568th STRATEGIC MISSILE SQUADRON (ICBM-TITAN I)

MISSION

LINEAGE
568th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy constituted, 15 Jan 1943
Activated, 26 Jan 1943
Inactivated, 28 Aug 1944
Redesignated 568th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 28 Jan 1947
Activated in the reserve, 27 Feb 1947
Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949
Redesignated 568th 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
390th 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
4170th Strategic Wing, 1 Apr 1961
WEAPON SYSTEMS
B-17, 1943-1945
B-17F
B-17G
SM-68 Titan I 1961-1965

COMMANDERS
Col Robert E. Mullin

HONORS
Service Streamers
None

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

568th Bombardment Squadron emblem
568th 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)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

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 568th took part in the Regensberg/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 568th Strategic Missile Squadron, Larson AFB, Washington, the 850th Strategic Missile Squadron, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, and the 851st Strategic Missile Squadron, Beale AFB, California.

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 568th 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.