

# 134<sup>th</sup> AIR REFUELING WING



## **LINEAGE**

Federal recognition of the 134th came on 15 December 1957

## **STATIONS**

McGhee-Tyson ANGB, Knoxville, TN

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

### **Mission Aircraft**

F-86

F-104, 1960

F-102, 1963

KC-97G, 1964

KC-135A, 1976

KC-135E, 1982

### **Support Aircraft**

## **COMMANDERS**

Col Harold A. Mears, 15 Dec 1957

Col Robert W. Akin, 16 July 1959

LTC Robert L. Foster, 17 Jan 1967

Col Robert W. Akin, 1 Dec 1968

Col Thomas P. Webb III, 16 Nov 1976

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## **Decorations**

9 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 July 1966 — 30 June 1968

1 July 1973 — 30 June 1975

1 July 1975 — 30 June 1976

## **EMBLEM**

### **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

### **MOTTO**

### **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

Soon after the August 1957 Air Force announcement of the closing of McGhee Tyson Air Force Base the National Guard Bureau announced the constitution of a new Air National Guard flying unit - the 134th Fighter Interceptor Group which would inherit all McGhee Tyson facilities, including the North American Sabre Jets then stationed here, and assume the areas air defense mission

The Air National Guard had arrived in East Tennessee, officially taking over the base on 8 January 1958.

On 11 October 1958, 10 months after the unit was started, five pilots were placed on readiness alert in daylight hours. A readiness status that has been estimated would take as long as 2 years to achieve.

Maj Robert W. Akin served as Base Detachment Commander from October 1957 until 16 July 1959, when he was named 134th Group Commander, as well as Base Detachment Commander, succeeding Col Mears who retired.

On 1 January 1961, the unit assumed an Air Defense Command 14 hour Alert Commitment to continue guarding sensitive East Tennessee industry in the F-104 aircraft. This commitment continued through the end of June 1961. On 1 July 1961, the Air Defense Command upgraded the units 14 hour to a 24 hour around the clock alert commitment.

The 700 members of the 134th Fighter Group reported for duty 1 November 1961, a part of about 155,000 guardsmen and reservists called to meet the crisis.

The 151st Fighter Interceptor Squadron returned to McGhee Tyson in July 1962 and was released from active duty on 15 August 1962.

---

Air Force Order of Battle  
Created: 7 Sep 2010  
Updated:

Sources