

Wing IV, Whiteman AFB, MO, Chronology 1959-1997

1 February 1961

Minot AFB, North Dakota, was selected as the site for Minuteman Wing III, and Whiteman AFB, Missouri, was chosen as Wing IV's location.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, COMP45-72

1 December 1961

AFLC designated and organized Detachment 23, Headquarters, OOAMA (OOAMA Support Detachment, Whiteman) at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, for materiel management and engineering support of the SATAF and SAC commanders at this Minuteman launching site.

OOAMA58-71

2 April 1962

A low bid of \$60,664,500 on 20 March brought start of construction of Minuteman Wing IV launch complex at Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

OOAMA58-71

20 November 1963

The SATAF commander at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, accepted the final site from the Corps of Engineers.

OOAMA58-71

14 January 1964

The first Minuteman missile bound for Whiteman AFB left Hill AFB aboard a C-133B. The first shipment to Whiteman via rail also occurred. Accompanied by two OOAMA maintenance people, its transit time was about 40 hours.

OOAMA58-71

24 February 1964

The second of two Weapon System Logistics Officers (WSLO) from OOAMA was assigned to assist the SATAF commander and the SAC user at Wing IV, Whiteman AFB, Missouri. The first had been assigned on 24 September 1963.

OOAMA58-71

11 March 1964

Ceremonies at AF Plant 77 marked completion of the 500th Minuteman missile by the Boeing assembly operation. The missile was shipped to Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

OOAMA58-71

12 March 1964

The 500th operational Minuteman missile, an LGM-30B, was shipped from Air Force Plant 77 at Ogden Air Materiel Area (OOAMA), Utah, to Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

15 March 1964

As of this date, 55 missiles had been delivered to Wing IV at Whiteman. Fifty-three were delivered by C-133B aircraft and two by rail. Two missiles had been recycled by Boeing AF Plant 77 without difficulties.

OOAMA58-71

20 April 1964

The first squadron at Wing IV, the 508th Strategic Missile Squadron at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, became operational with LGM-30B and was turned over to SAC.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, COMP45-72

30 April 1964

By this date, Wing IV at Whiteman had received 125 missiles; six by rail, 119 by air, and three had been recycled at Hill AFB.

OOAMA58-71

21 May 1964

Via a C-133B operated by the 1501st Air Transport Wing, Supply shipped the final production Minuteman missile to Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

OOAMA58-71

25 May 1964

Wing IV's second squadron, the 509th, was turned over to SAC's 351st Strategic Missile Wing at Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, COMP45-72

30 June 1964

November Flight, the final ten missiles of the 510th Strategic Missile Squadron, was turned over to SAC at Whiteman AFB, Missouri. This completed Wing IV and brought the total number of Minuteman missiles in SAC's control to 600.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, COMP45-72

1 August 1964

AFLC discontinued Detachment 23, HQ OOAMA (OOAMA Support Detachment Whiteman).

OOAMA58-71

1 July 1965

AFLC designated and organized Detachment 27, HQ OOAMA (OOAMA Support Detachment Whiteman) at Wing IV.

OOAMA58-71

19 February 1966

HQ USAF announced the beginning of Force Modernization at Wing IV, Whiteman AFB, MO.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

7 May 1966

The Force Modernization Program began at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, when the first flight of ten Minuteman I "B" Series missiles were removed from their silos. To prepare for the emplacement of Minuteman II missiles, it was necessary to retrofit the original launchers, control facilities, and other ground equipment. Modernized Minuteman systems were not identical to the systems installed at Grand Forks and in the fourth squadron at Malmstrom. Force Modernization included modifying the silo to accept the advanced Minuteman II and renovation of the launch control center and related ground support equipment to accommodate the more sophisticated missile.

SAC46-81, BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, MM64-79, COMP45-72, SACMSL39-73

19 November 1966

The first two flights to complete Force Modernization at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, were turned over to the 509th Strategic Missile Squadron.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

7 February 1967

The final flight of the 509th Strategic Missile Squadron at Whiteman AFB was turned back to SAC's 351st Strategic Missile Wing, making the 509th the first Force Modernized squadron.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, COMP45-72

3-7 April 1967

The first missile competition was held at Vandenberg AFB, California. Participants included two combat crews and one target alignment team from each wing. Crews were tested in missile procedures trainers, while the alignment teams were tested in launch facilities. The 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Eighth Air Force's lone Minuteman unit, made a clean sweep of the competition by winning all the Minuteman awards and the Blanchard Perpetual Trophy, which was awarded to the best overall wing.

SAC46-81, SACMSL39-73

6 June 1967

510th Strategic Missile Squadron operational with LGM-30F following Force Modernization.

COMP45-72

14 July 1967

The final squadron of Wing IV at Whiteman was received from SAC for Force Modernization.
BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

21 September 1967

The first on-base maintenance trainer (a training launch facility) was accepted from the contractor at the 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri.
SACMSL39-73

3 October 1967

The final flight of Force Modernization Minuteman II missiles (508th SMS) was turned over to SAC at Whiteman AFB, Missouri. Wing IV was completed on schedule and turned back to SAC's 351st Strategic Missile Wing three days later, the first wing to complete the Force Modernization program.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79, SAC46-81, SACMSL39-73, COMP45-72

10 October 1967

First Minuteman F ERCS operational in the 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

SACMSL39-88

19 October 1967

The first phase of the Minuteman ICBM Force Modernization (WS-133A-M) program was officially completed with the formal turnover of 150 Minuteman II (LGM-30F) to SAC's 351st Strategic Missile Wing at Whiteman AFB, Missouri. The completion of the first Force Modernization wing gave SAC 350 of the advanced Minuteman II missiles out of the total force of 1000.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

20-28 April 1971

SAC's fourth Missile Combat Competition was held at Vandenberg AFB. Competitors included two combat crews and one maintenance team from each wing. Whiteman's 351st Strategic Missile Wing was awarded the Blanchard Trophy as well as best Minuteman wing.

SAC46-81, SACMSL39-73

6-14 April 1972

SAC conducted its fifth missile competition at Vandenberg AFB. To broaden participation and increase interest in the meet, each wing sent four combat crews instead of two as in previous years. For the first time in the history of the competition, a Titan wing secured the Blanchard. The best Minuteman wing award was won by the 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

SACMSL39-73, SAC46-81

1 July 1973

SAMSO Detachment 31, the Site Alteration Task Force (SATAF) at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, was inactivated.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

17 November 1975

SATAF Detachment 31, located at Wing IV, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, was re-activated by Boeing AFPRO personnel.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

20-30 April 1976

SAC Missile Competition at Vandenberg AFB was further expanded to include communications, engineering, and vehicle support teams. The 341st Strategic Missile Wing at Malmstrom took the Blanchard along with best Minuteman wing, best operations, best maintenance, best communications, and best civil engineering. Whiteman won best vehicle support and Grand Forks won best security police.

SAC46-81

27 April – 6 May 1977

SAC Missile Competition took place at Vandenberg AFB. Whiteman captured the Blanchard, along with best Minuteman wing, best operations, and best civil engineering. Malmstrom was awarded best maintenance, Minot took best security police, Ellsworth won best communications, and F.E. Warren secured best vehicle operator.

SAC46-81

5 April 1978

The Integrated Improvement Program of modifications to Minuteman LFs began at Wing IV (Whiteman AFB, Missouri) with the training facility.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

10 May 1978

SAC turned over the first LF at Wing IV to SAMSO. SAMSO was to conduct an integrated program of improvements.

BMO45-90, SAMSO54-79

22 January 1980

The Integrated Improvement Program, which included command data buffer and upgrade silo, was completed at the 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, ending the last major Minuteman modification program.

SACMSL39-88

1 July 1980

Detachment 2, BMO, engaged in launch facility upgrade activities at Whiteman AFB, Missouri, was inactivated. The upgrade in April 1978 at Whiteman was similar to the launch facility upgrade at Malmstrom completed in April 1980. Boeing served as the primary contractor, removing equipment, tearing down and rebuilding parts of the silos, and installing new electronics. At Whiteman, the addition of an improved launch control system was carried out. The last of 150 launch facilities was accepted by SAC in January 1980.

BMO45-90

1-7 May 1981

Held at Vandenberg AFB, California, the SAC Missile Competition produced the following winners: Whiteman - Blanchard and best Minuteman wing, Minot - best maintenance, and F.E. Warren - best security police.

SAC46-81

12 November 1984

Four anti-nuclear demonstrators trespassed onto LF N-05 at Whiteman. The protestors caused \$25,000 worth of damage and were arrested by SAC security police.

SACMSL39-88

25 March 1986

The first all-female Minuteman crew pulled alert at the 351st Strategic Missile Wing, Whiteman AFB, Missouri, the first to do so under the gender-specific crew policy.

SACMSL39-88

20 February 1987

SAC declared initial operational capability (IOC) for the SAC Digital Network when the system operated successfully between the command posts at HQ SAC, the 55th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, and the 351st Strategic Missile Wing.

SACMSL39-88

29 July 1987

Modification of Minuteman II guidance set hardware under the Accuracy, Reliability, Supportability Improvement Program (ARSIP) began at Whiteman AFB, Missouri.

SACMSL39-88

31 December 1987

By the end of 1987, the SAC Digital Network had become operational at all launch control centers at Malmstrom, Whiteman, and Grand Forks.

SACMSL39-88

28 September 1991

Sec. Def. released Minuteman II force from SIOP alert. Combat crews dissipated enable and launch codes. Safety Control Switch (SCS) was installed at each LF.

DKS

7 October 1992

First missile pulled from LF I-11.

DKS

18 May 1995

Last missile pulled from LF J-03.

DKS

8 December 1993

First demolition took place at LF I-02.

DKS

15 December 1997

The implosion of LF H-11 marked the end of the last Minuteman II silo to be destroyed under terms of the 1991 START I accord.

DKS