

6594 TEST GROUP



MISSION

Responsible for planning, initiating, coordinating, and evaluating satellite recovery operations. Performed field tests to test new procedures and recovery under unusual conditions.

Responsible for planning, initiating, coordinating, and evaluating satellite recovery operations.

Responsible for the control and execution of recovery operations after the reorganization in 1972.

Performed field tests to develop new procedures and recovery under unusual conditions. Assisted other services humanitarian search and rescue operations in the Pacific theater.

LINEAGE

6594 Recovery Control Group established and organized, 1 Nov 1959

Redesignated 6594 Test Group, 10 Mar 1966

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1986

STATIONS

Hickam AFB, HI

ASSIGNMENTS

6594 Test Wing (later 6594 Aerospace Test Wing), 1 Nov 1959

Air Force Satellite Control Facility, 1 Jul 1965-30 Sep 1986

WEAPON SYSTEMS

Unknown, 1 Nov 1959-1975

JC-130, 1975
HH-53, 1975
CH-3, 1975

COMMANDERS

Unknown, 1 Nov 1959
Col Hall
Col Bill Quinn
Col Thomas M. Sumner, 7 Jul 1972
Col Robert E. Ross, 16 Jan 1976
Col Alfred H. Davidson III, 28 Jul 1978
Col Ray Dunne
Col Don Hard
Col Bill Bear, 10 Jun 1985–30 Sep 1986

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award
1 May 1962–31 Dec 1963
1 Jan 1967–31 Dec 1967
1 Jan 1969–31 Dec 1970
1 July 1971–30 Jun 1972
1 Jan 1974–31 Dec 1975
20 Jan 1981–31 Dec 1982
1 Jan 1983–30 Sep 1986

EMBLEM

Per pale azure (ultramarine) and azure (celestial) and per bend counterchanged, issuing fromexter chief a blazing star descending bendwise the horizontal points forming two wings displayed and inverted argent and trailed of six of the last and gules, in sinister base four barrulets bendwise arched and coupé or all between two pairs of hawk's wings conjoined in lure elevated of the last within a diminished border gold. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The golden falcon's wings stand for the 6594th Test Group. They are joined "in lure" in reference to the unit's mission of recovering components ejected from space vehicles in orbit. The term "in lure" is derived from the training of falcons. The "lure", two wings conjoined, is attached to a cord and thrown into the air to attract and recall the birds in flight. The blazing star descending from the upper part of the shield represents a space vehicle returning from orbit. It also stands for an Air Force award star denoting that the Group holds the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. The gold arcs in the lower part of the shield represent

radar emanations. They refer to the organization's mission of developing capabilities to track space satellites. Ultramarine blue and golden yellow stand for the Air Force. (Approved, 15 Jun 1967)

MOTTO

Catch A Falling Star

OPERATIONS

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