

741 MISSILE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

741 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 14 May 1943
Activated, 1 Jun 1943
Redesignated 741 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 6 Mar 1944
Inactivated, 9 Sep 1945
Redesignated 741 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 27 May 1947
Activated in the Reserve, 26 Jun 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 741 Fighter-Day Squadron, 7 May 1956
Activated, 25 Jul 1956
Inactivated, 1 Jul 1957
Redesignated 741 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Minuteman) and activated, 28 Jun 1962
Organized, 1 Dec 1962
Redesignated 741 Missile Squadron, 1 Sep 1991

STATIONS

Alamogordo AAFld, NM, 1 Jun 1943
Kearns, UT, 9 Sep 1943
Langley Field, VA, 5 Oct–13 Dec 1943
San Giovanni, Italy, 15 Jan 1944–9 Sep 1945
Hensley Field, TX, 26 Jun 1947–27 Jun 1949
Myrtle Beach AFB, SC, 25 Jul 1956–1 Jul 1957
Minot AFB, ND, 1 Dec 1962

ASSIGNMENTS

455 Bombardment Group, 1 Jun 1943–9 Sep 1945
455 Bombardment Group, 26 Jun 1947–27 Jun 1949
455 Fighter Day Group, 25 Jul 1956–1 Jul 1957

Strategic Air Command, 28 Jun 1962
455 Strategic Missile Wing (ICBM-Minuteman), 1 Dec 1962
91 Strategic Missile Wing, 25 Jun 1968
4091 Operations Group, 1 Jul 1988
91 Strategic Missile Wing, 14 Feb 1991
91 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991
91 Missile Group, 1 Jul 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24, 1943–1945
B-29, 1947–1949
LGM-30 Minuteman I, 1963–1971
LGM-30 Minuteman III, 1968–Present

COMMANDERS

Maj Horace W. Lanford Jr., 1 Jun 1943
Maj Jack D. Reeder, 21 Jul 1944
Maj Horace W. Lanford Jr., 26 Jul 1944-unkn
Maj Russel J. Welsh, unkn-unkn
LTC Francis C. Doring, unkn-2 Jun 1945
Cpt Gordon R. Anderson, 2 Jun 1945-unkn
Unkn, 1947-1949. Unkn, 25 Jul 1956-18 Feb 1957
Cpt Joseph C. Lowry Jr., 18 Feb 1957
Maj Jack H. Bond, 9 Apr-1 Jul 1957
LTC Roger W. Stinchcomb Jr., 1 Dec 1962
Col Frederick J. Feller, 13 Aug 1963
LTC Roger W. Stinchcomb Jr., 18 May 1964
Col Elton J. Jennings, 2 Mar 1965
LTC J. C. Eigenmann, 7 Sep 1965
LTC Lewis C. L. Browne, Jul 1967
LTC Robert L. Harrison, Sep 1968
LTC Marion B. Hitt, May 1969
LTC John A. Thurman, Oct 1969
Col Mario E. Peyrot, May 1970
Maj Joel S. Gill, 28 Dec 1971
LTC Byron M. Gillory, 13 Dec 1972
LTC James Gilchrist Jr., 1 Jul 1973
Col Richard E. Sheffield, 1 May 1974
Maj Rolland D. Ellis, 5 May 1975
Col John W. Blanton, 1 Aug 1975
LTC James B. Spence, 26 Feb 1976
LTC Reece A. Kain Jr., 15 Apr 1977
LTC Robert J. Hesler, 1 Sep 1978
LTC Frank J. Hamby, 17 Aug 1979

LTC Andrew S. Knight, 1 Oct 1981
LTC William J. Grant, 19 Mar 1984
LTC William W. Perkins, 22 Mar 1985
LTC Russell J. Anarde, 26 Jun 1986
LTC Ronald D. Nyberg, 30 Jun 1988
LTC James T. Reeves, 21 Nov 1989
LTC William J. Beck Jr., 1 Sep 1991
LTC Roger W. Burg, 28 Jun 1993
LTC William J. Kalaskie, 9 Dec 1994
LTC Wayne E. P. Hudson, 7 Aug 1996
LTC Douglas E. Kelley, 8 Jul 1998
LTC Henry Mitnaul, 28 Aug 1998
Maj Eric J. Batway, 2 Jun 2000
LTC Linda R. Cole, 20 Jul 2000
LTC John S. Riordan, 31 May 2002

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Europe

Naples-Foggia

Anzio

Rome-Arno

Normandy

Northern France

Southern France

North Apennines

Rhineland

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

None

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations

Steyr, Austria, 2 Apr 1944

Austria, 26 Jun 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1972–30 Jun 1973
1 Jul 1976–30 Jun 1978
1 Jul 1978–30 Jun 1980
1 Jul 1989–14 Feb 1991
1 Sep 1993–31 Aug 1995
1 Sep 1995–31 Aug 1997
1 Oct 1998–30 Sep 2000
1 Oct 2000–1 Oct 2001
1 Jan–31 Dec 2002

EMBLEM





On a disc per pale Azure and Celeste a flight symbol bendwise Vert fimbriated Argent enfiling an orbit ring bendwise sinister charged with three electrons and an orbit palewise charged with two electrons of the last between in dexter chief two mullets bendwise sinister White and issuant from sinister base a demi-globe axis bendwise per bend Blue and White gridlines counterchanged, overall a base embattled of the third all within a diminished bordure of the first. (Approved, 29 Sep 1964)

MOTTO

FIDELITAS ET FORTITUDO—Fidelity and Fortitude

NICKNAME

Gravel Haulers

OPERATIONS

Combat in MTO and ETO during World War II, 12 Feb 1944–25 Apr 1945. Not operational, 1956–1957. Missile alert operations, 1963–1991.

Headquarters SAC declared the 741st Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Minuteman III) at Minot AFB, North Dakota, to be operational. This was the first Minuteman III ICBM squadron to achieve this status. 29 December 1970

1971 12 Jan The 741st SMS, Minot AFB, North Dakota, became the first Minuteman III squadron to attain full alert status.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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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 yearbook. Minot AFB, ND. Home of 810th Strategic Aerospace Division, 450th Bombardment Wing (H), 455th Strategic Missile Wing, 862nd Combat Support Group, 862nd Medical Group, 5th Fighter Interceptor Squadron. 1964.