

Lineage and Honors History
of the
576 Flight Test Squadron (AFGSC)

Lineage. Constituted 576 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) on 15 Jan 1943. Activated on 26 Jan 1943. Redesignated 576 Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, on 20 Aug 1943. Inactivated on 13 Sep 1945. Redesignated 576 Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, on 5 Sep 1947. Activated in the Reserve on 24 Sep 1947. Redesignated 576 Bombardment Squadron, Light, Jet, on 27 Jun 1949. Inactivated on 10 Nov 1949. Redesignated 576 Strategic Missile Squadron (ICBM-Atlas) on 6 Mar 1958. Activated on 1 Apr 1958. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 2 Apr 1966. Redesignated 576 Test Squadron on 29 Aug 1991. Activated on 1 Sep 1991. Redesignated 576 Flight Test Squadron on 1 Jul 1994.

Assignments. 392 Bombardment Group, 26 Jan 1943-13 Sep 1945. 392 Bombardment Group, 24 Sep 1947-10 Nov 1949. 704 Strategic Missile Wing, 1 Apr 1958; 1 Missile (later, 1 Strategic Aerospace) Division, 1 Jul 1959; 392 Strategic Missile Wing, 18 Oct 1961; 1 Strategic Aerospace Division, 20 Dec 1961-2 Apr 1966. 310 Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991; 30 Operations Group, 1 Jul 1993; Space Warfare Center, 22 Feb 1996; 595 Test and Evaluation (later, 595 Space) Group, 1 Aug 2002; Air Force Global Strike Command, 1 Dec 2009; 20th Air Force, 1 Oct 2016; 377th Air Base Wing, 1 Oct 2021-.

Stations. Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 26 Jan 1943; Biggs Field, TX, 1 Mar 1943; Alamogordo AAB, NM, 18 Apr-18 Jul 1943; Wendling, England, 31 Jul 1943-c. 9 Jun 1945; Charleston AAFld, SC, 25 Jun-13 Sep 1945. Barksdale Field (later, AFB), LA, 24 Sep 1947-10 Nov 1949. Cooke (later, Vandenberg) AFB, CA, 1 Apr 1958-2 Apr 1966. Vandenberg AFB, CA, 1 Sep 1991-.

Aircraft. B-24, 1943-1945. B-26, 1947-1949. Atlas, 1958-1966. Tested Peacekeeper, 1991-2004 and Minuteman III, 1991-.

Operations. Combat in European Theater of Operations (ETO), 6 Sep 1943-25 Apr 1945. Trained crewmen, tested, and evaluated Atlas missiles, 1958-1966. Tested Minuteman III and Peacekeeper missiles, 1991-1994, following its reactivation. Transferred to the Space Warfare Center in 1999 and was composed of two divisions and nine flights. These flights handled ICBM test activities, missile system improvements, launch operations, tactics, missile generation, logistics, and munitions. The squadron was reassigned to Air Force Global Strike Command in 2009, then 20th Air Force in 2016, before being assigned to its current home under the 377th Air Base Wing in 2021. The squadron has the sole responsibility for collecting, analyzing and reporting the data required to verify the accuracy and reliability of deployed ICBMs.

Service Streamers. Global War on Terrorism-Service.

Campaign Streamers. *World War II:* Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe; Air Combat, EAME Theater.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None.

Decorations. Distinguished Unit Citation: Gotha, Germany, 24 Feb 1944. Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 1 Jul 1962-30 Jun 1964; 1 Sep 1991-15 May 1993; 1 Nov 1991-30 Sep 1993; 1 Oct 1996-30 Sep 1997; 1 Sep 2004-31 Aug 2005; 1 Sep 2005-31 Aug 2006; 1 Sep 2006-31 Aug 2007; 1 Jan 2009-31 Dec 2010; 1 Jan 2011-31 Dec 2012; 1 Jan 2016-31 Dec 2017; 1 Jan 2018-31 Dec 2019. Air Force Organizational Excellence Awards: 1 Aug 1999-31 Jul 2001; 1 Sep 2002-1 Sep 2003.

Lineage, Assignments, Stations, and Honors through 1 November 2021.

Aircraft, and Operations through 1 November 2021.

Emblem. Approved on 5 Mar 1959, modified on 2 Mar 1995.

Prepared by Christopher J. McCune

576th FLIGHT TEST SQUADRON

BLAZON



Per fess enarched enhanced Azure and Celeste, a globe of the first, land masses Vert, overall a rocket palewise Argent nose cone Gules between in dexter chief six mullets in the form of the constellation Big Dipper and in sinister chief seven mullets forming the constellation Southern Cross of the fourth; and issuant an engine blast of the fifth garnished Or culminating in a cloud of smoke in base White issuing pilewise two lightning flashes Red between two olive branches Green; all within a diminished bordure of the first.

Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "DUCIMUS" in Blue letters.

Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "576TH FLIGHT TEST SQ" in Blue letters.

SIGNIFICANCE

Blue and 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 globe denotes that the worldwide deterrence missiles provide support to the United States defense mission. The rocket emerging through a cloud of smoke represents the squadron's flight test functions. The constellation and arc of light blue behind the globe illustrate the environment in which testing occurs. The lightning flashes and olive branches symbolize the unit's support of the Air Force mission of defending the peace through strength. DUCIMUS - WE LEAD

COLOR CONVERSION

<u>FULL</u>	<u>CABLE</u>	<u>PMS</u>	<u>OCP</u>	<u>CABLE</u>
Ultramarine Blue	67118	Reflex Blue	Black	67138
Air Force Yellow	67103	116	Olive Drab	67133
White	67101	White	Bagby Green	67204
Scarlet	67111	200	Black	67138
Brittany Blue	67119	551	Spice Brown	67124
Irish Green	67189	348	Bagby Green	67204