

374 STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

374 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942
Activated, 15 Apr 1942
Inactivated, 6 Jan 1946
Redesignated 374 Reconnaissance Squadron, Very Long Range, Weather, 16 Sep 1947
Activated, 15 Oct 1947
Inactivated, 21 Feb 1951
Redesignated 374 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 4 Oct 1951
Activated, 10 Oct 1951
Discontinued, and inactivated, 25 Jun 1961
Redesignated 374 Strategic Missile Squadron and activated, 24 Jan 1962
Organized, 1 Sep 1962
Inactivated, 15 Aug 1986

STATIONS

Gowen Field, ID, 15 Apr 1942
Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 18 Jun 1942
Alamogordo, NM, 24 Jul 1942
Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 28 Aug 1942
Wendover Field, UT, 1 Oct 1942
Pueblo AAB, CO, 30 Nov 1942-2 Jan 1943
Chengkung, China, 20 Mar 1943

Kwanghan, China, 18 Feb 1945
Rupsi, India, 27 Jun-14 Oct 1945
Camp Kilmer, NJ, 5-6 Jan 1946
Fairfield-Suisun AAFld, CA, 15 Oct 1947 (one flight operated from Lincolnshire, England, 22 Nov 1948-6 Jul 1949)
McClellan AFB, CA, 28 Oct 1949-21 Feb 1951 (one flight operated from Dhahran Airfield, Saudi Arabia, 8 May-4 Dec 1950, and another from Eielson AFB, AK, 3 Jul-28 Sep 1950)
Forbes AFB, KS, 10 Oct 1951
Hunter AFB GA, 17 Apr 1952
Plattsburg AFB, NY, 15 Jul 1959-25 June 1961
Little Rock AFB, Ark, 24 Jan 1962

ASSIGNMENTS

308 Bombardment Group, 15 Apr 1942-6 Jan 1946
308 Reconnaissance Group, 15 Oct 1947
Air Weather Service, 19 Dec 1950-21 Feb 1951
308 Bombardment Group, 10 Oct 1951
308 Bombardment Wing, 16 Jun 1952-25 Jun 1961
Strategic Air Command, 24 Jan 1962
308 Strategic Missile Wing, 1 Sep 1962

ATTACHMENTS

21 Air Division, 10 Oct 1951-17 Apr 1952

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-18, 1942
B-24, 1942-1945
B/RB/WB-29, 1947-1951
C-47 1947-1951
B-29, 1951-1953
B-47, 1953-1959
LGM-25C Titan II 1962–1987

COMMANDERS

Maj Robert L. Fowley, 15 Oct 1947
Lt Col Milton D. Willis, 1 Dec 1947
Lt Col Robert B. Sullivan, 29 Nov 1948
Maj Aubrey D. Taylor, 5 Feb 1950

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

India-Burma

China Defensive
New Guinea
Western Pacific
China Offensive
Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

China, 21 Aug 1943

East and South China Seas, Straits of Formosa, and Gulf of Tonkin, 24 May 1944-28 Apr 1945

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Nov 1956-1 Apr 1957

EMBLEM



374 Bombardment Squadron, Medium emblem: On an irregular diamond shield red a phantom “bat-man” head, body and legs yellow, wings, hands headgear black, grasping in each foot a bomb black. (Approved, 23 Jul 1952)

374 Strategic Missile Squadron emblem: On an AF blue disc bordered AF golden yellow, a reddish-orange globe, axis bendrise, grid lines and polar area white below an arc of nine stars, a large white one in chief, four AF golden yellow ones on either side, issuing from base and surmounting the lower portion of the globe, a white cloud formation; piercing the cloud a white missile in upward flight palewise emitting three red lightning flashes radiant to base; outlines and details AF blue throughout. Motto: Below the disc on an AF golden yellow scroll, the motto PROTECTION THROUGH POWER edged and inscribed in AF blue. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission. Against a background of ultramarine blue and golden

yellow, a missile, clouds, the earth, and lightning bolts all indicate instantaneous, powerful reaction of global proportions. The nine stars represent the nine missile complexes originally assigned to the squadron upon activation. The large white star represents this unit's goal of achievement. (Approved, 23 Apr 1963)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Combat in CBI and Western Pacific, 4 May 1943-11 May 1945. Not manned, 15 Jul 1959-25 Jun 1961. Training for operations with Titan missiles, 1 Sep 1962.

Headquarters SAC activated the 374 Strategic Missile Squadron at Little Rock AFB, Arkansas. This was the last Titan II squadron to be activated. Sep 9 1962

Souter Construction Company of Gleason, Arkansas began the "safe and seal" operation at Titan II Complex 374-7 at Damascus, Arkansas. The silo had been destroyed in a fiery explosion on September 19, 1981 that killed one and injured twenty-one. Having waited for cooler weather to begin their work, the Souter firm arrived at the abandoned facility on September 20, 1982. This sealing operation helped heal the wounds of the Damascus incident.

The 374 Strategic Missile Squadron, Little Rock AFB, Arkansas, became the fifth of six Titan II missile squadrons to be inactivated. 15 Aug 1986

The 374 SMS's nine silos were located:

Blackwell (374-1)
Plumerville (374-2)
St. Vincent (374-3)
Beaver Fork (374-5)
Republican (374-6)
Southside (374-7)
Guy (374-8)
Quitman (374-9)

USAF Unit Histories
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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.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.
Unit history. Little Rock AFB, AR. *Heartland, The History of Little Rock AFB*. Timothy Burford and Stephanie Burford. WireStorm Publishing. Las Vegas, NV. 2002.