

## 475<sup>th</sup> AIR BASE WING



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

475<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing established, 10 Aug 1948

Activated, 18 Aug 1948

Inactivated, 1 Apr 1949

Redesignated 475<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Wing and activated, 21 Dec 1967

Organized, 15 Jan 1968

Inactivated, 15 Mar 1971

Redesignated 475<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing, 20 Oct 1971

Activated, 1 Nov 1971

#### STATIONS

Itazuke Afd, Japan, 18 Aug 1948

Ashiya Afd, Japan, 25 Mar-1 Apr 1949

Misawa AB, Japan, 15 Jan 1968-15 Mar 1971

Yokota AB, Japan, 1 Nov 1971

#### ASSIGNMENTS

315<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 18 Aug 1948-1 Apr 1949

Pacific Air Forces, 21 Dec 1967

Fifth Air Force, 15 Jan 1968-15 Mar 1971

Fifth Air Force, 1 Nov 1971

#### WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-51, 1948-1949

F-100, 1968

F-4, 1968-1971

RF-4, 1970-1971

C-130, 1971-1972

C-123, 1971-1976

### **COMMANDERS**

Col John M. Price, 18 Aug 1948

Unkn, 25 Mar-1 Apr 1949

None (not manned), 21 Dec 1967-14 Jan 1968

Col Oliver B. Bucher, Jr., 15 Jan 1968

Col Vernon J. Henderson, 15 Jun 1968

Col William R. Eichelberger, 27 Jul 1970

Col Abner M. Aust, Jr., 8-15 Mar 1971

Col Harry H. Elmendorf, 1 Nov 1971

Col Nicholas Arabinko, 5 Nov 1971

Col John W. Grow, Jr., 25 Jan 1972

Col Robert H. Lee, 14 Jun 1972

Col John W. Grow, Jr., 28 Jun 1972

Col Robert H. Lee, 8 Sep 1972

Col John W. Grow, Jr., 30 Sep 1972

Col John C. Reed, 1 Dec 1972

Col Mathias J. Martin, 24 Oct 1975

Col Sharman R. Stevenson, 11 Nov 1975

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

None

#### **Campaign Streamers**

None

#### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Apr 1973-31 Mar 1975

### **EMBLEM**



475<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Wing emblem: Per fess dancette of four azure and light blue, in chief a double end wrench fesswise or, surmounted overall by a pair of dividers expanded argent between a mullet of the like and in base two wings conjoined in lure elevated of the third between a sphere of the first with longitude and latitude lines of the second and all within a diminished bordure or. (Approved, 29 Jul 1974)

#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Provided air defense in Japan, 1948-1949.

Replaced the 39th Air Division at Misawa AB, Japan, in Jan 1968 and trained for offensive and reconnaissance operations, 1968-1971.

The wing maintained forward operating locations at Kunsan, South Korea (Jan 1968-Mar and Taegu, South Korea (Jul 1968-Apr 1970), and maintained squadrons or segments thereof at each location, with periodic rotation back to Misawa. A major earthquake on 16 May 1968 caused over \$1 million damage to Misawa facilities.

Phased down at Misawa in early 1971 and inactivated on 15 Mar, all resources moving to Kunsan AB, South Korea, for the 3d Tactical Fighter Wing. Replaced the 6100th Air Base Wing at Yokota AB, Japan, on 1 Nov 1971 and inherited a huge support complex, with some 47 installations in all parts of Japan, including Yokota and Tachikawa Air Bases, Puchu and Chitose Air Stations, and numerous family housing complexes in the Tokyo area.

Briefly controlled a C-130 airborne communications reconnaissance squadron (Nov 1971-Jun and a Royal Thailand Air Force C-123 detachment (Nov 1971-Jul 1976). The Thai detachment provided

airlift support to the United Nations Command (Rear).

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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