

67th TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE GROUP

LINEAGE

67th Observation Group constituted, 21 Aug 1941
Activated, 1 Sep 1941
Redesignated 67th Reconnaissance Group, May 1943
Redesignated 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Nov 1943
Redesignated 67th Reconnaissance Group, Jun 1945
Inactivated, 31 Mar 1946
Activated, 19 May 1947
Redesignated 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Jun 1948
Inactivated, 28 Mar 1949
Activated, 25 Feb 1951

STATIONS

Esler Field, LA, 1 Sep 1941
Charleston, SC, 23 Dec 1941
Esler Field, LA, Jan-Aug 1942
Membury, England, Sep 1942
Middle Wallop, England, Dec 1943
Le Molay, France, Jul 1944
Toussus le Noble, France, Aug 1944
Gosselies, Belgium, Sep 1944
Vogelsang, Germany, Mar 1945
Limburg an der Lahn, Germany, 2 Apr 1945
Eschwege, Germany, 10 Apr-Jul 1945
Drew Field, FL, c. 21 Sep 1945
MacDill Field, FL, Dec 1945
Langley Field, VA, 11 Feb 1946-31 Mar 1946
Shaw Field, SC, Feb-31 Mar 1946
Langley Field, VA, 19 May 1947
March Field, CA, 25 Jul 1947-28 Mar 1949
Komaki, Japan, 25 Feb 1951
Taegu, Korea, Mar 1951
Kimpo, Korea, Aug 1951

Itami, Japan, 1 Dec 1954

ASSIGNMENTS

Eighth

Ninth AF, Oct 1943

Far East Air Forces

Tactical Air Command

WEAPON SYSTEMS

P-38

P-51

F-5

RB-26

RF-80

RB-26

RF-51

RF-80

RF-86

RF-84

COMMANDERS

Unkn, Sep-Nov 1941

LTC Oliver H. Stout, c. 21 Nov 1941

Col Frederick R. Anderson, c. 4 May 1942

Col George W. Peck, 6 Dec 1943

LTC Richard S. Leghorn, n May 1945-unkn

Unkn, May-Jul 1947

Maj Edwin C. Larson, 25 Jul 1947

LTC Arvis L. Hilpert, 15 Aug 1947

Col Leon W. Gray, 16 Aug 1947

LTC Royal B. Allison, 20 Mar 1948

Col Horace A. Hanes, 22 Mar 1948

Col Loren G. McCollom, c. 16 Jan 1949-unkn

Col Jacob W. Dixon, c. 28 Feb 1951

LTC [?] Stone, c. 29 Aug 1951

Col Charles C. Andrews, Sep 1951

Col Robert R. Smith, May 1952

LTC George T. Prior, Oct 1952

Col John G. Foster, 1952-unkn

Col John C. Egan, c. 22 Oct 1953

LTC Hartwell C. Lancaster, 8 May 1954

Col Loren G. McCollom, 1 Jun 1954

Col Prescott M. Spicer, n Aug 1954

LTC Joseph C Smith, 24 Nov 1954-unkn

Col John W Baer, 31 Aug 1955

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

World War II

Antisubmarine, American Theater

Air Offensive, Europe

Normandy

Northern France

Rhineland

Ardennes-Alsace

Central Europe

Korean War

1st UN Counter-offensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1952

Third Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall, 1953

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Dec 1952-30 Apr 1953

Distinguished Unit Citations

Le Havre and Straits of Dover, 15 Feb-20 Mar 1944

Korea, 25 Feb-21 Apr 1951

Korea, 9 Jul-27 Nov 1951

Korea, 1 May-27 Jul 1953

Cited in the Order of the Day, Belgian Army

6 Jun-Sep 1944

16 Dec 1944-25 Jan 1945

Belgian Fourragere

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation

[Mar] 1951-Mar 1953

EMBLEM

Per bend sinister, sky proper (light blue) and azure between a lightning bolt gules, fimbriated sable,

in bend sinister, the quarter section of a sun, issuing from the dexter chief, or, fimbriated sable, in sinister four stars argent, one, two and one, all the shield within a diminutive border sable.

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

LUX EX TENEBRIS—Light from Darkness. (Approved 20 Mar 1952)

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Flew antisubmarine patrols along the east coast of the US after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Began training in Jan 1942 for duty overseas. Moved to the European theater, Aug-Oct 1942. Trained in England for more than a year before beginning operations in Dec 1943. to fly artillery-adjustment, weather-reconnaissance, bomb-damage assessment, photographic-reconnaissance, and visual-reconnaissance missions. Received a DUG for operations along the coast of France, 15 Feb-20 Mar 1944, when the group flew at low altitude in the face of intense flak to obtain photographs that aided the invasion of the Continent. Flew weather missions, made visual reconnaissance for ground forces, and photographed enemy positions to support the Normandy campaign and later to assist First Army and other Allied forces in the drive to Germany. Took part in the offensive against the Siegfried Line, Sep-Dec 1944, and in the Battle of the Bulge, Dec 1944-Jan 1945. From Jan to May 1945, photographed dams on the Roer River in preparation for the ground offensive to cross the river, and aided the Allied assault across the Rhine and into Germany. Returned to the US, Jul-Sep 1945. Inactivated on 31 Mar 1946.

Moved to Korea in Mar 1951 and served in the Korean War until the armistice. Made photographic reconnaissance of front lines, enemy positions, and installations; took pre-strike and bomb-damage assessment photographs; made visual reconnaissance of enemy artillery and naval gun positions; and flew weather missions. Received an AFOUA for the period 1 Dec 1952-30 Apr 1953 when, in the face of enemy opposition and adverse weather, the group performed reconnaissance missions on a 24-hour-a-day, y-day-a-week basis to provide valuable intelligence for UN forces. Returned to Japan, Nov-Dec 1954.

The 67th TRG activated on February 25, 1951, with resources from the inactivated 543d Tactical Support Group. The 12th and 15th TRSs replaced and absorbed the resources of the 162d and 8th Squadrons respectively. On a recurring basis, the group provided photographic coverage of all enemy airfields in Korea, as mandated by the FEAF policy of keeping enemy airfields unserviceable. It also flew large-scale frontline block coverage photography for the Eighth Army and provided surveillance for the interdiction of main enemy rail lines, roads, and bridges. New technology permitted it to reconnoiter targets between fighter-bomber attacks, interpret wet negatives, and flash the results and flak locations to the Joint Operations Center in time to assist missions later in the day. During 1951, the 45th TRS routinely flew armed reconnaissance with RF-5 Is, leading fighter sweeps and directing fighter-bomber strikes. The 67th TRG earned three Distinguished Unit Citations (DUCs). The first was for the period February April 1951 when the tactical squadrons provided intensive medium- to low-level surveillance of enemy territory as far north as the Yalu River. In conjunction with these missions, the 45th TRS conducted 1,886 fighter sweep sorties,

attacking railways, pack animals, roads, vehicles, bridges, and supply dumps. The second DUC recognized contributions to the UN Summer-Fall Offensive, July November 1951, with the 12th TRS conducting night operations in RB 26s, and the 15th TRS in RF 80s sharing daytime coverage with the 45th TRS. The aircrews flew around-the-clock photo surveillance of enemy activities and provided artillery and naval gun fire direction. The group earned its third DUC during the war's final campaign. Flying continuous close surveillance of enemy activities, the group provided photographic intelligence, visual reconnaissance, and direction of fighter-bomber sweeps to prevent the enemy an opportunity for a last-minute offensive before implementation of the armistice.