

## 134 AIR REFUELING WING



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

134 Air Refueling Group  
134 Air Refueling Wing

### STATIONS

McGhee-Tyson ANGB, Knoxville, TN

### ASSIGNMENTS

### WEAPON SYSTEMS

#### Mission Aircraft

F-86  
F-104, 1960  
F-102, 1963  
KC-97, 1964  
KC-135, 1976

#### Support Aircraft

### COMMANDERS

Col Harold A. Mears, 15 Dec 1957  
Col Robert W. Akin, 16 Jul 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 Jul 1966 — 30 Jun 1968

1 Jul 1973 — 30 Jun 1975

1 Jul 1975 — 30 Jun 1976

## **EMBLEM**

## **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.