

## 6594 INSTRUMENTATION SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

6594 Instrumentation Squadron

### STATIONS

### ASSIGNMENTS

### COMMANDERS

### HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

### EMBLEM

### MOTTO

### OPERATIONS

8 Oct 59-The 6594th Instrument Squadron, Ballistic Missile Division, ARDC activated at Grenier

AFB. Operating location of unit is New Boston, NH. As a result of this active Air Force unit's presence at Grenier, the 2235th ABS became the 2235th Air Base Group(ABG) in order to provide support.

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Hanscom AFB, MA slated to assume support responsibility for 6594th Instrument Squadron, but distance from that base made plan unworkable. Grenier AFB required to supply housing, messing and fuel to 6594th .

NH ANG officials announced plans to move the 157th ATG from Grenier AFB to Pease AFB, NH on same schedule as 902nd TCG. The 6594th Instrument Squadron slated to remain at Grenier and New Boston.

New Boston Air Force Station (NBAFS), also known as "BOSS", is nestled in dense woodland and wetlands in the rolling hills of Hillsborough County surrounded by three New Hampshire towns--Mont Vernon, Amherst and New Boston. American Indians (Pawatucket and Penacook) originally inhabited the land that became New Boston Air Force Station. The total land area encompassed by the station is 2,826 acres of which 100 acres comprise the main operational area.

The station is one of eight worldwide Air Force Satellite Control Network stations with a mission to provide support to USSTRATCOM by performing 24-hour, 365-days, satellite support operations to Department of Defense (DOD) and non-DOD space systems. This is done by performing real-time uplink commands, downlink telemetry and data and tracking data for on orbit satellites in support of critical DOD programs and North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies.

New Boston Air Force Station was established in 1942 as an aerial bombardment and gunnery range to support Grenier Field (now Manchester International Airport). In 1959, the Air Force acquired the range for satellite operations under the management of the 6594th Instrumentation Squadron under the Air Research and Development Command. Construction started with installation of the initial 60-foot antenna. On August 11, 1960, the station performed its first track for the DISCOVERER XIII, CORONA project and was certified operational on June 15, 1961. In 1972, a 46-foot antenna was added and in 1988 a third antenna, a 10-meter data link terminal, was activated. In 1993, the station's hardware and software were upgraded to the Automated Remote Tracking Station configuration. Current upgrades included a new 43-foot antenna and inflatable radome to replace the 60-foot antenna which was deactivated in 2004.

Over the years, the station underwent numerous changes in its owning organization. First assigned to the 6495th Test Wing, the station later fell under the command of the Air Force Satellite Control Facility. In 1987, Air Force Space Command assumed operational responsibility of the station and designated operating unit as Detachment 2, 2d Satellite Tracking Group. Since

1991, the station has been operated by the 23d Space Operations Squadron

For over 50 years, New Boston Air Force Station has dedicated itself to maintaining “PRIDE” in all it does. This pride is demonstrated in the station’s selection for New Hampshire’s 2008 Land Ethics for Tomorrow Award for their efforts to clear the installation’s unexploded ordnance.

The remediation of unexploded ordnance at New Boston’s Joe English Pond began in 2010. The remediation of the pond was a part of a larger project to identify and eliminate unexploded ordnance on the base. On 12 July 2010 pumps began to remove 13,000 to 15,000 gallons per minute (GPM). Pumping of the pond ceased when heavy rain fell in the area. Before work stopped on the pond two 100-pound Mk4 Mod4 general purpose bombs and a 2,000 pound AN-M66 drill bomb were found. Contactors removed over 300-pounds of munitions-related debris from a former small arms training range on the station and about eight tons of debris from 148 acres on the station throughout 2010.

The NHANG's 133 Air Transport Squadron also encompassed the 133<sup>rd</sup> Aeromedical Evacuation Flight. The 6594<sup>th</sup> Instrument Squadron was spared the move east, remaining at New Boston Satellite Tracking Station. The NHANG \ units consisted of nearly 600 airmen and 70 officers. Meanwhile, the Air Force Reserve's 902<sup>nd</sup> TCG had 553 members assigned to its enlisted ranks and 97 assigned officers at the end of 1964.

Clearly, Manchester's effort faced stiff uphill opposition. The same month the GSA and FAA were conspiring to prevent Manchester's reclamation of Grenier Field, a plan was hatched to turn over the 25,810-square-foot National Guard hangar to the 6594<sup>th</sup> Instrumentation Squadron, which operated the Satellite Tracking Station - formerly the New Boston Bombing Range. The unit had 325 men and the plan was to convert the hangar into a gymnasium and chapel.

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