

550 STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

550 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 25 Nov 1942
Activated, 1 Dec 1942
Inactivated, 28 Aug 1945
Redesignated 550 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 25 Aug 1947
Activated in the reserve, 15 Sep 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 550 Strategic Missile Squadron and activated, 22 Jul 1960
Organized, 1 Apr 1961
Discontinued, 25 Jun 1965

STATIONS

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 1 Dec 1942
El Paso, TX, 4 Jan 1943
Geiger Field, WA, 1 Feb 1943
Great Falls AAB, MT, 11 May Jun 1943
Great Ashfield, England, 6 Jul 1943-6 Aug 1945
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 14-28 Aug 1945
Selfridge Field, MI, 15 Sep 1947-27 Jun 1949
Schilling AFB, KS, 1 Apr 1961

ASSIGNMENTS

385 Bombardment Group, 1 Dec 1942-28 Aug 1945
Second Air Force, 15 Sep 1947
Tenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1948
First Air Force, 15 Aug 1948
Tenth Air Force, 1 Dec 1948-27 Jun 1949
Strategic Air Command, 22 Jul 1960
310 Bombardment (later Strategic Aerospace) Wing, 1 Apr 1961

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 194-1945
Atlas, 1961
SM-65F Atlas, 1961-1965

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Germany, 17 Aug 1943
Zwickau, Germany, 12 May 1944

EMBLEM



550 Bombardment Squadron emblems

550 Strategic Missile Squadron emblem: On an irregular octagon, Air Force golden yellow, an Air Force blue isosceles triangle, one point up, spattered with twelve white stars and charged with a white cloud formation, details Air Force blue; issuing from the cloud and flying respectively to the three angles of the triangle, three white missiles, exhaust red and white; all surmounted by three electrons in orbit, red and white; on the Air Force golden yellow area, a green olive branch in dexter and a red lightning bolt in sinister. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission. Against a background of the Air Force colors, three missiles blasting off in different directions depict the dispersal of forces and the large targeting capability of the squadron. To indicate true aerospace weapons, the missiles are shown rising out of the clouded aerospace into space. The acute angles of the triangle resemble the shock waves produced by the missile's ultrasonic speed. The atomic symbol portrays the squadron's nuclear deterrent power. The twelve stars represent the twelve missile complexes of the 550. The olive branch and lightning bolt symbolize the "Power for Peace" shield of the Strategic Air Command (Approved, 12 Sep 1962)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 17 Jul 1943-20 Apr 1945

Turnover to SAC, 7 Sep 1962

Operational, 9 Sep 1962

First ICBM off alert, 1 Feb 1965

Last ICBM off alert, 5 Mar 1965

Last ICBM shipped, 11 Mar 1965

Headquarters SAC inactivated the last remaining Atlas ICBM squadrons, the 567th Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Atlas E) at Fairchild AFB, Washington, the 550 Strategic Missile

Squadron (ICBM-Atlas F) at Schilling AFB, Kansas, the 551st Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Atlas F) at Lincoln AFB, Nebraska, and the 556th Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Atlas F) at Plattsburgh AFB, New York. 25 JUN 1965

The first Series F Atlas ICBM operational sites at the 550 Strategic Missile Squadron, Schilling AFB, Kansas, and the 551st Strategic Missile Squadron, Lincoln AFB, Nebraska, were accepted by the Strategic Air Command. JUN 1962

Headquarters SAC declared the 550 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Atlas F) at Schilling AFB, Kansas, to be operational. Sep 1962

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.