

## 131<sup>st</sup> FIGHTER WING



### LINEAGE

131<sup>st</sup> Fighter Bomber Wing  
131<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Wing, (Light)  
131<sup>st</sup> Fighter Interceptor Wing

### STATIONS

St Louis, MO

### ASSIGNMENTS

#### WEAPON SYSTEMS

##### Mission Aircraft

B-26  
F-15  
B-2

##### Support Aircraft

C-12F

### COMMANDERS

*Col John B. Logan, #1954*  
*BG Charles H. DuBois*  
*Col Virgil L. Zoller, Mar 1952*  
*Glennon T. Moran, 1961*  
Col Donald J.M. Blakslee  
BG Robert E. Buechler, Oct 1968  
Col Harding R. Zumwalt, 3 Dec 1972  
Col Greg D. Davis, #1993

### HONORS

Service Streamers

## **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

### **EMBLEM**

Azure, on a pile issuing from sinister chief Argent an aircraft rocket Sable banded of the second leaving a trail Gules between two general purpose aerial bombs in bend sinisterwise of the third; all within a diminished bordure Or. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "PARATI AD AGENDUM" in Blue letters.

### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The position and shape of the pile symbolize a concentrated aerial attack on a specific point -- precision bombing from medium and low altitudes. The aircraft rocket and general purpose bombs are typical of the weapons used by a light bombardment wing in strikes of this type. The Latin motto, "PARATI AD AGENDUM," translates to "READY FOR ACTION" in English.

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

### **OPERATIONS**

The 131st Bomb Wing's primary operational mission is to provide full spectrum, expeditionary, B-2 global strike and combat support capabilities. Wing manpower is also dedicated to providing for the unit's overall combat readiness, base operating support functions for tenant and attached units, and for performing combat and emergency duty in support of federal and state missions.

In February 1951, the Missouri Air National Guard underwent extensive redesignation, under AGMo General Order No. 7. Additionally the order called for the activation of seven new units.

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron of the 131st Composite Wing was redesignated Hq and Hq Squadron, 131st Fighter Wing and the 131st Composite Group was redesignated the 131st Fighter Group. The 110th was also reorganized, with support personnel going to the squadrons activated by General Order No. 7, the 131st Maintenance Squadron, the 131st Supply Group, the 131st Motor Vehicle Squadron, the 131st Communications Squadron, the 131st Food Service Squadron, the 131st Air Police Squadron and the 131st Installations Squadron. The 131st Medical Group was also activated.

The reorganizations preceded an order in March 1951, calling the Missouri Air Guard into federal service for duty during Korean Conflict. They left two weeks later for Bergstrom Air Force Base, After serving on active duty during the Korean emergency, all units reverted to state control in November 1952.

As part of the nation's readiness posture during the Korean Conflict, the 131st Tactical Fighter Wing became part of the U. S. Air Force on 1 March 1951. The induction order was read to a troop formation in front of the National Guard hangar at Lambert Field by Maj. James P. McDonough.

**2005 9-10 Sep** Two airfield managers assigned to the 131<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing, Missouri ANG, and the 137<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, Oklahoma ANG, deployed in Title 32 orders to Gulfport CRTIC to augment the cadre of airfield managers deployed to this location.<sup>252</sup>

Airmen of the 131st Bomb Wing here completed the first B-2 sortie flown and launched by Missouri Air National Guard members Dune 18 at Whiteman Air Force Base. Col. Gregory Champagne, the 131st Fighter Wing vice commander, and Maj. David Thompson, a 131st FW pilot, were launched by Master Sgt. Bob Francis and Tech Sgt. Dohn Venable, both of the 131st Bomb Wing. The 131st FW is losing its F-15 mission due to the recommendation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission. The initiative integrates Air National Guard aircrew, maintainers and support staff with their 509th Bomb Wing active-duty counterparts in support of the B-2 mission with the ultimate goal of enhancing warfighting efficiencies. "We are currently in the process (of transitioning)," Colonel Champagne said. "It is a 2.5 year process, and we are in the first year right now. We are right on time, everything is going well." Although guardsmen have been flying B-2 missions with 509th BW Airmen over the last year, this is first time during the wing's transition to Whiteman AFB that 131st FW aircrew and maintenance personnel completed a sortie from launch through mission execution. "We train the same. We are the same, and our goal is the same, which is the success of the mission," Colonel Champagne said. Presently, the Missouri Air National Guard has seven B-2 qualified pilots and four in training. There are 46 members of the 131st FW currently operating. out of Whiteman AFB. The Missouri Air National Guard will have 25 B-2 qualified pilots and approximately 500 maintainers, operations members and support staff at Whiteman AFB.

The Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Fighter Wing held a ribbon-cutting ceremony Oct. 4 at Whiteman Air Force Base to recognize the unit's transition to the 131st Bomb Wing—the name change has yet to formally occur—and mark the grand opening of its new headquarters building at the base. Brig. Gen. Craig McCord, Missouri ANG commander, attended the event Under BRAC 2005, the 131st is giving up its F-15 that it operated from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport and forming a partnership with Whiteman's active duty 509th BW to jointly operate the Air Force's fleet of B-2A stealth bombers under a classic associate arrangement. "We are proud of our members and proud of our lineage as we transition from an Air National Guard fighter wing to a classic associate bomb wing," said Col. Robert Leeker, 131st commander. The wing's transition has been ongoing since the summer of 2007. Already the wing has about 10 pilots fully qualified to fly the B-2As and more than 80 personnel currently working at Whiteman. Capt. Bridget Zorn, wing spokeswoman, told the Daily Report yesterday that the 131st still has some F-15s operating out of Lambert for the interim until the transition is complete. The last of the wing's fighters is expected to depart for good in the summer of 2009, she said. After that, the wing will still maintain some support functions at Lambert.

Air Guard B-2 Wing Certified for Nuclear Operations The Missouri Air National Guard's 131st Bomb Wing, which helps to fly and maintain the Air Force's B-2 fleet at Whiteman Air Force Base, is now fully certified to conduct the bombers' nuclear mission, according to a wing release. The unit achieved this certification after successfully completing a four-day initial nuclear surety inspection, states the Aug. 8 release. With this achievement, the wing reached full operational capability with the B-2, concluding a six-year process begun in 2007 when the unit transitioned from flying F-15s. "The airmen of the 131st Bomb Wing have proven they are up to the task in carrying out this critical national security mission," said Army Maj. Gen. Steve Danner, Missouri's adjutant general. The 131st BW operates the B-2s under a classic association with Whiteman's Active Duty 509th BW. The former has nearly 800 members. It is the first Air Guard unit cleared to deliver nuclear weapons, according to the release. 2013

The B-2 bomber fleet set a record in April for sorties and hours flown in a single month, according to officials at Whiteman AFB, Mo., home to these stealth bombers. Members of Whiteman's 509th Bomb Wing, together with their partners in the Missouri Air National Guard's 131st BW, flew 142 sorties in the month, amassing 839.3 hours, states the base's May 9 release. "Any bad guy in the world watching us over the last 30 days saw a whole lot of airplanes doing a whole lot of flying. That's a strong message," said Col. Chase McCown, 509th Maintenance Group commander. B-2 maintainers achieved a mission-capable rate of nearly 70 percent for the month, some 15 percent above the bombers' average rate, said McCown. That's not an easy feat, he said, given the amount of maintenance required to maintain the low-observable qualities of the 20-aircraft fleet. "We proved we have proficient operators and maintainers who can surge operations and put jets in the air," said Col. Edward Martignetti, 509th Operations Group commander. Among their activity, B-2 pilots flew long-duration sorties, trained with special operators, and worked with F-22s, he said. 2014



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Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 4 Sep 2011  
Updated: 28 Aug 2013

Sources  
AFHRA