

91 MAINTENANCE SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

91 Field Maintenance Squadron

Constituted

Activated

Inactivated, 25 Jun 1968

91 Missile Maintenance Squadron constituted and activated, 22 May 1968

Organized, 25 Jun 1969

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1975

91 Field Missile Maintenance Squadron constituted 20 Aug 1975

Activated 30 Sep 1975

91 Missile Maintenance Squadron and 91 Field Missile Maintenance Squadron consolidated, 16

Oct 1984 as 91 Field Missile Maintenance Squadron

91 Field Maintenance Squadron and 91 Field Missile Maintenance Squadron consolidated, and

redesignated 91 Maintenance Squadron, 1 Jul 1994

STATIONS

McGuire AFB, NJ, 10 Nov 1948-30 Sep 1949

Barksdale AFB LA, 1 Oct 1949-10 Sep 1951

Glasgow AFB, MT

Minot AFB, ND

ASSIGNMENTS

Strategic Air Command, 22 May 1968
91 Strategic Missile Wing, 25 Jun 1968
91 Maintenance Group

COMMANDERS

Capt Virgil H. Landwehr, #1950

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jul 1972-30 Jun 1973

1 Jul 1976-30 Jun 1978

1 Jul 1978-30 Jun 1980

EMBLEM



Field Missile Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a yellow disc edged with a narrow blue border, within an encompassing green olive wreath, a black wheel surmounted by a red flight symbol ascending bendwise. Attached above the disc a blank white scroll edged blue. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The green olive branch at the top of the design represents the continuing aim and objective of the

Strategic Air Command: Peace, through the maintenance of a credible deterrent force. The stiletto in the center of the emblem is representative of the strategic ICBMs which are the basis for this unit's existence. ICBMs are also implicit in the organizational designation "91st Field Missile Maintenance Squadron." The black colored wheel in the center of the emblem has a dual meaning. It symbolizes first that the squadron is at the hub of the ICBM maintenance force, and that the squadron is responsible for the care and maintenance of specialized vehicles, equipment, and technical orders required to accomplish ICBM maintenance. Secondly, the wheel is emblematic of this unit's proud North Dakota heritage. The wagon wheel is frequently used in North Dakota state symbology. (Approved, 11 Jan 1977)

On a yellow disc edged with a narrow blue border, within an encompassing green olive wreath, a black wheel surmounted by a red flight symbol ascending bendwise. Attached above the disc a blank white scroll edged blue. Attached below the disc a white scroll edged blue and inscribed "PRIDE TODAY-PEACE TOMORROW" in blue letters.

The design for the Unit Emblem was carefully chosen to correlate with high ideals, Strategic Air Command, and National Policy, and the Unit's North Dakota Heritage.

The golden-yellow background disc is emblematic of the sun, and represents the excellence required of Air Force personnel.

The green olive branch at the top of the design represents the continuing aim and objective of the Strategic Air Command; Peace, through the maintenance of a credible deterrent force.

The stiletto in the center of the emblem is representative of the Strategic Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles which are the basis for this Unit's existence. ICBM's are also implicit in the organizational Designation "91st Field Missile Maintenance Squadron."

The black colored wheel in the center of the emblem has a dual meaning. It symbolizes first that the squadron is at the hub of the ICBM Maintenance force, and that the squadron is responsible for the care and maintenance of specialized vehicles, equipment and technical orders required to accomplish ICBM maintenance. Secondly, the wheel is emblematic of this unit's proud North Dakota heritage. The wagon wheel is frequently used in North Dakota state symbology.

The ultra-marine blue shield represents the aerospace environment, which forms the theater of operations for strategic ICBMs.

The bottom scroll will have the unit motto. "PRIDE TODAY - PEACE TOMORROW." This motto expresses the aim of the 91st Field Missile Maintenance Squadron to perform essential ICBM maintenance with pride and professionalism to insure the maximum readiness of our critical strategic resources.

"PEACE TOMORROW" indicates the goal of SAC and the 91 FMMS to maintain the credibility of our ICBM deterrent force and thereby insure continuing peace. (Approved, 11 Jan 1977)



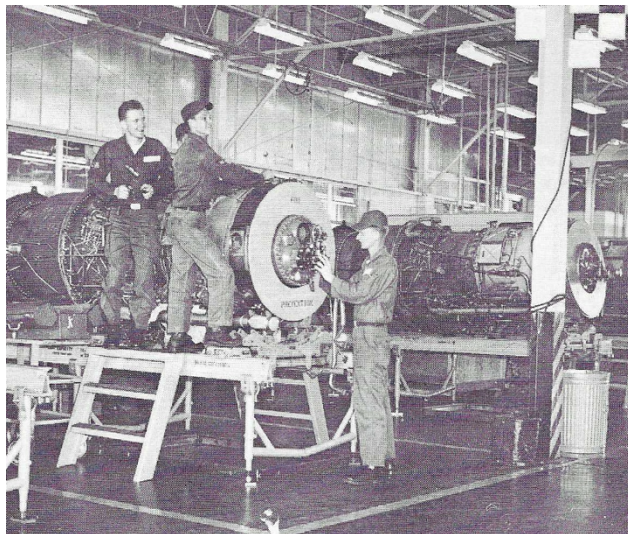
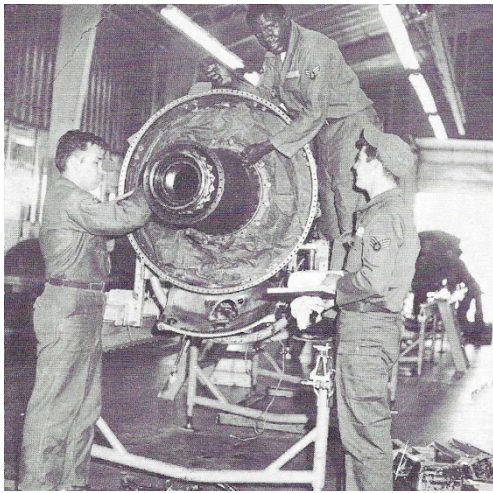
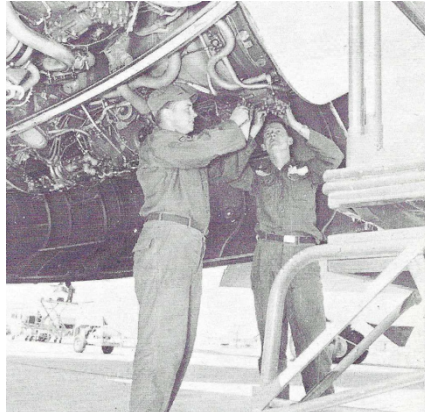
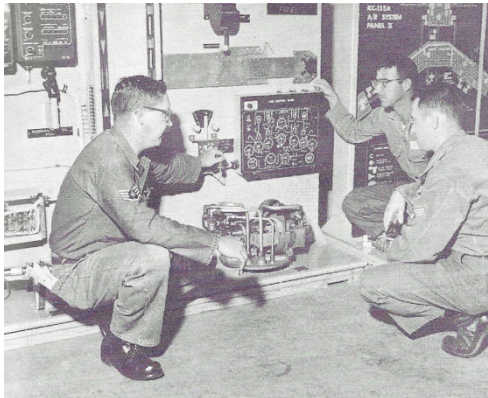
91 Missile Maintenance Squadron emblem: On a blue disc edged yellow in sinister base a yellow sphere with axis palewise gridlined and rimmed black, surmounted by a gray flight symbol ascending bendwise between in chief a white polar star emitting four white rays saltirewise and in dexter base a white atomic symbol, arched in sinister base two green laurel branches enjoined. Attached below the disc a blank gray scroll edged yellow. **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 stylized flight symbol and the globe denote worldwide striking power which the unit maintains in readiness. The star (Polaris) is a celestial navigation reference point symbolizing aerospace capability and the electrons represent nuclear capability. The olive branch is indicative of the ultimate mission of maintaining worldwide peace. (Approved, 29 May 1969)

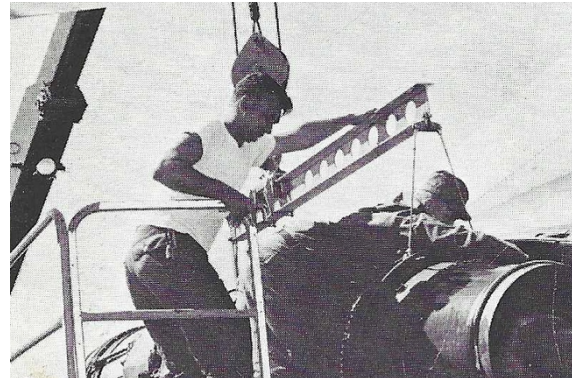
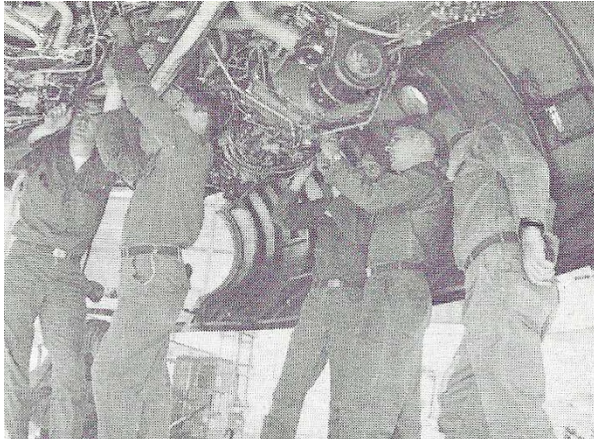
On a disc Azure, in sinister base a globe Or gridlined Sable surmounted at dexter chief by a flight symbol ascending bendwise Silver Gray and entoured by a wreath of olive branches Vert all below in middle chief a polestar White, all within a double border Yellow and Blue. Attached below the disc, a Gray scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "91ST MAINTENANCE SQ" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** 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 polestar above the globe on a solid blue background suggests space, the primary operating area of the Air Space Command to which the unit is attached. The globe also denotes the worldwide range of the Command's weapons. The flight symbol symbolizes the missiles maintained by the Squadron. The olive branch signifies a stable peace, made possible by a ready force through deterrence.

MOTTO

PRIDE TODAY--PEACE TOMORROW

OPERATIONS





Lt Col C.T. White, #1963

MINUTEMAN III MISSILE TRANSPORTER-ERECTOR ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION TRANSPORTER-ERECTOR #89W00012 CONTAINER #89W00016 MISSILE #73-831 MINOT AIR FORCE BASE, NORTH DAKOTA 31 JULY 2008 On 31 July 2008, at 0820 CDT, 1320 Zulu, a Transporter-Erector (TE) carrying a Minuteman III (MMIII) unarmed missile booster without reentry vehicle or guidance set, overturned on to its side south of Foxtrot 08 Launch Facility, in Mountrail County, North Dakota while preparing to negotiate a ninety degree left turn. The TE, assigned to the 91st Missile Maintenance Squadron, Minot Air Force Base, was transporting the MMIII booster for emplacement at Foxtrot 08. The TE Driver and the TE Safety Observer suffered minor injuries. The TE tractor, container, support equipment, and MMIII booster were being assessed for possible salvage and reuse. The maximum potential total cost for damage, repair and recovery was \$6,372,994.95. Planning, vehicle maintenance pre-operational checkout, and pre-dispatch briefings were nominal. Two pre-convoy route surveys determined the route was acceptable. The TE Driver and TE Safety Observer were current and qualified to execute the mission. Weather was

not a factor. Testimony and physical evidence indicated the TE was moving 3 to 5 mph and positioned within 0-2 feet of the weeds and grass on the right side of the gravel road in the moments prior to the mishap. Although the shoulder did not fail, standard penetration tests and soil boring analysis determined the TE's 140,323-pound weight exceeded the shoulder's load-bearing capacity. This road also had a 1-foot "false shoulder" of unsupported dirt and gravel at the edge of the road that was indistinguishable from the load-bearing road. The Accident Investigation Board President found by clear and convincing evidence the accident was caused by Driver and Safety Observer error. The Driver and Safety Observer team maneuvered the TE beyond the right edge of the reinforced gravel roadway and shoulder while preparing to make a left turn. The unreinforced dirt and gravel surface was unable to support the heavy vehicle, which tipped onto its right side.

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Unit yearbook. *91st Strategic Reconnaissance Wing*. 1950.
Unit yearbook. *Glasgow AFB, MT, 91 Bombardment Wing (H)*. 1963. Army and Navy Publishing Co Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1963.