

## 823 TACTICAL MISSILE SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

823 Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 29 Mar 1943  
Activated, 20 Apr 1943  
Inactivated, 12 Apr 1946  
Redesignated 823 Tactical Missile Squadron and activated, 10 Sep 1962  
Organized, 25 Sep 1962

#### STATIONS

Australia, 20 Apr 1943  
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 20 Jun 1943  
Nadzab, New Guinea, 7 Mar 1944  
Biak, 26 Aug 1944  
Morotai, 15 Oct 1944  
Lingayen, Luzon, 1 Feb 1945  
Okinawa, 24 Jul 1945  
Itazuke, Japan, 21 Nov 1945-12 Apr 1946  
Sembach AB, Germany, 25 Sep 1962

#### ASSIGNMENTS

38 Bombardment Group, 20 Apr 1943-12 Apr 1946  
United States Air Forces in Europe, 10 Sep 1962  
38 Tactical Missile Wing, 25 Sep 1962

#### WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-25, 1943-1946  
MGM-13 Mace, 1962

#### COMMANDERS

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Japan  
China Defensive  
New Guinea  
Bismarck Archipelago  
Western Pacific  
Leyte  
Luzon  
Southern Philippines

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citations  
New Britain, 24-26 Dec 1943  
New Guinea, 16-17 Jun 1944  
Leyte, 10 Nov 1944

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

#### **EMBLEM**

#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Not manned prior to c. 20 Jun 1943; combat in Southwest and Western Pacific, 15 Oct 1943-12 Aug 1945.

The order inactivated HQ, 585th Tactical Missile Group, Bitburg Air Base; HQ 586th Tactical Missile Group, Hahn Air Base; HQ 587th Tactical Missile Group, Sembach Air Base; 585th Missile Maintenance Squadron, Bitburg Air Base; 586th Missile Maintenance Squadron, Hahn Air Base; and the 587th Missile Maintenance Squadron, Sembach Air Base. Under the new structure the original launch squadrons reported to the new DC/O, and the maintenance squadrons operating as detachments of the newly created 38th Missile Maintenance Squadron at Sembach, were under the new DC/M. In addition to reorganizing the 71st TMS at Bitburg, the 405th TMS at Hahn, and the 822nd TMS at Sembach, the special order also created three new

launch squadrons; the 89th Tactical Missile Squadron at Hahn, the 823rd Tactical Missile Squadron and the 887th Tactical Missile Squadrons at Sembach.

The two newly created launch squadrons at Sembach, the 823rd TMS and the 887th TMS, joined the existing 822nd TMS, which allowed one squadron per launch site instead of the 822nd trying to supply crews to all three launch sites. The original 822nd was assigned to Combat Flight A, Site 1, at Mehlingen; the newly activated 823rd took on Combat Flight B, Site II, at Enkenbach; and the newly activated 887th assumed control at Griinstadt, Combat Flight C, later known as Site III.

Bitburg had a different problem than the two "A" bird bases at Hahn and Sembach. The two remaining underground launch sites at Newel and Heidweiler were canceled before construction started, leaving the 71st TMS with only two launch sites, Site VII at Rittersdorf and Site VIII at Idenheim. There was no need to increase the number of launch crews at Bitburg with the unexpected cancellation of Sites 9 and 10.

On 1 September 1959, Sembach became USAFE's primary missile base when the 38th TMW moved in from Hahn AB. The wing underwent a fundamental reorganization on 25 September 1962 when it took control of the 822d TMS from the intermediate 587th TMG which inactivated the same day. Concurrently, two additional squadrons, the 823d and 887th TMSs were activated.

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Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.