

DECLASSIFIED

19 MAY 1980

38

Director
Aerospace Studies Inst
Aerial Archives Branch

RETURN TO:

100-111
A-111
X

HISTORY

820TH STRATEGIC AEROSPACE DIVISION (S)

1 October 1962 - 31 October 1962

dist Inst
s Branch
Alabama

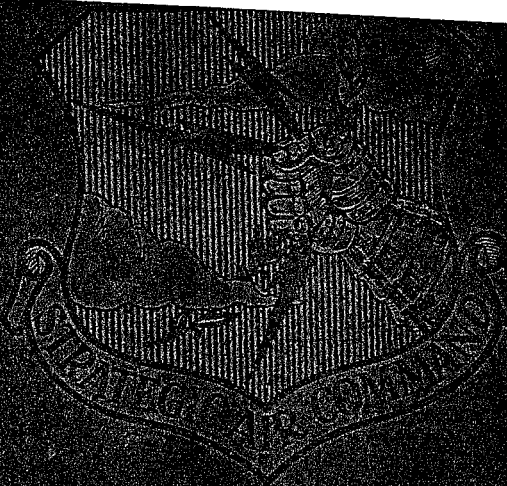
(Unclassified Title)

A.R.C.

71182

CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE BY
INDICATED DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY

1970



0467219

535825-14

DECLASSIFIED

19 MAY 1980

~~SECRET~~

CCC413
19 MAY 1980

DECLASSIFIED

This document is classified SECRET since it reveals EWO combat capability information

Director Aerospace Studies Inst AFM Archives Branch Maxwell AFB, Alabama	RETURN TO:	K-DIV-820-A1
---	------------	--------------

820TH STRATEGIC AEROSPACE DIVISION (S)

1 October 1962 - 31 October 1962

(Unclassified Title)

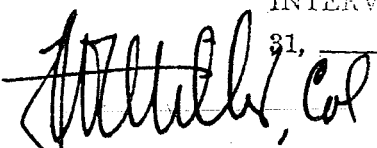
P. R. C.

71182

Prepared by
 A2C Kenneth S. Evans
 Historian
 Office of Information
 820th Strategic Aerospace Division (SAC)
 Plattsburgh Air Force Base, New York

CLASSIFIED BY _____
 SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
 SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652
 AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO YEAR
 INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED ON DECEMBER

Approved by:

for 
 WINTON R. CLOSE
 Brigadier General, USAF
 Commander

31, 1970

Eighth Air Force, Strategic Air Command

United States Air Force

DECLASSIFIED

19 MAY 1980

~~SECRET~~

71182

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
 DOD DIR 5200.10

0467219

5-3825-14

~~SECRET~~

to an alert posture, ^{III} the actualy word

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The most important activity for operations during October was the meeting of mission requirements for the increased alert posture of SAC and Plattsburgh Air Force Base during the Cuban situation. All aircraft and missiles had to be generated to an alert status, and all support personnel were utilized to meet the demands of these requirements. (U)

Upon receipt of the alert at Plattsburgh Air Force Base, the 556th Strategic Missile Squadron, under the command of Col. Richard W. Beck, centered its actions toward getting the missile sites generated to an alert posture. ¹ (S)

On October 23, when the missile squadron put its Emergency Combat Capabilities Plan into effect to facilitate speedy generation of the missile sites

1. Interview, A2C Ken S. Evans, historian, with Lt. Col. Ziba B. Ogden, 556 DO, 16 Nov 1962.

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

to an alert posture, the squadron actually owned only two sites: Site 3 in Swanton, Vermont, and Site 11 in Ellenburg, New York.² The other 10 sites were under the Site Activation Task Force and General Dynamics/Astronautics to be accepted by the Air Force within a few months.³ (S)

By October 29, eight of the 12 sites had been generated to alert.⁴ On October 26, Site 2 was generated to alert and at the same time was accepted by the Air Force.⁵ On the same date, Site 4 at Wilsboro, New York, achieved an alert status, followed by Site 10 at Harrigan Corners, New York, on October 28, and Sites 6, 9 and 5 at Ausable, Chazy Lake and Boquet, respectively (all in New York), on October 29.⁶ (S)

2. Ibid.

3. Ibid.

4. Report, 556 SMS to 8AF, "Daily Unit Capability Report," on file, 556 DO.

5. Ibid.

6. Ibid.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

At the end of October, activities continued in order to bring all 12 of the missile sites to an emergency operational status. In order to permit rapid readiness configuration of the missiles, SAC authorized deviations from normal technical data procedures which included no systems check out or readiness verification except when required for the safety of personnel and equipment, and deviation from SACR 66-5 except where there was risk to personnel or equipment. (S)

To prevent destruction of aircraft assigned to the 380th Bombardment Wing and 4108th Air Refueling Wing during the Cuban crisis, the dispersal concept went into effect with both wings dispatching aircraft to other locations. (S)

Eight B-47 medium bombers were dispersed to Burlington Municipal Airport, Burlington, Vermont, (S)

7. Msg, SAC to Alpha, DMIO-294, 22 Oct 1962, on file 380th BW Command Post.

8. Msg, 380BW to SAC, ZIPPO 10-547, SAC VI, 31 Oct 1962, on file, 820 STRATAD Historical Archives.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

and KC-97 air refueling tankers flew to Goose
 9
 Air Base, Labrador. Crews and maintenance per-
 sonnel, along with sufficient combat defense per-
 sonnel, were dispatched with the aircraft. (S)

At the time of the alert, there were in addition
 10 B-47 bombers on reflex at Brize-Norton Air
 10
 Base in England. (S)

The 820th Combat Support Group played a vital
 role during the alert in providing augmentees in
 support of aircraft and missile operations. The
 largest field of endeavor was in the combat defense
 area when 44 airmen, increased to 104 when the three
 flight system went into effect, were utilized for
 11
 augmentation in the Combat Defense Force. The ser-
 vice of combat defense personnel and augmentees was
 required at the missile sites, dispersal points, on
 the flight line, at the reflex area, and at various

-
9. Msg, 4108 ARW to SAC, ZIPPO 10-157, SAC VI, 31
 Oct 1962, on file 820 STRATAD Historical Archives.
 10. Msg, 380 BW to SAC, ZIPPO 10-547, SAC VI, 31 Oct
 1962, on file 820 STRATAD Historical Archives.
 11. OPS Plan 190-~~62~~ ~~10~~ ~~16~~ ~~Nov~~ ~~1962~~, on file 820
 STRATAD Hist

~~SECRET~~

other strategic points on base. Augmentees were drawn from the 820th Group Headquarters Squadron, 820th Civil Engineering Squadron, 820th Operations Squadron and 820th Supply Squadron. (U)

In addition augmentees were utilized in food service, transportation and petroleum, oils and lubricants (POL) areas. (U)

Getting back to activities not associated with the Cuban Crisis, work continued steadily on the missile program, as the 556th Strategic Missile Squadron pushed for its operational readiness target date of December 1962. Twelve Atlas ICBM's were on hand during the period, an increase of two over the last report. Of these 12, ten had been installed on the launchers. (S)

Only two problem areas were apparent during October in the missile program - one concerning lack of adequately skilled inputs of missile support personnel and the other concerning the method of trans-

12. Ibid.

13. Progress Report Number 16, 8AF Supplement to SAC Programming Plan 8-61, SM-65 (Atlas, Plattsburgh AFB, NY, 16 Oct 1962) Exhibit 15.

14. Ibid.

~~SECRET~~

15

portation to and from missile sites. (U)

In connection with the first problem, the base deputy commander for engineering initiated correspondence through personnel channels requesting accelerated inputs at proper skill levels to insure maximum support of the missile mission. Included in the requirements were electricians, plumbers and technicians in air conditioning and refrigeration and in water and sanitation. (U)

16

In the other problem area, tests were being carried out by SAC missile units to determine the best type of transportation to be utilized for personnel and materiel movement to and from missile sites. At the time, Plattsburgh was utilizing station wagons and pick-up trucks for the activity. (U)

17

Other highlights of the squadron during the month included the designation of Site 12 as the alternate command post, a mutual aid drill of town fire

15. Ibid.

16. Ibid.

17. Ibid.

departments, a LOX demonstration to local fire-
 fighters, and the increased capability of the 40th
 Munitions Maintenance Squadron, which had on hand
 at the end of the reporting period 13 nose and
 flare sections, 11 arming and fusing shelves and
 six center sections. (S)

The 380th Bombardment Wing reported the
 same amount of aircraft during October as September
 with 51 B-47 medium bombers assigned. The 4108th
 Air Refueling Wing reported a loss of two aircraft,
 with a total of 44 KC-97 air refueling tankers as-
 signed. The same number of aircraft were assigned
 to the 820th Combat Support Group, namely, two C-47's,
 three C-123's, one T-33, and two H-19 type helicopt-
 ters. (S)

The home alert force was exercised three times
 prior to the Cuban alert, which consisted of one
 COCO and two BRAVO's. (S)

18. Ibid.

19. Report, 820 STRATAD DO, "Report of Activities,"
 7 Nov 1962, 820 STRATAD Historical Archives.

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid.