

570th STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

570th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy constituted, 15 Jan 1943
Activated, 26 Jan 1943
Inactivated, 28 Aug 1945
Redesignated 570th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 12 Sep 1947
Activated in the reserve, 6 Oct 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 570th Strategic Missile Squadron and activated, 16 Aug 1961
Organized, 1 Jan 1962
Inactivated, 31 Jul 1984

STATIONS

Geiger Field, WA, 26 Jan 1943
Great Falls AAB, MT, 6 Jun-4 Jul 1943
Framlingham, England, 26 Jul 1943-6 Aug 1945
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 14-28 Aug 1945
Sioux City AAB, IA, 6 Oct 1947-27 Jun 1949
Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 1 Jan 1962
Davis Monthan AFB, AZ

ASSIGNMENTS

390th Bombardment Group, 26 Jan 1943-28 Aug 1945
Second Air Force, 6 Oct 1947

Tenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1948-27 Jun 1949
Strategic Air Command, 16 Aug 1961
390th Strategic Missile Wing, 1 Jan 1962

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1943-1945
B-17F
B-17G
LGM-25C Titan II, 1962

COMMANDERS

Col Clyde J. Johnsob
Col Woodrow W. Lipscomb
LTC Arther F. Krause
LTC Cecil C. Metz
Col Bernard J. Schutter, Jr.
Col R.D. Lipton
Col Marty Sheinkman
LTC Thomas A. Williams, 29 Sept 1971
LTC Robert J. Warren, 25 Aug 1972
Col Harold E. Wilson, 4 Feb 1974
Col Walter R. Martin, 26 Aug 1974
LTC Robert J. Smith, Sept 1975
LTC Dennis M. Heitkamp, 1 Jan 1976
LTC Bertram A. King, 10 Jun 1977
LTC David A. Freedman, 5 July 1977
LTC Wells E. Hunt, 4 Oct 1978
LTC Frankie J. Kotaras, 18 July 1980
LTC Fredric MN. Crouter, 24 Aug, 1981
LTC Alan E. Yabui, 4 Jun, 1982-31 July 1984

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

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

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Germany, 17 Aug 1943

Germany, 14 Oct 1943

EMBLEM



On a disc per fess debased arched, orange and red, within a border black, piped white, four playing cards (aces) arranged spades, diamonds, clubs, and hearts, reading from dexter to sinister, issuing from arched segment in base, all behind a knave with evil facial expression, wearing black suit, orange collar, black hat of three points, trimmed and balled in each point of red. (Approved, 10 May 1943)

CREATOR OF THE 570TH JOKER"

While at Blythe Army Air Base and just two days after the initial orders from the 34th Bomb Group, Major Tom Jeffrey, the newly appointed Deputy Commander, directed each squadron to develop a distinctive emblem that would set it apart from each of the others. There are many historic references to such a technique. This emblem would be made a patch to be worn on the uniform. Major Jeffrey suggested each squadron commander run a contest within his squadron for the design of such an emblem.

The 570th Squadron Navigator Marshall Shore and Bombardier Don Ventriss had their office in an army tent out behind the building where Captain Joe Gemmill, the Squadron Commander, and First Lieutenant Bill Jones, the Operations Officer, had their office. There was no floor or lights and Ventriss and Shore sat on folding chairs in the sand. Ventriss had some background in illustrating and came up with the idea of an old English "Joker" which was superimposed on four playing card aces, spades, diamonds, clubs and hearts. He drew it out on a table and then put it up on a makeshift easel to color it in with water colors.

The task took him two days to finish.

When he got it perfected to his satisfaction, he submitted it in the 570th Bomb Squadron competition. It was so original and different that it was voted the winner of the competition. It

was officially approved 10 May 1943. Unfortunately none of the other three squadrons gained official approval.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 12 Aug 1943-20 Apr 1945.

The 390th SMW and 570th SMS at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, became the first Titan II wing and squadron to be activated. Titan II wings had two 1 x 9 squadrons. The missile used storable liquid propellants, all inertial guidance, carried a larger reentry vehicle than the Titan I, and could be launched from its silo. 1 January 1962

Headquarters SAC declared the 570th Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Titan II) at Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona, to be operational. This was the first Titan II ICBM squadron to achieve this status. 8 Jun 1963

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 15 Mar 2011

Updated: 20 Jun 2014

Sources

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

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