command and control system (PACCS)/ airborne launch control system (ALCS) missions in 1967 and began active PACCS/ALCS missions in Feb 1968.

Supported SAC combat operations in Southeast Asia by furnishing KC-135 aircraft and crews, Dec 1964-Jul 1968, and B-52 crews, Jun-Jul 1968. Replaced by 5th Bombardment Wing, Heavy, in Jul 1968.

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 10 Feb 2012

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit yearbook. *Minot AFB, ND. Home of 810th Strategic Aerospace Division, 450th Bombardment Wing (H), 455th Strategic Missile Wing, 862nd Combat Support Group, 862nd Medical Group, 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron.* 1964.