

28th PHOTOGRAPHIC RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON

LINEAGE

28th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron constituted, 5 Feb 1943
Redesignated 28th Photographic Squadron (Light), 6 Feb 1943
Activated, 1 May 1943
Redesignated 28th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, 11 Aug 1943
Inactivated, 29 May 1946

STATIONS

Peterson Field, CO, 1 May 1943
Will Rogers Field, OK, 13 Oct 1943-1 Jan 1944
Kipapa Airfield, TH, 16 Jan 1944 (detachments operated from Kwajalein, 30 Jun-24 Sep 1944
Saipan, 11 Jul 1944-May 1945; Peleliu, 5 Oct 1944-Apr 1945)
Kualoa Airfield, TH, 9 Oct 1944 (detachment operated from Okinawa, 23 Apr-8 May 1945)
Okinawa, 8 May 1945-29 May 1946 (detachment operated from Ie Shima, 14 May-21 Jun 1945)

ASSIGNMENTS

7th Photographic (later Photographic Reconnaissance and Mapping) Group, 1 May 1943
Third Air Force Photographic Unit Training Center (attached to 2nd Photographic Reconnaissance and
Mapping Group), 21 Jun 1943
III Reconnaissance Command, 15 Aug 1943
89th Reconnaissance Training Wing, 27 Sep 1943
Seventh Air Force, c. 16 Jan 1944
VI Air Service Area Command (attached to VII Fighter Command), 12 Dec 1944
Seventh Air Force, 23 Apr 1945
Eighth Air Force, 31 Aug 1945
316th Bombardment Wing, 15-29 May 1946

ATTACHMENTS

9th Photographic Reconnaissance Group, 16 Nov 1943
VII Fighter Command, 24 Jan 1944

WEAPON SYSTEMS

F-5, 1943-1946
P-38 F-4, 1943
A-24, 1944

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS

ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES

UNIT COLORS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

None

Campaign Streamers

Eastern Mandates

Western Pacific

Ryukyus

Air Offensive, Japan

China Offensive

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

None

EMBLEM

Over and through a light pastel blue disc, border black, a caricatured red wolf holding and focusing a black aerial camera, while riding a light gray winged comet, leaving curved yellow speed trail toward sinister chief, and diving toward small yellow sphere marked with blue land indications in sinister base, breaking through rim of disc, all between a yellow star and decrescent moon in dexter chief and a star of like color in sinister base. (Approved, 2 Aug 1944)

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Combat in Central and Western Pacific, 4 Jul 1944-Aug 1945.

Another of the Seventh's squadrons (also with its home base in Hawaii as was the 6th NFS's) also got into the war at Saipan. This was the 28th Photo Recon Squadron, which sent a detachment of F-5 recon planes forward to Kwajalein on 30 June 1944 and another to Saipan on 11 July.

28th Photo Recon Squadron joined the Seventh Air Force in mid-January 1944, being stationed at Kipapa Airfield, Hawaii and equipped with Lockheed F-5B aircraft. In June and July it sent detachments forward to Kwajalein and Saipan, and the F-5s subsequently made photo runs over most of the targets in the Pacific Ocean Area, gathering target information and, after raids were carried out, taking damage assessment photos. In May 1945, the Squadron was brought together on Okinawa and operated from there.

When 28th PRS planes entered combat they were in natural metal finish. Unit markings consisted of an aircraft code, Al and up, in black on the outer coolant radiator housing, a black band on the rear portion of the spinner, and the squadron insignia (a caricatured red wolf holding a camera and riding a winged comet) on the outer sides of the engine nacelles. By the time the unit was all together again on Okinawa, it appears that the aircraft code had been dispensed with and that the vertical fins and outer horizontal fins were painted black with a white diamond on the outer fins in which a black aircraft letter was placed.

431220	P-40N	42-104844	28PFS	3PFG		CRT	Han, K C	Ertang AF
450326	F-5E	44-23723	28PRS	8PRG		KCR	Cadwell, L E	Kualoa/ 1/2mi offshore
440527	F-5B	42-68280	28PRS			KCR	Bratachi, Ronald W	Kilauea AF
440920	A-24B	42-54529	28PRS			GL	Hanke, Warren B	Kipapa Fid
450604	F-5B	42-68218	28PRS			BOEFW	Taylor, Edward H	Okinawa/ S
450624	F-5E	43-28957	28PRS			LAC	Bozarth, Harold H	Yontan AF
451116	F-5E	43-29022	28PRS			KCRTEF	Paramore, Wallace E	Yontan AF/ 1/2mi N
431201	AT-20	43-8183	28PRSq	7PRGp	Will Rogers Field, OK	TACGL	Shipp, Karl C	Jet AAF, Jet, OK
431118	F-4	41-2179	28PRSq	9PRGp	Will Rogers Field, OK	KCRGC	Warner, Robert E	5 Mi S Cimarron Field, OK

431215	F-5B	42-67385	28PRSq	9PRGp	Will Rogers Field, OK	GAC	Deutch, Monroe (NMI)	Will Rogers Field, OK
431215	F-5B	42-67558	28PRSq	9PRGp	Will Rogers Field, OK	GAC	(parked aircraft)	Will Rogers Field, OK

Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources