

The Missile Badge Updated

Changes since the last publication of Greg Ogletree's history

In 2005, the Missile Badge with Operations Designator was replaced by the new Space Badge. Between 31 October 2005 and 6 June 2008, missile crew members (missile operations officers) were issued the new "space wings" or "spings" instead of the missile badge. The only people still allowed to wear the missile badge with operations designator were those officers who had moved to other career fields and were therefore not eligible to wear the new Space Badge. Wear of the new Space Badge was governed by a complex certification and training program that required certain levels of accomplishment before an operator could wear the basic, senior or command Space Badge. Maintenance personnel continued to wear what was now called the Missile Maintenance Badge, the original missile badge without the Operations Designator



The "New Space Badge"

On 6 June 2008, at a ceremony at the National Museum of the Air Force, the Secretary of the Air Force, Michael Wynne, and the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, General Michael Moseley, announced the return of the Missile Badge with Operations Designator for missile crew members and other missile operations personnel. In the ceremony, a group of officers representing each of the missile wings and other specialized organizations were presented with the "returning" badge. At the same time, missile wings were renamed "Missile Wings" to replace the "Space Wing" designation that had been used for several years.

Back to just the Missile Badge for Operators

At the end of 2011, those who completed missile operations training were only awarded the missile badge with operations designator. The "new Space Badge" now only goes to Space Professionals who complete the required space courses.