

508th TACTICAL FIGHTER GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

508th Fighter Group constituted, 5 Oct 1944
Activated, 12 Oct 1944
Inactivated, 25 Nov 1945
Redesignated 508th Tactical Fighter Group
Inactivated,

STATIONS

Peterson Field, CO, 12 Oct 1944
Pocatello AAFld, ID, 25 Oct 1944
Bruning AAFld, NE, 15 Nov-18 Dec 1944
Kahuku, TH, 6 Jan 1945
Mokuleia, TH, 25 Feb 1945
Bellows Field, TH, 16 Sep-25 Nov 1945
Hill AFB, UT

ASSIGNMENTS

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-47
P-51

COMMANDERS

Col Henry G. Thorne, Jr., 9 Nov 1944

Col Frank H. Mears, 27 Nov 1944
Col Oswald W. Lunde, 4 May-25 Nov 1945

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Asiatic-Pacific Theater

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



Per bend engrailed azure and gules, in bend a chain or and in chief an atomic cloud argent issuing from a base gray, over-all three figures representing the "Spirit of '76" sable fimbriated of the fourth.

MOTTO

KNOWLEDGE AND COURAGE

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Trained with P-47 aircraft to provide very-long-range escort for bombardment units. Moved to Hawaii in Jan 1945 and served as part of the defense force for the islands. Also trained replacement pilots for other organizations, repaired P-47s and P-51s received from combat units, and ferried aircraft to forward areas.

The 508th Tactical Fighter Group (AFRES) with its assigned F-105 aircraft, also had an active role in

Hill's air operations. For example, in mid-June 1980, the group hosted the reserve's largest mobilization exercise in its history. As part of the event at Hill, the 301st Tactical Fighter Wing from Carswell AFB, Texas, moved in with its own F-105s to attack simulated targets in Utah, Nevada, and California.

On 1 October 1982, the Air Force Reserve inactivated Hill's 508th Tactical Fighter Group and activated the 419th Tactical Fighter Wing. The Wing's 466th Tactical Fighter Squadron flew F-105s until March 1984. On 4 June 1983, the unit began to retire the Thunderchief with a 25-ship launch and picture-perfect "diamonds on diamonds" flyover.

A Corrosion Control Facility, Building 576, was completed for use by Hill AFB tenant and Air Force Reserve organization the 508th Fighter Group. The contract, awarded December 1975 went to the Wadman Construction Company who built the 6,500 square foot structure for \$372,780. 30 Jun 1976

An aircraft maintenance building was completed for a tenant, the 508th Tactical Fighter Group. Numbered 589 it covered 8,000 square feet and cost \$303,000. Nov 1976

Completed was Building 508, a base supply and equipment warehouse to be used by Hill APB tenant, the 508th Tactical Fighter Group AFRES. Costing \$232,600 the contract was awarded 29 August 1975 to Wadman Construction Company for an 11,253 square foot structure. Nov 1976

An Open Storage Facility was completed by the Utah Construction and Development Company this date. The facility was built for use by Hill AFB tenant, the 508th Tactical Fighter. 27 oct 1977