

586 FLIGHT TEST SQUADRON



MISSION

The 586 Flight Test Squadron flies developmental test and evaluation missions for the Air Force Developmental Test Center (AFDTC). Provides airborne photo chase, airborne targets, flight scheduling, range coordination, and administrative support for DOD flight tests on White Sands Missile Range.

LINEAGE

586 Bombardment Squadron (Medium) constituted, 15 Feb 1943

Activated, 5 Mar 1943

Redesignated 586 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 9 Oct 1944

Redesignated 586 Bombardment Squadron, Light, 3 Dec 1945

Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946

6586 Test Squadron designated and activated, 15 Dec 1982

586 Bombardment Squadron, Light and 6586 Test Squadron consolidated and redesignated
586 Test Squadron, 1 Oct 1992

Redesignated 586 Flight Test Squadron, 15 Mar 1994

STATIONS

MacDill Field, FL, 5 Mar 1943

Ardmore AAFld, OK, 12 Jul 1943

Kellogg Field, MI, 23 Aug 1943–15 Feb 1944

Boreham, England, 11 Mar 1944

Holmsley, England, 28 Jul 1944

Tour-en-Bassin, France, 29 Aug 1944
Bricy, France, 27 Sep 1944
Cambrai/ Niergnies, France, 12 Oct 1944
Venlo, Holland, 7 May 1945
Kitzingen, Germany, Sep 1945–15 Feb 1946
Bolling Field, DC, 15 Feb–31 Mar 1946
Holloman AFB, NM, 15 Dec 1982

ASSIGNMENTS

394th Bombardment Group, 5 Mar 1943–31 Mar 1946
6585th (later 46th) Test Group, 15 Dec 1982

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B–26, 1943–1945
A–26, 1945–1946
AT–38, 1991

COMMANDERS

Cpt Harold G. Senften, 5 Mar 1943
Lt Col Joseph M. Silk, 12 Apr 1943-unkn
Lt Col William W. Dobbs, 9 May 1983
Lt Col John M. DeZonia, 9 May 1986-unkn
Lt Col K. T. Hutchinson, 1989-unkn
Lt Col L. C. Grace, 8 Sep 1993
Lt Col Robert W. Mason, 27 Oct 1994
Maj Danile A. Draeger, 1 Jul 1996-unkn
Lt Col Ryan J. Smith, 8 Aug 2003
Lt Col Dawn Dunlop, 8 Jul 2005
Lt Col Robert Haug, 28 Jun 2007

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

World War II
Air Offensive, Europe
Normandy
Northern France
Rhineland
Ardennes-Alsace
Central Europe

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citation

France, 7–9 Aug 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1984–31 Dec 1985

1 Jan–31 Dec 1987

1 Jan 1991–31 Dec 1992

1 Jan–31 Dec 1993

1 Jan–31 Dec 1994

1 Jan–31 Dec 1995

1 Jan–31 Dec 1997

1 Jan 1998–31 Dec 1999

1 Jan–31 Dec 2000

1 Jan–31 Dec 2001

1 Jan 2000–31 Dec 2002

1 Jan–31 Dec 2003

1 Jan–31 Dec 2004

1 Jan–31 Dec 2005

1 Jan–31 Dec 2006

French Croix de Guerre with Palm

6 Jun–14 Sep 1944

EMBLEM



On a Blue disc within a White border an atomic symbol formed by the interlaced contrails of a White flight symbol, a Yellow drone and a Red missile all converging at lower right center points up and all within a narrow Blue border. Approved, 8 Dec 1983; replaced emblem approved, 29 Jun 1943.

On a blue disc within a white border an atomic symbol formed by the interlaced contrails of a

white flight symbol, a yellow drone and a red missile all converging at lower right center points up and all within a narrow blue border. Attached below the disc a yellow scroll edged blue. Significance: Red, white, and blue are the National flag colors. Red is for the valor of the men who employ the weapons in combat and white is for the purity of maintaining the Nation's honor. The three contrails allude to the atom and symbolize the scientific nature and unknown quality of flight testing. (Approved, 26 Jan 1996)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 23 Mar 1944–20 Apr 1945. Tested missile systems, Dec 1982

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.