

## 96 AIR REFUELING SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

6 Reconnaissance Squadron (Medium) constituted, 20 Nov 1940  
Activated, 15 Jan 1941  
Redesignated 396 Bombardment Squadron (Medium), 22 Apr 1942  
Redesignated 396 Bombardment Squadron, Medium, 9 May 1943  
Inactivated, 27 Jan 1946

96 Air Refueling Squadron, Medium constituted, 6 Nov 1953  
Activated, 18 Nov 1953  
Redesignated 96 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy, 8 Mar 1958  
Discontinued, 1 Oct 1960  
Organized, 15 Dec 1960  
Discontinued and inactivated, 25 Jun 1965

396 Bombardment Squadron, Medium and 96 Air Refueling Squadron, Heavy consolidated, 19 Sep 1985

Redesignated 96 Air Refueling Squadron and activated, 1 Apr 1994  
Inactivated  
Activated  
Inactivated

### STATIONS

March Field, CA, 15 Jan 1941  
Tucson, AZ, 16 May 1941  
Muroc, CA, 8 Dec 1941  
Sacramento, CA, 11 Jan 1942 (operated from Alameda, CA, Apr–10 May 1942; a detachment of

the air echelon operated from Cherry Point, NC, Jun–Aug 1942)  
Hammer Field, CA, 24 Aug 1942 (stationed temporarily at Alameda, CA, 1 Dec 1942–Feb 1943  
Sacramento, CA, 17 Feb–29 Sep 1943)  
Hickam Field, TH, 20 Oct 1943  
Tarawa, 24 Dec 1943  
Makin, 20 Apr 1944  
Wheeler Field, TH, 14 Oct 1944–20 May 1945  
Okinawa, 7 Jun 1945  
Manila, Luzon, Dec 1945–27 Jan 1946  
Altus AFB, OK, 18 Nov 1953–1 Oct 1960  
Altus AFB, OK, 15 Dec 1960–25 Jun 1965  
Fairchild AFB, WA, 1 Apr 1994

### **DEPLOYED STATIONS**

Ernest Harmon AFB, Newfoundland, 5 Oct–20 Nov 1954  
Thule AFB, Greenland, 1 Aug–14 Sep 1955 and 18–31 Jan 1956  
Elmendorf AFB, AK and Andersen AFB, Guam [split deployment], 25 Jun–9 Oct 1956

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

41 Bombardment Group 25 Feb 1942–27 Jan 1946  
96 Bombardment Wing, 18 Nov 1953  
11 Bombardment Wing, 3 Dec 1957–1 Oct 1960  
11 Bombardment (later, 11 Strategic Aerospace) Wing, 15 Dec 1960–25 Jun 1965  
453 Operations Group, 1 Apr 1994  
92 Operations Group, 1 Jul 1994

### **ATTACHMENTS**

41 Bombardment Group, attached 15 Jan 1941  
Northeast Air Command, 5 Oct–20 Nov 1954, 1 Aug–14 Sep 1955, 18–31 Jan 1956  
Alaskan Air Command and 303d Bomb Wing [split deployment], 25 Jun–9 Oct 1956  
98 Air Base Group, 10 Jan–7 Apr 1957

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

PT-17, 1941  
B-18, 1941–1942  
LB-30, 1941–1942  
A-29, 1941–1942  
B-25, 1942–1945  
KC-97, 1954  
KC-135A, 1958–1960  
KC-135R, 1960–1965

### **COMMANDERS**

Lt Col D. O. Monteigh, Jan 1941

Maj Alexander W. Bryant, 22 Aug 1942  
Cpt Wayne A. Hanson, 5 Feb 1943-Unkn  
Lt Col Ballard, Early 1945-Unkn  
Unkn, Late 1945-27 Jan 1946  
Unkn, 18 Nov-22 Dec 1953  
Maj Clark H. Gerry, 23 Dec 1953  
Lt Col Edward M. Wall, Aug 1954  
Lt Col William R. Cronin, 5 Apr 1956  
2Lt Stephen G. W. Beck Von Peccoz, 15 Jan 1958  
Lt Col Homer C. Bell, Feb 1958  
Maj Paul F. Austin, May 1958  
Lt Col Homer C. Bell, Aug 1958-1 Oct 1960  
Lt Col Homer C. Bell, 15 Dec 1960  
Lt Col Evert C. Sunderman, Apr 1961  
Lt Col Ewell Martin, Jul 1962  
Lt Col Oliver W. Lewis, Sep 1963  
Lt Col Marvin E. Carver, Jan 1964-25 Jun 1965  
Unkn, 1 Apr-30 Jun 1994  
Lt Col Frederick L. Jaklitsch, 1 Jul 1994  
Lt Col Dale G. Cook, 20 Feb 1996  
Lt Col Kimberly D. Olsen, 2 Jun 1997  
Lt Col Kurt A. Tempel, 18 Jun 1999  
Lt Col David B. Horton, 15 Jun 2001  
Lt Col Frederick Koennecke, 2 Jun 2003-31 Mar 2005  
Lt Col Brian Hill 23 Jul 2010  
Lt Col Jason Work

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II  
Antisubmarine, American Theater  
Air Offensive, Japan  
Eastern Mandates  
Western Pacific  
Ryukyus  
China Offensive

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

#### **Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation  
Japan, 4 Apr-14 Jul 1945

#### Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

6 Aug 1954–15 Jul 1957

27 Oct 1958–16 Sep 1960

1 Jul 1995–30 Jun 1997

1 Jan 1998–30 Jun 1999

1 Jun 2001–31 May 2003

#### Meritorious Unit Award

1 Jun 2003–31 Mar 2005

#### **EMBLEM**



Argent an eagle descending Sable, tail and head of the first beak and feet Or grasping in dexter talons an olive branch Vert and in sinister talons a sheaf of three arrows Yellow; all within a diminished bordure of the fourth. (Approved, 19 Jun 1956; modified, 9 Dec 1994)

#### **MOTTO**

UBIQUE—Everywhere

#### **OPERATIONS**

Antisubmarine patrols, Dec 1941–Aug 1942; Dec 1942–Feb 1943. Combat in Central Pacific, 19 Jan–23 Sep 1944, and Western Pacific, 9 Jul–12 Aug 1945.

Air refueling to meet global commitments, Jul 1954–Oct 1960 and Dec 1960–Jun 1965.

On 15 Jul 54, the 96 AREFS flew its first maximum effort mission. On 31 Jul 54, the squadron became combat ready.

The 96 AREFS began a forty-five day rotation to Ernest Harmon AFB, Newfoundland. 1954

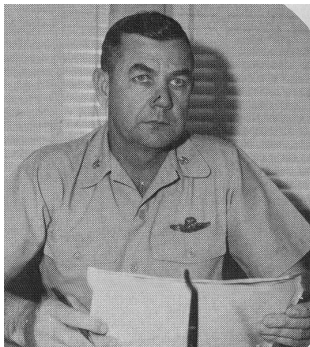
96 AREFS participated in 8 Air Force test of radar controlled formation breakup, penetration and approach. 1954

Aircraft assigned to the 96 AREFS tested Wright Patterson AFB radar approach control facilities on 15 Dec 54.

On 9 Jun 55, two 96 AREFS crews took part in Meadowlark, a survival and rescue training project in cooperation with 8 Air Rescue Group.

On 1 Feb 55, Operation Open-mind, requiring the 96 AREFS to maintain six combat ready crews on 24 hour alert to refuel six B-47s, went into effect.

1961 first inflight reverse air refueling conducted between B-47 of 4347 combat crew training wing and KC-135 of 96 AREFS. Reverse air refueling was conducted under emergency conditions.



Lt Col Marvin E. Carver

Friday December 14, 2010 The recently activated 96 Air Refueling Squadron at JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, has completed its first operational mission. Airmen of this active duty KC-135 tanker unit were crewmembers aboard a tanker that refueled a B-52H bomber Tuesday over the Pacific Ocean. Also aboard were members of the Hawaii Air National Guard's 203rd ARS. The 96 ARS is teamed with the 203rd ARS and the Air Guard's 154th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron under an active association at Hickam to operate KC-135s owned by the Hawaii ANG. During Tuesday's mission, the Hickam KC-135 flew in a two-ship formation with an Iowa ANG KC-135 to refuel two B-52s en route to Guam. 2010

The Active Duty 96 Air Refueling Squadron at JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, inactivated as an associate unit to the Hawaii Air National Guard's 203rd ARS in a ceremony Sept. 3. The squadron activated to augment KC-135 manning to meet increased tanker requirements in the Pacific region, forming an active association in 2010. Unit airmen took part in operations Inherent Resolve over Iraq and Syria among other operations, flying some 1,800 sorties over 6,500 flying hours, and providing more than 36 million pounds of fuel to US and partner-nation aircraft.2015

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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.

Unit yearbook. *11<sup>th</sup> Strategic Aerospace Wing. Altus AFB, OK, 1964*. Army and Navy Publishing Co., Inc. Baton Rouge, LA. 1964.