

912th AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

22d Reconnaissance Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Jan 1942

Redesignated 412th Bombardment Squadron (Heavy), 22 Apr 1942

Activated, 15 Jun 1942

Redesignated 412th Bombardment Squadron, Heavy, 20 Aug 1943

Inactivated on 28 Aug 1945

Redesignated 412th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy, 9 Jul 1947

Activated in the Reserve, 16 Jul 1947

Inactivated, 27 Jun 1949

912th Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy constituted and activated, 3 Aug 1961

Organized, 1 Dec 1961

412th Bombardment Squadron, Very Heavy Consolidated with 912th Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 19 Sep 1985

Redesignated 912th Air Refueling Squadron, 1 Sep 1991

Inactivated, 20 Mar 2009

Activated, 2010

STATIONS

Barksdale Field, LA, 15 Jun 1942

Pendleton Field, OR, 26 Jun 1942

Geiger Field, WA, 28 Aug 1942
Ephrata, WA, 31 Oct 1942
Geiger Field, WA, 24 Nov 1942
Rapid City AAB, SD, 17 Dec 1942–18 Apr 1943
Framlingham, England, 11 May 1943
Horham, England, 15 Jun 1943–6 Aug 1945
Sioux Falls AAFld, SD, 14–28 Aug 1945
Knoxville Muni Aprt, TN, 16 Jul 1947– 27 Jun 1949
Robins AFB, GA, 1 Dec 1961
Grand Forks AFB, ND, 1 Apr 1994
March ARB, CA

ASSIGNMENTS

95th Bombardment Group, 15 Jun 1942–28 Aug 1945
95th Bombardment Group, 16 Jul 1947–27 Jun 1949
Strategic Air Command, 3 Aug 1961
4137th Strategic Wing, 1 Dec 1961
465th Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1963
19th Bombardment (later, 19 Air Refueling) Wing, 25 Jul 1968
19th Operations Group, 1 Sep 1991
319th Operations Group, 1 Apr 1994

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-17, 1942–1945
Unkn, 1947–1949
KC-135, 1962
EC-135, 1984–1989
KC-135

COMMANDERS

None, (unmanned), 15 Jun-22 Oct 1942
Lt Col Harry G. Mumford, 23 Oct 1942-unkn
Maj Don A. Pomeroy Jr., by Jul 1944
Maj James O. Frankosky, Oct 1944
Cpt Jammie M. Philpott, May 1945
Maj Raymond C. Brittingham Jr., Jun-Aug 1945
Lt Col Hall C. Tunnell, 16 Jul 1947-Jan 1949
Unkn, Feb-Jun 1949
Lt Col Larrie E. Moses, 1 Dec 1961
Lt Col Arthur L. Hughes, 4 Feb 1964
Lt Col Joseph M. McHale, 27 Jul 1964
Lt Col Chester G. Hale, 15 Jun 1966
Lt Col William G. McDonald, by 30 Jun 1968
Lt Col Jerry L. Chealander, by 30 Sep 1968

Lt Col Charles T. Griffes, by 15 Jan 1970
Lt Col Phillip Klein, 26 Jun 1972
Lt Col William F. Harmon, 2 Apr 1973
Lt Col Van A. Depriest, 2 Apr 1974
Lt Col Robert M. Alexander, 15 Apr 1976
Lt Col Mark J. Heller, 6 Jul 1977
Maj Donald C. Brace, 20 Sep 1978
Lt Col William O. West III, 20 Oct 1978
Lt Col Lehmon N. Junkin, 25 Apr 1980
Lt Col Jerome E. Greenwell, 21 Jul 1980
Lt Col Roy D. Croxton Jr., 11 Mar 1982
Lt Col Michael C. Lynch, 14 Oct 1983
Lt Col Edward T. Miles, 11 Mar 1985
Lt Col Bennie L. Jester, 25 Jul 1985
Lt Col Ira S. Paul III, 17 Nov 1986
Lt Col Ervin J. Robinson, 6 Jun 1988
Lt Col Billie O. Lenderman Jr., 18 Jun 1990
Lt Col Bruce E. Adriance, 20 Feb 1992
Lt Col Byron L. Wolters, 1 Apr 1994
Lt Col William G. Baxley, 7 Jul 1994
Lt Col Randal D. Fullhart, 3 Oct 1995
Lt Col William R. Kunzweiler, 3 Oct 1996
Lt Col Susan Desjardins, 1 Jul 1997
Lt Col Hal Rice, 2 Jun 1999
Lt Col James C. Vechery, 23 Aug 2001
Lt Col Leslie C. Burns, 3 Jul 2003
Lt Col Brou Gautier, Jun 2005
Lt Col Charles McDaniel, 12 Feb 2007
Lt Col Brice Middleton
Lt Col Nathan R. Howard, 21 Jun 2014

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Air Combat, EAME Theater

Southwest Asia
Defense of Saudi Arabia
Liberation and Defense of Kuwait

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Distinguished Unit Citations
Germany, 17 Aug 1943
Munster, Germany, 10 Oct 1943
Berlin, Germany, 4 Mar 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

[1 Dec] 1961–31 Mar 1962
1 Jul 1976–30 Jun 1978
1 Jul 1982–30 Jun 1984
1 Jul 1984–30 Jun 1986
1 Jul 1976-30 Jun 1978
1 Jul 1982-30 Jun 1984
1 Jul 1984-30 Jun 1986
1 Oct 1993-30 Jun 1995
1 Jul 1995-30 Jun 1997
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2002
1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2004
1 Jul 2004-30 Jun 2005
1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007
1 Aug 2011-31 Aug 2012

EMBLEM



412 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) emblem



912 Air Refueling Squadron On an Air Force Blue globe with White grid lines two White clouds, detailed and shaded Silver Gray, fesswise above center of globe, small cloud in far dexter large cloud extends from center dexter to far sinister issuant from large cloud above center point of globe palewise an Air Force Yellow refueling boom tip shaded Tangerine, all within a White band with a narrow Air Force Blue border. (Approved, 28 Sep 1964)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

Combat in ETO, 13 May 1943–20 Apr 1945.

Long distance aerial refueling, 1961–1972

912 AREFS christened its first KC-135 the Cherokee rose) on 14 Apr 1962

Tanker crews of the 912th Air Refueling Squadron, 465th Bombardment Wing, participated in "Exercise Shikaha." This operation originated as a Joint Commonwealth and United States Air Defense mission to improve the air defense capabilities of the Indian Air Force and to provide training in tactical air operations for Indian Air Force personnel. 1 Nov 1963

Flying the KC-135, the crews of the 912th have participated in refueling missions in Southeast Asia (operating out of U-Tapao RTAFB, Thailand), in Europe (operating out of Torrejon AB, Spain), and in the Alaskan area (operating out of Eielson AFB, Alaska). Since 1962, the 912th has conducted a continuous stream of actual and simulated aerial refueling exercises of the Strategic Air Command.

Worldwide aerial refueling, beginning 1973.

Gained EC-135 airborne command post mission, 1984–1989.

Supported operations in Grenada, 23–24 Oct 1983

Panama, 18–21 Dec 1989

Southwest Asia, Aug 1990–Mar 1991

Feb - Apr 1995 - Aircrews and tankers from the 912 ARS deployed to Riyadh AB, Saudi Arabia to support OSW.

28 Mar 1997 - Members of the 912 ARS and 319th Aircraft Generation Squadron deployed to Howard AFB, Panama, in support of Operation CONSTANT VIGIL.

The last KC-135 of the 912th Air Refueling Squadron is scheduled to depart Grand Forks AFB, N.D., for good on March 16, followed by the unit's deactivation four days later. Grand Forks will lose its KC-135 flying mission in 2010 courtesy of BRAC 2005. The 912th ARS is one of the three KC-135 flying units under the base's 319th Air Refueling Wing, along with the 905th ARS and 906th ARS. Over the past three years, the 912th's airmen have logged more than 71,000 flying hours, of which 52,000 were in combat, and the unit won the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Trophy in 2007 as the best air refueling squadron in the nation. Once all of Grand Forks' KC-135s are gone, the base's only flying mission will be for unmanned aerial vehicles—Predator Bs which arrived last month, and Global Hawks—unless it is able to secure another manned platform. The North Dakota Congressional delegation seeks to bring the KC-X tanker to Grand Forks

The 912th Air Refueling Squadron at Grand Forks AFB, N.D., conducted its final flying mission on March 16 when two of its KC-135s rendezvoused with a C-17 over southeastern Montana and northwestern South Dakota. Four days later, on March 20, the unit was inactivated, becoming the second of Grand Forks' four KC-135 squadrons to cease operations as the base transitions from tankers to unmanned aerial vehicles by October 2010, courtesy of BRAC 2005. "It's been a unique experience; I would not trade it for the world," said Lt. Col. Brian McDaniel, 912th ARS commander. The 912th ARS began flying KC-135s in 1962. It has had a distinguished record, winning, for example, the Spaatz Trophy in 2007 as Air Mobility Command's best air refueling squadron, and logging 71,000 flying hours in the past three years, 52,000 of them in combat. The 905th ARS and 906th ARS are still flying for now. The 906th ARS is scheduled to inactivate in June, followed by the 905th ARS in October 2010, 2nd Lt. Anastasia Wasem, spokeswoman for Grand Forks' 319th Air Refueling Wing, told the Daily Report yesterday. The 911th ARS, the first of the four squadrons to inactivate, stopped flying in 2007.

The Air Force has reactivated the active duty 912th Air Refueling Squadron to operate KC-135 with Air Force Reserve Command's 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March ARB, Calif. This pairing is one of several new active associations that Air Mobility Command has formed with AFRC. Soon, about 200 active duty airmen, including nearly 30 aircrew and 130 aircraft maintainers, will work with Reservists at March. "Reserve airmen aren't always necessarily available, but the jets are, so Air Mobility Command incorporated active duty airmen here to fly the missions Guardsmen and Reservists can't fill," explained 912th ARS commander Lt. Col. Brice Middleton.

The squadron, active again since Dec. 3, will remain under the administrative control of the active duty 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild AFB, Calif. Prior to its inactivation in March 2009 the 912th ARS was based at Grand Forks AFB, N.D. 2010

March Air Reserve Base, Calif., is the home of the Air Force Reserve's newest active associate unit, the 912th Air Refueling Squadron. The new regular Air Force organization, which Air Force Reserve Command and Air Mobility Command announced in early 2009, will integrate with the Reserve's 336th ARS and other units at the base and will fly the squadron's KC- 135. "The benefit for the Air Force (of the associate unit construct) is an increase in capability and deployment assets in theater," said 912th ARS commander Lt. Col. Brice Middleton. "We're also going to have an entire squadron here full time. We'll be able to help provide continuity that the part-time folks sometimes can't." An advance team arrived at March in October to get the new squadron off the ground. Colonel Middleton, Maj. Rob Walmsley, 912th ARS operations officer, Capt. Eric Doi and Tech. Sgt. Dan Beecher flew the squadron's first mission Nov. 23. The crew refueled a C-17 from the 729th Airlift Squadron at March ARB on an air refueling track off the coast of Southern California. When the squadron is fully manned which is expected to be about August, it will have approximately 200 regular Air Force Airmen. There will be more than 30 aircrew members and 130 maintainers. The remainder of the squadron members will augment and support operations within the 452nd Air Mobility Wing in fields such as life support, intelligence, supply, command post, crew communications, medical and commander support staff. Making the incoming Airmen's transition to March smooth is one of the primary focuses of the advance team. "We're creating everything from scratch," said Master Sgt. Carlos Garcia, 912th ARS knowledge operations manager. "There are no guidelines on how to do anything. What worked at one base that's done Total Force Integration may not work here." Sergeant Garcia and Major Walmsely said some of the challenges they face include transportation and housing for the junior enlisted Airmen and helping families find child-care services in the local community. Several members of the advance team said it is the challenges of establishing a squadron from the ground up that made the assignment at March so attractive in the first place. 2011