

50 years of F-4E in Turkish Air Force service



The Turkish Air Force organised a two day event celebrating 50 years of operating its F-4E Phantom II in November 2024.

In total 5195 Phantoms in several versions were built by McDonnell Douglas, USA (5057) and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI), Japan (138). The Phantom was operated by 12 countries. The Turkish Air Force operated the F-4E and RF-4E reconnaissance. The first batches were direct purchases in the United States. These were followed by deliveries of F-4Es (80 divided in 40 ex USAF and 40 ex Air National Guard) as well as 32 RF-4E bought from the German Air Force.

Two squadrons still fly the 50 year old Phantom. Both are based