

DOCUMENT RETAINS
CLASSIFICATION
EXCERPT UNCLASSIFIED

#61 DATE 10 Feb 2005

Atch 1

K670.01-30
FY 1969

Vol. I

Directorate
Aerospace Studies Inst
Library Archives Branch
McDonnell AFB, Alabama

RETURN TO:

[Excluded from General Declassification Schedule]



HISTORY
OF THE
FIFTEENTH AIR FORCE

SHS

(Unclassified Title)

July 1968 through June 1969

1. Aircraft Accidents FY 196
2. Story Trip
3. Missile - Testing
4. Missile - Launching

Assigned to the

STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Home Station

March Air Force Base, Riverside, California

VOLUME I - NARRATIVE

(U) This document was prepared by the Office of the Historian, Headquarters Fifteenth Air Force. This history was prepared in compliance with SAC Regulation 210-1, 14 July 1966, and is classified [REDACTED] under the provisions of AFR 205-1. The classification conforms to that of the appended documents which bear on the combat capability of this organization and which form the basis for this study.

APPROVED:

PAUL K. CARLTON, Lt Gen, USAF
Commander

7-34 83-14
00511355

~~SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED~~
Not Releaseable to Foreign
nationals or their Representatives.

[Excluded from General Declassification Schedule]
Excluded from General Declassification Schedule
for automatic declassification
of information contained
in this document

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATICAL
REGRADING: DOD DIR 1321.3
DOES NOT APPLY

~~RESTRICTED DATA~~

~~ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - 1954~~

~~SECRET~~

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME I

	Page
Title Page.....	i
Security Statement.....	ii
Foreword.....	iii
Table of Contents.....	v
List of Illustrations.....	xv
Chronology.....	xvii
Introduction.....	xxiv
CHAPTER I - AIRCRAFT	
Introduction.....	1
The Vietnam War.....	3
Background.....	3
Overview.....	5
ARC LIGHT.....	8
Replacement Training Unit.....	14
Operation YOUNG TIGER.....	22
TAC Deployments.....	24
Resources and Capabilities.....	28
Aircraft Assigned.....	28
C-Ratings.....	29
Combat Crew Shortages.....	30
The CCTS Program.....	32

	Page
Alert Posture.....	37
Ground Alert.....	37
Dispersal and Sustained Reaction Posture.....	38
Airborne Alert.....	38
Special Operations.....	42
Spanish Tanker Task Force.....	42
TAC Deployments to the Atlantic.....	42
GIANT FISH.....	42
SHORT TRIP.....	43
Aircrew Training.....	43
SACM 50-8 Training.....	43
Radar Bomb Scoring Activity.....	46
Electronic Warfare Training.....	47
SAC/NORAD Joint Exercises.....	47
AGM Results.....	48
EC-135 Refueling.....	49
Inspection.....	50
Standardization.....	53
Maintenance.....	53
Management.....	55
Manning.....	56
B-52 Maintenance.....	57
Non-Operational Active.....	57

	Page
Engines.....	58
Systems.....	58
PACER SPEED.....	59
KC-135 Maintenance.....	59
Maintenance Effectiveness.....	60
Supply.....	60
Facilities.....	62
Conclusion.....	62
Footnotes.....	65
 CHAPTER II - THE ICBM PROGRAM	
Introduction.....	82
Resources.....	83
Organization.....	83
Missiles and Crews.....	85
Missile Personnel Management.....	86
Capability.....	89
Combat Readiness.....	89
Airborne Launch Control System.....	89
Alert Problems.....	99
Reliability.....	101
The TITAN-II FOT Program.....	101
The MINUTEMAN FOT Program.....	102
GLORY TRIP 32B.....	103

	Page
GLORY TRIP 33B.....	103
GLORY TRIP 34B.....	104
GLORY TRIP 35B.....	104
GLORY TRIP 37B.....	105
GLORY TRIP 38B.....	105
The MINUTEMAN-II Program.....	106
Evaluations.....	107
ORI Inspections.....	108
Missile Competition.....	110
Training.....	110
Standardization.....	110
Two-Man Crew.....	111
Crew Experience.....	112
Materiel Factors.....	113
MINUTEMAN Modification.....	113
Force Modernization Program.....	113
Engineering Change Proposals.....	120
Power Modifications.....	122
Other Modification Programs.....	123
MINUTEMAN Maintenance.....	126
Project BIG TUB.....	126
G & C Coolant Contamination Tests.....	126
MINUTEMAN-II Third Stage Motors.....	128

	Page
Operational Ground Equipment (MM II).....	129
MINUTEMAN-I Cracked Propellant.....	130
Electrical Power System Problems.....	131
Standby Power.....	133
Motor Generator Problem.....	133
EMP Test.....	134
Corrosion Control.....	135
LCF Blast Door.....	137
BUSY MEADOW.....	138
Alignment Problems.....	141
TITAN-II Modification.....	142
TITAN-II Maintenance.....	142
Launcher Closure Door.....	143
Launch Enable System.....	145
Transportation Support.....	151
Helicopters.....	151
Ground.....	154
Missile Facilities.....	155
Missile Safety.....	157
Summary.....	158
Footnotes.....	160
CHAPTER III - STATUS OF THE COMMAND	
Introduction.....	175

	Page
Mission Statement.....	175
Command Resources.....	176
Bases and Wings.....	176
Squadrons and Weapon Systems.....	177
Crew Inventory.....	178
Combat Readiness Index.....	179
Ground Alert Posture.....	179
Command Personnel Strength.....	179
Headquarters Organization and Personnel.....	180
Leadership.....	182
Command Control Communications.....	183
SAC Automated Command Control System (SACACCS).....	184
Post-Attack Command Control System (PACCS).....	185
Survivable Low Frequency Communications System (SLFCS).....	188
Battle Staff Activity.....	190
Command Management.....	191
Commander's Management System.....	191
Funds Management.....	193
Other Command Interest Activities.....	193
Satellite Base Program.....	193
Disaster Preparedness Program.....	195
Command Support Aircraft.....	196

	Page
Personnel Policies.....	196
Family Housing.....	197
Troop Housing.....	197
Morale Facilities.....	198
Retention.....	198
Sergeant Major/First Sergeant Program.....	198
Command Structure.....	199
Air Division Structure.....	199
Changes in the Heavy Force.....	200
Actions Completed or Underway.....	200
The 47th Air Division.....	200
Travis AFB.....	201
Actions Programmed/Planned/Proposed.....	202
Beale AFB.....	202
The B-52 Program.....	203
Reconnaissance Programs.....	203
The SR-71 Program.....	203
The U-2 Program.....	204
Base Closure Actions.....	205
Glasgow AFB, Montana.....	206
Other Closed Bases.....	207
Other Organizational Matters.....	208
Redesignation.....	208

	Page
Reorganization of Base Operations and Training.....	208
Organizational Maintenance Squadron (OMS)	209
Project PACER BLADE.....	209
Summary.....	210
Footnotes.....	213
Summary of FY 1969 History.....	228

TABLE OF CONTENTS

VOLUME II

	Page
Glossary.....	229
List of Exhibits.....	237
APPENDIX A - LIST OF CHARTS	
I - Statement of Conditions.....	272
II - Aircraft/Missile Inventory.....	274
III - Status of 15AF Units.....	277
IV - Installations.....	287
V - Flying Hours.....	292
VI - Status of Family Housing.....	294
VII - Personnel Authorized/Assigned.....	295
VIII - Roster of Key Personnel.....	297
IX - Commanders Roster.....	299
X - Aircraft Unit ORITs.....	301
XI - YOUNG TIGER.....	302
XII - TAC Deployments.....	303
XIII - Basic Training Requirements.....	304
XIV - Ground Alert.....	305
XV - Combat Crews.....	306
XVI - Operations/Maintenance Facilities.....	307
XVII - Missile Inventory.....	309

	Page
XVIII - Missile Facilities.....	311
XIX - Results of Missile ORIs.....	312
XX - Causes of Missile Site ORI Failures.....	314
XXI - Satellite Basing.....	317
XXII - Satellite Basing Communications Requirements...	318
XXIII - Morale Facilities.....	319
XXIV - Troop Housing.....	320
XXV - Changes in 15AF Command Structure.....	321
XXVI - B-52 Program.....	322
XXVII - ICBM FOT Launches.....	323

APPENDIX B

Biographical Data of Command Section Personnel

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

	Page
Maps and Charts	
Map of the Command.....	Preceding 176
Unit Chart.....	Preceding 177
Headquarters Organization Chart.....	Preceding 183
Tables	
Chapter II	
1 - ICBM Units.....	83
2 - Force Modernization.....	117
3 - EMPSS and CLIP Schedule.....	125
Chapter III	
1 - Government-Owned Trailer Spaces.....	197
Photographs	
Commander and Deputy Commander.....	Frontispiece
Completion of General Catton's ARC LIGHT Mission.....	Preceding 13
A Minot Tanker Refuels a Mt Home RF-4C.....	Preceding 25
Washing Down a GIANT FISH B-52, 93 BW.....	Preceding 43
Two PACCS/ALCS EC-135s "Hook Up" for Receiver Refueling Training.....	Preceding 49
Lt Col H. E. McLean, C, 23rd BS, in the Cockpit of a Minot B-52H.....	Preceding 64
B-52 Accident, Castle AFB, 8 May 1969.....	Preceding 64
UH-1F Accident, Malmstrom AFB, 17 June 1969..	Preceding 64

	Page
UHF/Hardness Program.....Preceding	121
A Small Crane Unloads Batteries for LF Emergency Power Supply, Warren AFB.....Preceding	133
Rail Transport Car Opened for Inspection after a MINUTEMAN was Unloaded into a T/E, Warren AFB.....Preceding	155
Missile Convoy, Slowed by Snow and Ice, Travels Slowly through the City of Minot, N. D.....Preceding	155
NATO Defense College Members View a T/E at Warren AFB.....Preceding	155
A T/E is Checked to Determine If Any Repairs are Needed, Warren AFB.....Preceding	155
Change of Command Ceremony.....Preceding	182
Turnover of Hawes Facility.....Preceding	188
General Catton Interviews SMS Franklin.....Preceding	198
General Catton Addressing First Sergeant's School.....Preceding	199
First B-52G from Travis AFB Lands at Mather AFB.....Preceding	201
Chief of Staff.....Biographical Section	