

1211 TEST SQUADRON (SAMPLING)



MISSION

LINEAGE

1211 Test Squadron (Sampling)
Inactivated, 16 Jun 1963

STATIONS

Kirtland AFB, New Mexico

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

SIGNIFICANCE: The emblem symbolizes the squadron and its mission of worldwide support of the U.S. nuclear testing program as well as the scoring, and tracking of nuclear particles in the

atmosphere. The nuclear cloud rising over the globe represents the unit's worldwide responsibility. In the center of the cloud is the atomic nucleus with its escaping particles and gases. The "busy bee" with his net, representing the unit's aircraft with their sampling tanks for collecting nuclear samples, is preparing to trap the escaping nuclear particles. The emblem bears the Air Force colors of ultramarine blue and golden yellow to indicate the unit is a member of the USAF the colors of red, white, and blue to indicate the patriotism of the personnel. (Approved, 26 June 1958)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Designated as the 4926th Test Squadron (Sampling), it was organized at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, and assigned to the Air Research and Development Command on 1 April 1953. It was assigned to the Military Air Transport Service. (further assigned to the 9th Weather Reconnaissance Group, and redesignated the 1211th Test Squadron (Sampling), 16 Aug 1961. It was discontinued on 8 Jun 1963.

After a three-year period during which nuclear testing had been discontinued, plans for tests resumed. This detonation test called Project Dominic, took place in 1962 and, unknown at the time, was the last above ground nuclear shot by the U.S. The 4677th DSES at Hill AFB provided five 'Ds' along with crews. These were joined by the one 'D' from Wright Patterson AFB (973) assigned there for flight test projects. (WADC received three RB-57Ds from the 4080th SRW beginning 16 June 1959.) Six of the standard wing B-57s were also at Christmas Island for this mission. The 1211th Test Squadron (Sampling), Air Weather Service, had operational control over the loaned aircraft and in time acquired permanently assigned WB-57s for the sampling program. This Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, based unit eventually became the 58th Weather Reconnaissance Squadron.

4926th Test Squadron re-designated the 1211th Test Squadron (Sampling) and assigned to 9th Weather Reconnaissance Group as a result of a moratorium on atmospheric nuclear tests. 16 Aug 1961