

13 STRATEGIC MISSILE DIVISION



MISSION

LINEAGE

13 Composite Wing established, 2 Oct 1940
Activated, 10 Oct 1940
Inactivated, 25 Oct 1941
Redesignated 13 Bombardment Wing, 23 Aug 1942
Activated, 1 Oct 1942
Redesignated 13 Bombardment Wing (Heavy), 1 Feb 1943
Redesignated 13 Combat Bombardment Wing (Heavy), 30 Aug 1943
Redesignated 13 Combat Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 24 Aug 1944
Redesignated 13 Bombardment Wing, Heavy, 18 Jun 1945
Redesignated 13 Bombardment Wing, Very Heavy, 17 Aug 1945
Inactivated, 17 Oct 1945
Redesignated 13 Air Division, 20 May 1959
Activated, 1 Jul 1959
Redesignated 13 Strategic Missile Division, 1 Jan 1963
Discontinued and inactivated, 2 Jul 1966

STATIONS

Langley Field, VA, 10-26 Oct 1940
Borinquen Field, PR, 1 Nov 1940
San Juan, PR, 6 Jan 1941
Borinquen Field, PR, 1 May-25 Oct 1941

MacDill Field, FL, 1 Oct 1942-c. 10 May 1943
Marks Hall, England, 2 Jun 1943
Camp Blainey, England, 13 Jun 1943
Horham, England, 13 Sep 1943- 6 Aug 1945
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 15 Aug 1945
Peterson Field, CO, 17 Aug-17 Oct 1945
Francis E. Warren AFB, WY, 1 Jul 1959-2 Jul 1966

ASSIGNMENTS

Unkn, 10 Oct 1940
Panama Canal (later, Caribbean) Air Force, 1 Nov 1940-25 Oct 1941
Third Air Force, 1 Oct 1942
Eighth Air Force, 1 Jun 1943
VIII Bomber Command, 4 Jun 1943
VIII Fighter Command, unkn
3 Air Division, 16 Jul 1945
Second Air Force, 15 Aug 1945-17 Oct 1945
Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1959
Eighth Air Force, 1 Jul 1963
Fifteenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1965-2 Jul 1966

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1940-1941
B-17, 1941, 1943-1945
B-26, 1941
P-39, 1941
P-40, 1941
Atlas, 1960-1965
Titan I, 1962-1965
Minuteman I, 1964-1966
EC-135, 1965-1966
KC-135, 1965-1966

COMMANDERS

1st Lt Paul Hinds, 10 Oct 1940
Capt Kenneth O. Sanborn, Oct 1940
Brig Gen Follett Bradley, 1 Nov 1940
Lt Col Robert V. Ignico, 4 Aug 1941
Brig Gen Douglas B. Netherwood, 7 Sep-25 Oct 1941
Maj Henry Silleck, 1942-unkn
Col Alfred A. Kessler Jr., 16 Sep 1943
Col Harold Q. Huglin, 9 Feb-1 Apr 1944
Unkn, 1-16 Apr 1944
Col Edgar M. Wittan, 17 Apr 1944

Col Karl Truesdell Jr., 13 Sep 1944
Col Hunter Harris Jr., 25 Sep 1944
Brig Gen Alfred A. Kessler Jr., 5 Nov 1944
Brig Gen Harold Q. Huglin, 19 Nov 1944
Lt Col Clifton D. Wright, 18 Jul 1945
Lt Col Paul C. Hutchins, 31 Aug 1945-unkn
Brig Gen William S. Rader, 1 Jul 1959
Maj Gen Lewis E. Lyle, 13 Jan 1965-2 Jul 1966

HONORS

Service Streamers

European African Middle Eastern Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Light blue, issuant from base a sphere light green with land areas vert, grid lined azure, the sinister quarter of the last with grid lines of the field, above the sphere in chief an olive branch arched fesswise or, overall an aircraft and a missile bendwise each trailing speedlines of the like and all within a diminished border of the last. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Against a background of blue sky to indicate the primary theater of operations for the USAF, a globe represents SAC's global deterrent capability. The light and dark portions symbolize day and night vigilance of strategic fighting forces over the free world and those portions of the world under the spreading influence of Communism. The olive branch at the top of the emblem represents the desire of the American people for peace, and the missile and aircraft are symbols of SAC's deterrent capability to provide the forces to preserve this peace. (Approved, 4 Jan 1961)

MOTTO

OPEATIONS

Activated in the United States in October 1940, the wing moved to Puerto Rico where it remained until inactivated in October 1941. Following second activation, it moved in May 1943 to England for duty with the Eighth Air Force. Groups assigned in September 1943 began strategic bombing of enemy aircraft, petroleum, and ball bearing industries as well as German airfields. Later, organizational units took part in the famous raid against the ball bearing industry at Schweinfurt in October 1943 and followed with missions against shipyards and shipbuilding installations at Wilhelmshaven and Bremen. During the 1960s, the division organized, manned, trained, and equipped several strategic missile wings in Wyoming.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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