

ANG Thunderjets in Korea

The 136th Fighter-Bomber Wing was a federalized Air National Guard unit with component squadrons from Texas (111th and 182nd Fighter-Bomber Squadrons) and Arkansas (154th FBS). It began arriving at Itazuke AB, Japan, in May of 1951 to replace the 27th Fighter-Escort Wing, the unit which introduced the Thunderjet into combat in December, 1950. The 136th inherited the 27th FEW's F-84Es, including FS-360, but later flew the F-84D and F-84G in combat as well. The 154th FBS flew the Wing's first combat

mission on 27 May 1951. In October, the 136th moved to Taegu (K-2), Korea, where it flew mainly ground attack missions.

A second federalized Air Guard F-84 unit, the 116th FBW, began arriving at Misawa AB, Japan, in July of 1951, with the 158th (Georgia), 159th (Florida), and 196th (California) FB Squadrons. It was tasked with the air defense of northern Japan and with reinforcing the Korea-based F-84 squadrons. Every month, the 116th sent one of its squadrons to Taegu and another

squadron to Chitose AB, Japan, to stand air defense alert duty.

The Air Guard Thunderjet units joined with other FEAF units in Operation Strangle, a large-scale interdiction campaign north of the 38th Parallel against the North Korean and Chinese Armies. Six Air Guard F-84 pilots shared in the destruction of four MiG-15s during 1951. In 1952, the 136th FBW was singled out as the outstanding fighter-bomber unit in Korea. The Guard also pioneered in the combat use of in-flight refueling.

Several 116th FBW jets were modified under Project Hi-Tide with IFR probes added to each tip tank. Air-refueled strike missions were flown to the Korean front from Misawa, proving the concept used routinely thirteen years later in Southeast Asia.

In July 1952, both Air Guard wings were replaced by Regular Air Force units, the 58th and 474th FBWs, who took over the Guard Thunderjets at Taegu.

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MSAF

Left main wheel well decal placement



Left main gear doors decal placement

196th FBS, 116th FBW, 5th AF Misawa AB, Japan June, 1952

highly polished inlet section

Use the enclosed squadron patches on a display base or put them on a coffee mug!

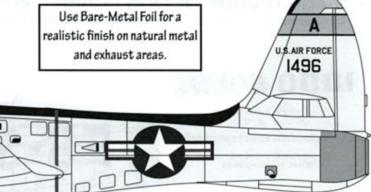
Note: Use the keyed dashes on the number decals for proper alignment and placement.

U.S. AIR FORCE F-84E-25-RE A.F. SERIAL NO. 51-49GA



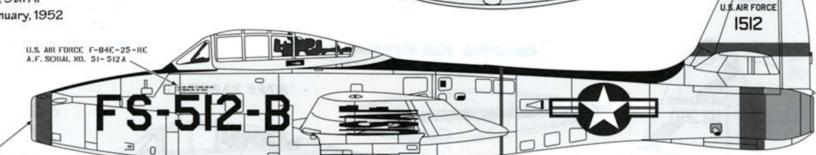
F-84E slotted speed brake

FEAF Thunderjets were Natural Metal with Olive Drab (FS 34087) antiglare panels on the upper fuselage fore and aft of the cockpit. National insignias were applied to the fuselage sides, above the left wing, and below the right wing. Non-standard national insignia with the "skinny" red bars provided on this decal sheet were carried by almost all the F-84s in Korea. Buzz numbers containing the "last three" of the aircraft serial number, often with a suffix letter, were applied to both sides of the nose.



Republic F-84E-25-RE Thunderjet 51-496

Republic F-84E-25-RE Thunderjet 51-512 159th FBS, 116th FBW, 5th AF Misawa AB, Japan January, 1952



highly polished inlet leading edge



IFR probe (left and right tanks)

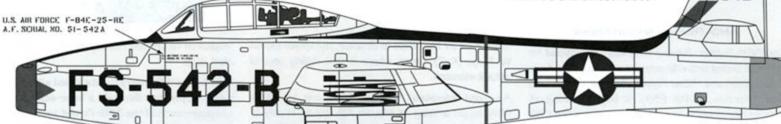
Republic F-84E-25-RE Thunderjet 51-542 111th FBS, 136th FBW, 5th AF Taegu (K-2), Korea January, 1952

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111th FBS emblem both sides





111th FBS, medium blue markings

Paint tank fin blue

Made in USA

Gray dielectric fin cap

(approximately FS 36628)

1542