

6550 AIR BASE WING

MISSION

LINEAGE

6550 Air Base Wing

STATIONS

Patrick AFB, FL

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 6550th Support Wing (Range) was designated and organized on 1 April 1962 to replace the Air Base Group as the administrative and logistical support unit for AFMTC. It was discontinued 1 March 1964. The 6550th Air Base Group was separated from the Air Force Eastern Test Range (AFETR) when the latter was inactivated on 1 February 1977. The 6550th subsequently operated as the 6550th Air Base Wing and served as Patrick's host unit until the Eastern Space & Missile Center was organized and activated on 1 October 1979.

The fourth new wing under AFMTC was the 6550th Air Base Wing. It was created from the Base Commander's organization, and so was the 6555th Air Base Group which was placed under it. The 6550th Air Base Wing was discontinued on 1 March 1953, but its resources were transferred to the 6550th Air Base Group. The 6550th Air Base Group became one of Patrick's longest lived units. Apart from two short periods (i.e., 1 April 1962 to 1 March 1964 and 1 February 1977 to 1 October 1979), it operated as the 6550th Air Base Group until 1 October 1990.

1 February 1977. On that date, AFETR was inactivated and the 6550th Air Base Group assumed host responsibilities for Patrick AFB as the 6550th Air Base Wing.

Under Eastern Space & Missile Center the 6550th Air Base Wing's resources were reconstituted as the 6550th Air Base Group. Detachment 1's resources became a new group-level Eastern Test Range organization not to be confused with AFETR. The new ETR organization requested a group-level emblem in August 1986, and the Eastern Test Range shield was approved in April 1987.

1 Feb 77 The Air Force Eastern Test Range (AFETR) organization was inactivated, and the 6550th Air Base Group assumed host responsibilities for Patrick AFB as the 6550th Air Base Wing.

The 6550th Air Base Wing was inactivated, and its resources were reassigned to the 6550th Air Base Group, which was resurrected under ESMC.

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 7 Aug 2022
Updated:

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