

## 431st AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

431<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Squadron, Fighter-Bomber activated 8 Jan 1957  
Redesignated 431<sup>st</sup> Air Refueling Squadron, Tactical 1 Jul 1958  
Inactivated 8 Mar 1965

### STATIONS

Turner AFB, GA  
Biggs AFB, TX, 18 Jul 1959

### ASSIGNMENTS

Ninth Air Force  
4504<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, 1 Jul 1958  
4440<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Delivery Group, 8 Oct 63

### WEAPON SYSTEMS

KB-50J 1957

### COMMANDERS

LTC Dale A. Shaver  
LTC Benjamin F. Chapman, 23 Oct 1957  
LTC Samuel C. Burgess, 26 Jul 1960  
LTC Kenneth M. Buzzard, 26 Jul 1960

LTC Charles T. Garvin, 29 Apr 1961

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

A red Pegasus in flight in front of a globe (Approved, 24 May 57)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

First flights in unit's KB-50s. 27 Jun 57

431st flies the last KB-50 refueling mission, F-105s to Europe, from Lajes Air Transport Station, Azores. Aircraft commanders were Capt Rolland E. Hoover and Capt Thomas F. Kennan, Jr. 26 Jan 65

Maj Anthony C. Pronier and a select crew fly the delivery of KB-50J 49-389 to the US Air Force Museum at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. 17 Feb 65

The 431st AREFS was formed on January 8, 1957 at Turner AFB, Georgia. Equipped with KB-50J and KB-50K the unit became fully operational in June of that year. In July of 1958 the 431st came under control of the 4505th Aerial Refueling. The following July the unit moved to Biggs AFB. For the next several years the 431st along with her sister KB-50 units supported TAC operations throughout the world, but the time would come when SAC and the ANG would take over that function. In October 1963 the 4505th was inactivated and the 431st AREFS came under control of the 4440th Air Delivery Group. By March of 1965, the 431st was the last KB-50 unit and on the 8th of that month it too closed up shop.

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Air Force Order of Battle

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### Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

Unit yearbook. *Turner AFB, GA, 31 Fighter Bomber Wing, 1957*. Army and Navy Publishing Co Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1957.