

4347 COMBAT CREW TRAINING WING



MISSION

LINEAGE

4347 Combat Crew Training Wing

STATIONS

Wichita AFB, (later McConnell AFB), KS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Brig Gen Kenneth O. Sanborn, 1 Jul 1958

Col Don O. Tower, 15 Jul 1959

Col Charles W. Bagstad, 25 May 1962–15 June 1963

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

1961 First Inflight Reverse Air Refueling Conducted Between B-47 Aircraft Of 4347 Combat Crew Training Wing And Kc-135 Of 96 Air Refueling Squadron, Altus Air Force Base Ok. Reverse Air Refueling Was Conducted Under Emergency Conditions.

Discusses Efforts To Fulfill Requirement For Larger Class Sizes For Kc-97 Crews In 4397 Air Refueling Wing. 1961

In 1951, the Air Force decided to take up permanent residence in Wichita and established Wichita Air Force Base. The airport administration building served as the new headquarters while still handling civilian air traffic. This time, the Air Training Command's 3520th Combat Crew Training Wing (CCTW), under the command of Colonel H.R. Spicer, began training Boeing B-47 Stratojet bomber aircrews. For the first six months after the activation, a "tent city" housed assigned personnel. This "city" consisted of 174 tents, a fire tower and a few leased buildings in Wichita. One major piece of construction was the base chapel dedicated in August of 1952. Refurbished several times over the years the building is still in use today. From 1954 to 1956, a \$22 million construction program turned the old airport into one of the Air Force's major bases. These improvements included 495 Capehart-style housing units, ten miles of paved streets and two hangars. Other improvements included clubs, theater, commissary, bank, hospital and Base Exchange. In 1958, the 4347 CCTW, under SAC, replaced the 3520th.

4347th Combat Crew Training Wing, Strategic Air Command 1 Jun 58 - 15 Jun 63

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.