

448 MISSILE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

448 Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 19 Jun 1942
Activated, 26 Jun 1942
Redesignated 448 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 6 Mar 1944
Inactivated, 12 Sep 1945
Redesignated 448 Bombardment Squadron, Light, 29 Jan 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 15 Mar 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 448 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 30 Oct 1958
Activated, 1 Feb 1959
Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Oct 1961
Redesignated 448 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Minuteman), and activated, 2 Aug 1965
Organized, 15 Sep 1965
Redesignated 448 Missile Squadron, 1 Sep 1991

STATIONS

Barksdale Field, LA, 26 Jun 1942
Columbia AAB, SC, c. 1 Aug 1942
Walterboro, SC, 20 Sep 1942
DeRidder AAB, LA, 1 Dec 1942–21 Jan 1943
Oujda, French Morocco, 7 Mar 1943
Ain M'lila, Algeria, 12 Mar 1943
Souk-el-Arba, Tunisia, 1 Jun 1943
Soliman, Tunisia, 8 Aug 1943

Grottaglie, Italy, 4 Oct 1943
Amendola, Italy, c. 20 Nov 1943
Vincenzo Airfield, Italy, 14 Jan 1944
Gaudo Airfield, Italy, 18 Feb 1944
Solenzara, Corsica, 23 Apr 1944
Falconara, Italy, 6 Apr 1945
Pomigliano, Italy, c. Aug 1945–12 Sep 1945
Stout Field, IN, 15 Mar 1947–27 Jun 1949
McCoy AFB, FL, 1 Feb 1959–25 Oct 1961
Grand Forks AFB, ND, 15 Sep 1965

ASSIGNMENTS

321 Bombardment Group, 26 Jun 1942–12 Sep 1945
Eleventh Air Force, 15 Mar 1947
321 Bombardment Group, 30 Sep 1947
Tenth Air Force, 28 Mar–27 Jun 1949
321 Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1959–25 Oct 1961
Strategic Air Command, 2 Aug 1965
321 Strategic Missile Wing, 15 Sep 1965
321 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991
321 Missile Group, 1 Jul 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B–25, 1942–1945
AT–6
AT–11, 1947–1949
DB–47, 1959–1960
B–47, 1959–1961
Minuteman II, 1966–1972
Minuteman III, 1972

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Richard F. Warnke

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Tunisia
Sicily
Naples-Foggia
Anzio
Rome-Arno

Southern France
North Apennines
Central Europe
Po Valley
Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Athens, Greece, 8 Oct 1943
Toulon, France, 18 Aug 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1968–30 Jun 1969
1 Jul 1985–30 Jun 1987

EMBLEM



448 Bombardment Squadron emblem



448 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Minuteman) emblem: On a light blue disc within a narrow gold border an American eagle in flight (brown detailed dark brown, head white, beak gold, eye black, and talons gold) bearing in sinister talon a white airstrip and in chief nine white shell bursts center blue; in sinister flank behind the eagle a blue submarine, a blue cruiser, and a blue battleship, each sinking into a white wavy bar. **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 background in the squadron color, turquoise blue, represents the sky. The American eagle, symbol of our Nation and its air power, is representative of the squadron's striking power, and with outstretched wings denotes the unit's constant readiness to unleash destruction against any enemy who threatens the peace and freedom of our country. In the talons of the eagle an airstrip (the first launch pad for Air Force weapons systems) with two hardstands symbolizes the two DUCs earned by the squadron during World War II, one for bombing a battleship, a cruiser, and a submarine in Toulon harbor during the Allied invasion of southern France, and the other for participating in a successful bombing raid on an airdrome near Athens in spite of heavy flak; the shell bursts number nine to denote the squadron's World War II Campaign Participation Credits. (Approved, 30 Nov 1966)

448 Missile Squadron Emblem: On a turquoise blue disc within a narrow yellow border an American Eagle in flight (brown detailed dark brown, head white, beak gold, eye black, and talons gold) bearing in sinister talon a reentry vehicle in black. (Celeste, a bald eagle soaring proper grasping a missile warhead proper; all within a diminished bordure Or. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The background of turquoise blue is the squadron color and represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. The American eagle, symbol of our nation and its air power, is representative of the squadron's striking power. The eagle's outreached wings denote the unit's constant readiness to unleash destruction against any enemy who threatens the peace and freedom of our country. In the talons of the eagle rests a reentry vehicle poised for release upon command. 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. 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. (Approved, 17 Oct 1994)

MOTTO

IN AQUILAE CURA—Under the Care of the Eagle
Screamin' Eagles

OPERATIONS

Combat in MTO, 15 Mar 1943–25 Apr 1945.

Not operational, 15 Sep 1965–Sep 1966.

Missile operations, Oct 1966.

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.