

## 66<sup>th</sup> MISSILE SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

66<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 20 Nov 1940  
Activated, 15 Jan 1941  
Redesignated 66<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 5 Aug 1945  
Inactivated, 12 Jul 1946  
Activated, 1 Jul 1947  
Inactivated, 6 Sep 1948  
Redesignated 66<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 20 Dec 1950  
Activated, 2 Jan 1951  
Discontinued, 15 Jun 1960  
Redesignated 66<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Squadron, 24 Jan 1962  
Organized, 1 Jul 1962  
Redesignated 66<sup>th</sup> Missile Squadron, 1 Sep 1991  
Inactivated, 1 Sep 1993

#### STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 15 Jan 1941  
Barksdale Field, LA, 9 Feb 1942  
Will Rogers Field, OK, 26 Jul-25 Aug 1942  
Cheddington, England, 12 Sep 1942  
Shipdham, England, 10 Oct 1942-c. 15 Jun 1945 (detachments operated from Benina, Libya, 28 Jun-c. 31 Aug 1943, and Tunis, Tunisia, 19 Sep-c. 9 Oct 1943)  
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 26 Jun 1945

Great Bend AAFld, KS, 24 Jul 1945  
Smoky Hill AAFld, KS, 12 Oct 1945-12 Jul 1946  
Andrews Field, MD, 1 Jul 1947-6 Sep 1948  
March AFB, CA, 2 Jan 1951-1 Aug 1951  
Lake Charles AFB, LA, c. 7 Aug 1951-15 Jun 1960  
Ellsworth AFB, SD, 1 Jul 1962

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

44<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 19 Jan 1941-12 Jul 1946  
44<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 1 Jul 1947-6 Sep 1948  
44<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Group, 2 Jan 1951  
44<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952  
Department of the Air Force, 15 Jun 1960  
Strategic Air Command, 24 Jan 1962  
44<sup>th</sup> Strategic Missile Wing, 1 Jul 1962  
44<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-18, 1941-1942  
B-24, 1942-1945  
B-24D  
B-24H  
B-24J  
B-29, 1945-1946  
B-29, 1951-1953  
B-47, 1953-1960  
LGM-30B Minuteman I, 1963–1973  
LGM-30F Minuteman II, 1972–1993

### **COMMANDERS**

LTC George A. Doersch, #1954

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

None

#### **Campaign Streamers**

Antisubmarine, American Theater  
Air Offensive, Europe  
Sicily  
Naples-Foggia  
Normandy  
Northern France  
Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace  
Central Europe  
Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
Kiel, Germany, 14 May 1943  
Ploesti, Rumania, 1 Aug 1943

#### Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1969-30 Jun 1970  
9 Jun-10 Jul 1972  
1 Jul 1974-30 Jun 1976  
1 Jul 1983-30 Jun 1985  
1 Jul 1985-30 Jun 1986  
30 May 1990-29 May 1992

#### **EMBLEM**



On a blue disc edged with a yellow border issuing from dexter base a green demi-sphere grid lined yellow from which a white missile is ascending bendwise emitting a yellow arched vapor trail, the missile between six white six-pointed stars. (Approved, 31 Mar 1970)

#### **MOTTO**

THE PEACE KEEPER

## NICKNAME

## OPERATIONS

Operational training unit, Feb-Jun 1942; antisubmarine operations, 28 Jan-22 Jul 1942; combat in ETO and MTO, 7 Nov 1942-25 Apr 1945, including pathfinder missions, 8 May-c. Nov 1944. Apparently not manned, 1 Jul 1947-6 Sep 1948. Operational and replacement training unit, 1 Oct 1951-c. 31 Aug 1952. Trained for operations with Minuteman, 1 Jul 1962.

A USAAF Consolidated B-24H Liberator bomber, *42-95095*, of the 66th Bomb Squadron, 44th Bomb Group, returning home to the USA from Prestwick Airfield crashed at Shieldaig, in the remote Fairy Lochs in Wester Ross, Scotland, killing its entire crew of nine from 66th Bombardment Squadron; also on board were six crewmen from Air Transport Command. Pilot was Jack B. Ketcham.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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### Sources

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

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

Unit yearbook. *44 Bombardment Wing (M)*, 1954. Army and Navy Publishing Co, Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1954.