

4239 STRATEGIC WING



MISSION

4239 SW mission was to conduct strategic bombardment operations on a global scale, either independently or in cooperation with land and sea forces.

LINEAGE

4239 Strategic Wing
Organized, 1 Jul 1959

STATIONS

Kincheloe AFB, MI

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-52, 1961-1963

COMMANDERS

Lt Col John H. Blumenstock
Col Charles E. Lancaster Jr., 1 Nov 1960
Col Louis M. Sowers, 1 Jul 1961

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Light blue, a falcon's wing elevated to sinister chief argent and terminating in a claw in nombril point bend sinisterwise or, grasping five lightning flashes, one to sinister fess, one to sinister, one to sinister base, and two to dexter base gules highlighted of the third, and an olive branch torqued azure highlighted of the second, all within a diminished bordure of the third. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission. Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The emblem is symbolic of the Wing and its mission. Against a light blue sky (primary theater of operations) a falcon's wing and claw (representing the unit's strength and speed) are displayed. The lightning bolts and olive branch grasped in the falcon's talons indicate SAC is the parent command. The emblem colors, ultramarine blue and golden yellow, and red, white, and blue.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

4239 Strategic Wing based at Kinross Air Force Base Mi organized on 1 Jul 59 as part of Strategic Air Command's program to disperse its intercontinental weapon system.

Wing's first aircraft, (a B-52H christened Soo City Soo) arrived on 8 Nov 61.

By 31 Jan 62, Wing had 12 assigned aircraft, 225 officers, and 1245 enlisted personnel.

Kinross AFB redesignated Kincheloe AFB on 18 Sep 1959.

Inactivated On 1/2/63 when aircraft and personnel resources passed to the 449 BW at the same base.

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