

336 AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

536 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) constituted, 28 Oct 1942

Activated, 3 Nov 1942

Inactivated, 31 Mar 1944

336 Troop Carrier Squadron, Medium constituted, 10 May 1949

Activated in the Reserve, 26 Jun 1949

Ordered to Active Service, 1 May 1951

Inactivated, 1 Feb 1953

Activated in the Reserve, 1 Apr 1953

Redesignated 336 Military Airlift Squadron, 1 Oct 1966

Ordered to Active Service, 26 Jan 1968

Relieved from Active Duty, 2 Jun 1969

Redesignated 336 Tactical Airlift Squadron, 1 Apr 1972

Redesignated 336 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 1 Oct 1976

536 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) and 336 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy consolidated,
19 Sep 1985. Consolidated unit designated 336 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy.

Redesignated 336 Air Refueling Squadron, 1 Feb 1992

STATIONS

Salt Lake City AAB, UT, 3 Nov 1942

Davis-Monthan Field, AZ, 23 Jan 1943

Pocatello AAFld, ID, 3 Apr 1943

Muroc AAFld, CA, 5 Dec 1943-31 Mar 1944
Birmingham Muni Aprt, AL, 26 Jun 1949
Mitchel AFB, NY, 10 Oct 1949-1 Feb 1953
Mitchel AFB, NY, 1 Apr 1953
Stewart AFB, NY, 15 Mar 1961
Hamilton AFB, CA, 31 Dec 1969
March AFB (later, ARB), CA, 1 Jan 1976

ASSIGNMENTS

382 Bombardment Group, 3 Nov 1942-31 Mar 1944
514 Troop Carrier Group, 26 Jun 1949-1 Feb 1953
514 Troop Carrier Group, 1 Apr 1953
514 Troop Carrier Wing, 14 Apr 1959
904 Troop Carrier (later, 904 Military Airlift; 904 Tactical Airlift) Group, 17 Jan 1963
452 Tactical Airlift (later, 452 Air Refueling) Wing, 1 Sep 1975
452 Operations Group, 1 Aug 1992

WEAPON SYSTEMS

B-24, 1943-1944
Unkn, 1949-1950
C-46, 1951-1953
C-119, 1953-1966
C-124, 1966-1972
C-130, 1972-1976
KC-135, 1976

COMMANDERS

None (not manned), 3 Nov 1942-22 Jan 1943
Maj Benjamin S. Sheldon, 23 Jan 1943
Maj George C. Darby, Jr., 14 Jul 1943-31 Mar 1944
None (not manned), 26 Jun-9 Oct 1949
Unkn, 10 Oct 1949-1951
Maj James K. David, by May 1951
Maj Francis E. Galarneau, Nov 1952
Capt Thomas J. Leonard, 19 Dec 1952-1 Feb 1953
Unkn, 1 Apr 1953-1958
Maj John E. Carroll, by Apr 1958
Lt Col William Longa, 1 May 1961
Lt Col Charles J. Reilly, 17 Jan 1963
Lt Col Harry Amdur, Aug 1965
Lt Col Walter P. Lee, 15 Dec 1966
Maj Ralph A. Kluepfel, Jul 1969
Unkn, Jan-Mar 1970
Lt Col Kenneth K. Kuehn, 24 Mar 1970

Maj Jackie L. Gates, 13 Jun 1972
Maj Eugene B. Turner, 15 Apr 1973
Lt Col Lee R. Janover, 10 Sep 1974
Unkn, Jan-Sep 1976
Lt Col John D. Moore, 1 Oct 1976
Maj Jerry W. McDowell, Oct 1979
Lt Col David Cooper, by Sep 1981
Col Thomas B. Frank, 15 Oct 1987
Lt Col Duncan L. Bridwell, 26 Nov 1988
Lt Col Dewitt L. Morris, Jr., 15 Jul 1990
Lt Col Gerald V. Thompson, 16 May 1991
Lt Col James Sanders, 17 Apr 1992
Lt Col Betty L. Mullis, 1 Nov 1993
Lt Col Salvatore J. Mercurio III, 25 Feb 1995
Lt Col Steven P. Priest, 23 Aug 2015

HONORS

Service Streamers

World War II
American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

26 Jan 1968-31 Mar 1969

1 Jan 1976-2 Oct 1977

1 Jul 1991-30 Jun 1993

1 Sep 1995-31 Aug 1996

1 Sep 1997-31 Aug 1999

1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004; 1 Oct 2004-30 Sep 2006; 1 Oct 2006-30 Sep 2008; 1 Oct 2008-30 Sep 2010.

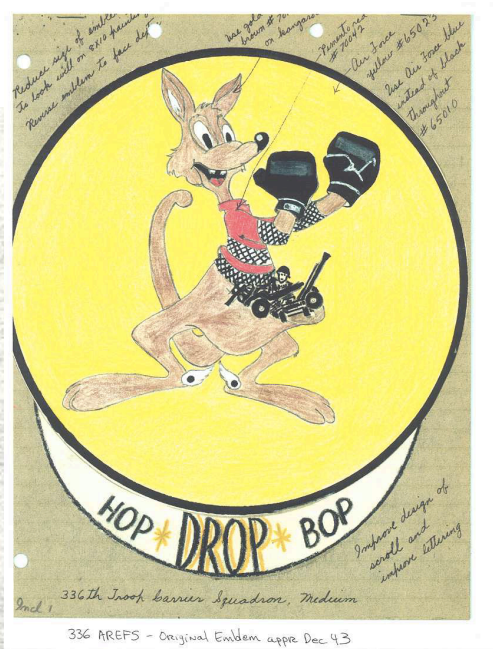
Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Oct 1966-31 Mar 1972

EMBLEM



536 Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) emblem: Over and through a grayed light blue disc, BUGS BUNNY proper, standing on a white cloud formation in base, shooting a brown and tan aerial bomb held in the right forepaw with a brown sling shot held in the left forepaw, while chewing a carrot proper. (Approved, 2 Dec 1943)



336 Troop Carrier Squadron emblem, On an Air Force golden yellow disc edged Air Force blue, a guy caricatured brown kangaroo affront in boxing stance, wearing a red and white turtle neck sweater and Air Force blue boxing gloves, teeth, eyeballs, and small wings on bools white, tongue red; protruding front its pouch, the head and shoulders of a helmeted airman with armaments and other equipment, Air Force blue, details white; outlines and details Air Force blue throughout. MOTTO: On a white scroll edged and inscribed Air Force blue, BOP, DROP, HOP. **SIGNIFICANCE:** The proverbial fighting kangaroo is symbolic of the squadron's function as

it portrays the zeal of each member to serve his country. The motto describes the primary mission of swift aerial delivery of equipment, supplies and troops to the combat zone.(Approved, 1959)





336 Air Refueling Squadron emblem: The vintage aircraft represents the first successful attempt at in-flight refueling. This was accomplished over southern California in 1929 by the crew of the "question mark" and symbolizes the 336 AREFS distinction as the first AFRES ARS as well as its association with March Field and Southern CA. (Approved, 29 Jul 1996; modified, 28 May 1997)

Argent, a barrulet Or; between two vintage aircraft in bend refueling Sable and in base six pallets Gules; all within a diminished bordure Azure. Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "336TH AIR REFUELING SQ" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed THE FIRST AND THE FINEST in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The emblem of white with blue and red stripes suggests the flag of the United States and reflects the pride of the unit in supporting the Air Force mission to defend the peace. The vintage aircraft symbolize the squadron's current mission function and reflect its past as a transport unit. (Approved, 28 May 1997)

MOTTO

First and Finest

OPERATIONS

Operational training, Feb-Mar 1943; replacement training, Apr 1943-Mar 1944. Transported U.S. Army troops and cargo, provided aerial resupply, and dropped paratroopers within the U.S., May 1951-Jan 1953 and performed similar duties worldwide, Apr 1953-Jun 1976.



336 MAS loadmasters practicing emergency evacuation chute slide techniques shortly after mobilization, 1968.

Performed aerial refueling worldwide, 1977.

The first Air Force Reserve unit to convert to the tanker mission were the 452d Tactical Airlift Wing and its 336 Squadron. The honor fell to them by geographic and programming accident. Believing that further upkeep and maintenance of the old station would be too costly, the Air Force decided to close Hamilton AFB and move the 452d farther south in California to March AFB. Since General Lyon wanted the converting Air Force Reserve units to be collocated with Strategic Air Command units to take advantage of their experience, support, and, where necessary, facilities, the 452d and the 336 acquired the tanker mission by virtue of their move to March AFB, home of Strategic Air Command units.

Participated in blue chip deployment to Bangor ME. 1987

Supported Texas ANG during Patriot Moose exercise which was held at Elmendorf AFB, AK from 30 Jul through 13 Aug 89.

Officially activated for Operation Desert Storm, 16 Dec 1990.

Activated for Desert Shield 1 Jan. 1991

1991 336 AREFS deployed to RAF, Mildenhall, United Kingdom.

Aided in the Hurricane Andrew disaster. 1991

Crew R-106 flew their KC-135 into Iraqi air space to refuel 4 F-16 19 Jan. 1991

Became first air force reserve tanker unit to have rollers installed for cargo support in Apr 1994

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.