

438 FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

438 Fighter Squadron constituted, 12 Feb 1943

Activated, 20 Feb 1943

Disbanded, 1 May 1944

Reconstituted and redesignated 438 Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 11 Feb 1953

Activated, 27 Apr 1953

Inactivated, 30 September 1968

STATIONS

Ft Myers, FL, 20 Feb 1943-1 May 1944

Kinross AFB, MI, 27 Apr 1953

Kinross AFB, MI (later Kincheloe AFB, MI) 1953-Aug 1968

Griffiss AFB, NY Aug 1968-30 Sep 1968

ASSIGNMENTS

53 Fighter Group, 20 Feb 1943-1 May 1944

534 Air Defense Group, 27 Apr 1953

507 Fighter 18 Aug 1955

507 Fighter Wing, 1 Feb 1961

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-39, 1943

P-47, 1943-1944

F-94, 1953

F-89, 1953-1957

F-102, 1957-1960
F-106, 1960

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers
American Theater

Campaign Streamers

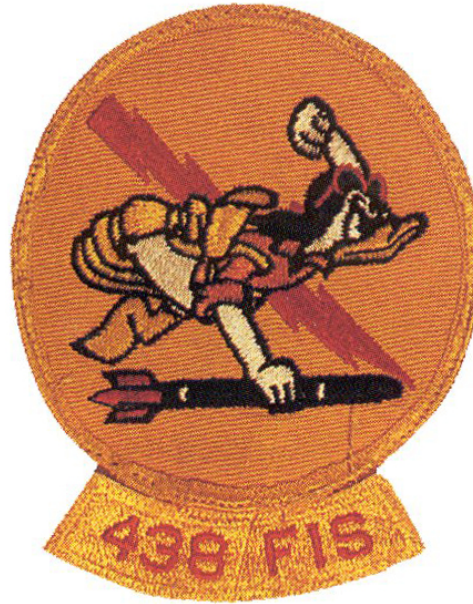
Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



438 Fighter Squadron emblem: On a yellow disc, DONALD DUCK proper, wearing flight jacket and aviator's helmet brown, goggles red brown, parachute tan, banded yellow, with look of ferocity of face, while running at top speed, holding a blue gray machine gun in the right hand, with cartridge belt streaming to rear, and waving clenched left fist over head, all in front of a red lightning bolt bendwise, and emitting green speed lines to rear. (Approved, 16 Feb 1944)



438 Fighter Interceptor Squadron patches

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The last of the Air Defense Command squadrons to be activated and assigned the F-94B was the 438 Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Kinchloe AFB, (nee Kinross) near Sault Saint Marie, MI. The 438 FIS was reconstituted and redesignated as such on February 11, 1953 after being deactivated for nine years. They reactivated on April 27 and were assigned to the 534th Air Division. They commenced receiving their first F-94Bs in July, all of them having been turned over to the 438 FIS from other ADC squadrons. The following Spring they in turn gave their F-94Bs to the Air National Guard and switched to F-89Ds. The 49 FIS took over the resources of the 438 FIS in 1968

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 3 Nov 2011

Updated: 10 Mar 2024

Sources

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

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