

## 568 STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON (ICBM-TITAN I)



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

568 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy constituted, 15 Jan 1943  
Activated, 26 Jan 1943  
Inactivated, 28 Aug 1943  
Redesignated 568 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 28 Jan 1947  
Activated in the reserve, 27 Feb 1947  
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949  
Redesignated 568 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Titan I), and activated, 24 Oct 1960  
Organized, 1 Apr 1961  
Inactivated, 25 Mar 1965

#### STATION

Geiger Field, WA, 26 Jan 1943  
Great Falls AAB, MT, 6 Jun-5 Jul 1943  
Framlingham, England, 26 Jul 1943-6 Aug 1945  
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 14-28 Aug 1945  
Lowry Field, CO, 27 Feb 1947-27 Jun 1949  
Larson AFB, WA, 1 Apr 1961

#### ASSIGNMENTS

390 Bombardment Group, 26 Jan 1943-28 Aug 1945  
Second Air Force, 27 Feb 1947  
Tenth Air Force, 1 Jul 1948-27 Jun 1949  
Strategic Air Command, 24 Oct 1960  
4170 Strategic Wing, 1 Apr 1961  
462 Strategic Aerospace Wing, 1 Feb 1963

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

B-17, 1943-1945

SM-68 Titan I 1961-1965

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Robert E. Mullin

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Offensive, Europe

Air Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations

Germany, 17 Aug 1943

Germany, 14 Oct 1943

## **EMBLEM**



568 Bombardment Squadron emblem



568 Strategic Missile Squadron emblem: On a medium blue disc bordered Air Force blue, a point pointed in point from sinister base to dexter chief, all surmounted by a mailed hand originating in sinister, black, highlighted white, grasping a white aircraft bendwise, pointing upward, fins red fimbriated white; in base a light green olive branch arched. (Approved, 8 Feb 1963)

The missile pointed in the "go" position but restrained by the mailed fist represents readiness and control. The olive branch indicates peace and reflects SAC's motto. The medium blue background represents global operation and the deep blue background indicates space, symbolizing the Air Force and the Strategic Air Command.

The emblem is symbolic of the squadron and its mission and represents the deterrent force of the missile operations of the Strategic Air Command. The missile pointed in the "go" position but restrained by the mailed fist represents readiness and control. The olive branch indicates peace and reflects SAC's motto, "Peace Is Our Profession. The medium blue background represents global operation, and the deep blue background indicates space, and symbolizes the Air Force and the Strategic Air Command. The emblem bears the national colors, red, white, and blue.

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATION**

Combat in ETO, 12 Aug 1943-20 Apr 1945. Squadron members manned three Titan I complexes in the Larson area. As a bomb squadron, the 568 took part in the Regensburg/Schweinfurt, Germany raid on 17 August and 14 October 1943. For those missions the squadron earned a Distinguished Unit Citation.

Turnover to SAC 26 Sep 1962

Operational 26 Sep 1962

First ICBM off alert 4 Jan 1965

Last ICBM off alert 2 Feb 1965

Last ICBM Shipped 8 Feb 1965

The first Titan I ICBMs were taken off alert at the 568 Strategic Missile Squadron, Larson AFB, Washington, the 850th Strategic Missile Squadron, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, and the 851st Strategic Missile Squadron, Beale AFB, California.4 JAN 1965

Construction work on Larson's Titan I missile facilities was completed on 16 March 1962 when the Army Corps of Engineers turned the complexes over to the Site Activation Task Force. Larson's Titan I missiles arrived from Denver, Colorado on 23 Jan 1962. On 16 July 1962 the first complex was declared operational.

The 568 Strategic Missile Squadron was officially activated on 1 April 1961 as a 4170th Strategic Wing unit. There were three missile complexes consisting of three Titan I's each. The complexes, one located at Royal City, Washington, one at Warden, Washington and another at Odessa, Washington, were deactivated officially on 25 March 1965. The missiles were moved and shipped to Norton AFB, California for disposition. Most of the aerospace ground equipment including the diesel generators used for power underground during the operational period of the complexes has been removed. The missile sites have been turned over to the General Services Administration for disposal on the open market.

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USAF Unit Histories  
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#### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
Unit yearbook. *Larson AFB, WA, 462<sup>nd</sup> Strategic Aerospace Wing. @1964.*