

332nd FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

332nd Fighter Squadron constituted, 24 Jun 1942

Activated, 10 Jul 1942

Disbanded, 31 Mar 1944

Reconstituted, and redesignated 332nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 11 Feb 1953

Activated, 27 Mar 1953

Inactivated 1 Jul 1965

STATIONS

Hamilton Field, CA, 10 Jul 1942

Paine Field, WA, 14 Jul 1942

Santa Ana AAB, CA, 10 Sep 1942

Ontario AAFld, CA, 28 Aug 1943

Santa Ana AAB, CA, 7 Oct 1943-31 Mar 1944

New Castle County Aprt, DE, 27 Mar 1953

McGuire AFB, NJ, 18 Aug 1955

England AFB, LA, 10 Jul 1959

Thule AB, Greenland, 1 Sep 1960

ASSIGNMENTS

329th Fighter Group, 10 Jul 1942-31 Mar 1944

525th Air Defense Group, 27 Mar 1953

4709th Air Defense Wing, 18 Aug 1955

4621st Air Defense Wing (later New York Air Defense Sector), 1 Oct 1956

4730th Air Defense Group, 8 Feb 1957

33rd Air Division, 10 Jul 1959

Oklahoma City Air Defense Sector, 1 Jan 1960

4683rd Air Defense Wing, 1 Sep 1960

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-38, 1942-1944

F-94C, 1953-1955

F-86D, 1955

F-86L

F-102A, 1957

P-38F

P-38E

P-38G

P-38H

P-38J

COMMANDERS



LTC Harold B. Graham (USAF photo)

LTC Paul F. Wiesner, #1956

HONORS

Service Streamers

American Theater

Campaign Streamers

None

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

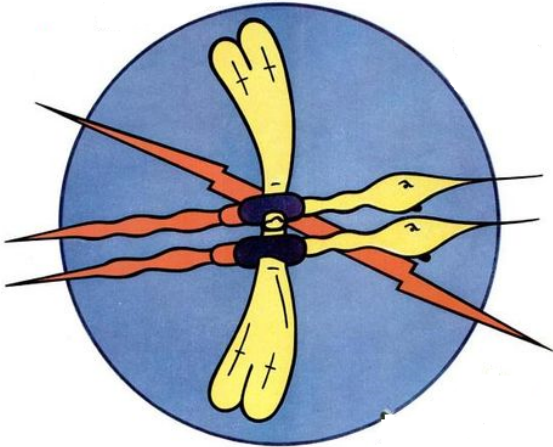
None

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Jan-18 Jul 1962

EMBLEM



332nd Fighter Squadron emblem

332nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron emblem: On a black disc, a white eagle, with yellow beak and feet, white talons and red tongue, all detail black; the eagle in flight with wings elevated and feet raised in striking position, the disc edged of the second and bordered red. (Approved, 29 Feb 1956)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Trained replacement pilots, Sep 1942-Mar 194, and furnished cadres for fighter squadrons, Jan-Dec 1943.

332nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron had its inception on 10 July 1942, as a Fighter Training Squadron. It began its operation at Hamilton Field, California, with Lightning P-38's. The mission of the early 332nd was to receive and train pilots to fly P-38's. This vital mission was well accomplished, for the men trained by the 332nd conducted themselves with valor in every theatre of action during the II World War. The list of alumni of the 332nd to distinguish themselves in combat is so extensive that it would not be fair to mention a few names when so many were so deserving. Finally on 31 March 1944, at Santa Ana Army Air Base, California, the Squadron was inactivated.

On 27 March 1953, the old 332nd was reactivated at New Castle County Airport, Wilmington, Delaware, as part of the 525th Air Defense Group, Eastern Air Defense Force. Everything about the 332nd was new; the name, the mission, and the aircraft. The name was redesignated to the 332nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron. The mission was now an integral part of the vital Air Defense Command of the United States. The men of the 332nd, were now manning and flying the F-94 C's. In April, 1955, at Moody Air Force Base, where the 332nd took part in rocketry

training the Squadron broke all records set by any other F-94C outfit.

Finally on 17 August 1955, the venerated 332 was brought to McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey. At McGuire the proud new owners of the 332nd title were also engaged in the vital work of Air Defense as part of the 4709th Air Defense Wing, which later became the 4621st Air Defense Wing (SAGE). The men at McGuire were flying F-86 D aircraft. These men of the 332nd at McGuire, who possessed a very high experience level and an even higher esprit de corps carried on the fine tradition of the 332nd. They became one of the first two fighter squadrons in the entire United States to become completely equipped with CSTI. In April of 1956 at rocketry practice at Yuma Air Force Base, Arizona, the 332nd personnel flying and manning the F-86 D racked up one of the highest ratio percentages of hits as proportioned to sorties ever recorded at Yuma. McGuire Air Force Base, where the 332nd Fighter Interceptor Squadron now resides may be proud to have such a fine group of men and machines with such an excellent history as part of their base.

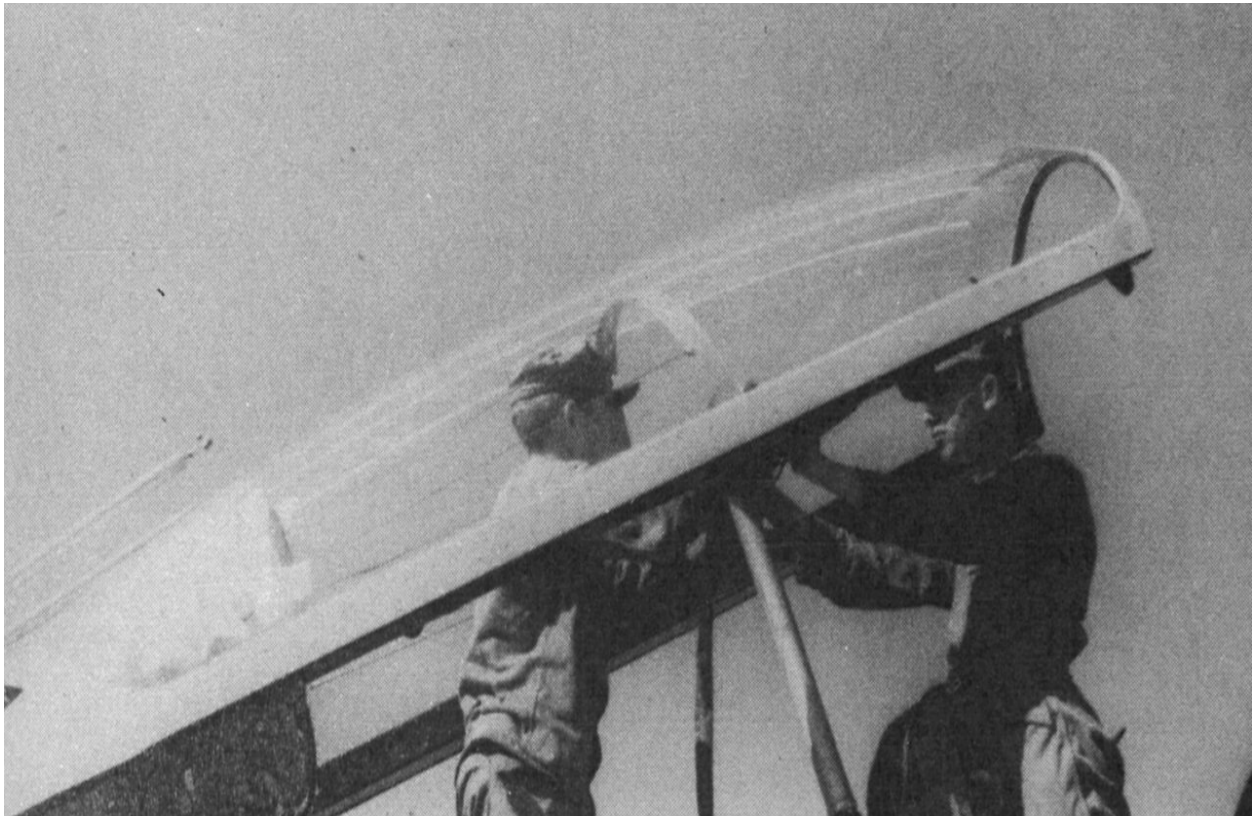
The 332nd FIS activated at New Castle County Airport, DL on March 27, 1953 after being reconstituted six weeks previously. Originally assigned to the 329th Fighter Group during WWII, the squadron was assigned to the 525th Air Defense Group upon reactivation, but was reassigned to the 4709th Air Defense Wing on August 18, 1955 when the squadron's designation was transferred to McGuire AFB and they became a F-86D squadron. All but four of their F-94Cs had come directly to them from Lockheed, and upon the move to McGuire AFB, twelve of these were transferred to their replacement squadron at New Castle County Airport, the 97th Fighter Interceptor Squadron.



F-94s on the flightline (USAF photo)



F-94 and maintenance hangar (USAF photo)



F-94 canopy repair (USAF photo)



332nd First Sergeant and orderly room staff (USAF photo)

Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 3 Nov 2011

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit yearbook. *4710th Defense Wing*. Taylor Publication Co. Dallas, TX. Nd.

Unit yearbook. *26th Air Division, Defense*. 1956.