

6546 MISSILE TEST SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

6546 Missile Test Squadron

STATIONS

Patrick AFB, FL

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 6541st Missile Test Wing was activated with nine squadrons numbered consecutively 6541st through 6549th. Those squadrons were created to operate range tracking systems on the Eastern Range's mainland and downrange stations. The 6548th and 6549th Missile Test Squadrons were discontinued on 25 November 1951, but the remaining seven squadrons were deployed between the Cape and Grand Turk by the end of 1952. They were redesignated as operations squadrons when the 6541st Missile Test Wing became the 6541st Operations Group on 1 March 1953.

We start with some of the earliest units. Eglin AFB, Florida, was the home of some of the first. The 1st Experimental Guided Missile Squadron(EGMS), under the 1EGM Group, was activated in February 1946, to test the JB-2, VB-3, VB-6 and the VB-13. It became the 1st Guided Missile Squadron (GMS) of the 550th Guided Missile Wing (GMW) in 1949, tasked with testing the MX-674 Tarzon missile. The 1GMS and another unit, the 2GMS, were active at Eglin from mid-1949 until late 1950. The 1GMS relocated to Patrick AFB, Florida, and the 2GMS moved to Holloman AFB, New Mexico, under the 6540th Missile Test Wing (MTW), to test Matador and SnarkSquadrons (Cont) - missiles. The 3GMS, of the 550GMW, was at Patrick during the last half of 1950, testing the Lark missile. At the end of 1950, the 3GMS became the 4803GMS, as part of the 4800GMW, and lasted until 1953. The change was probably due to a new USAF policy on squadron designations , since a number of four digit units came to life at about that time. The 4802nd Missile Test Squadron (MTS), tasked with Matador testing, also activated at the same time at Patrick.

Others at Patrick included the 6545MTS, 6546MTS and 6547MTS, under the 6541MTW. These three units lasted until 1953 for the first and 1954 for the other two. The 6555GMS of the 6555th GMW was also part of Patrick from 1951 to 1959.

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

