

232nd OPERATIONS SQUADRON



MISSION

232nd Operations Squadron is a multi-phase program with phase one operating, instructing, and maintaining Predator unmanned aircraft systems to prepare Nevada Guardsmen for federal missions.

Phase two of the integration effort is to provide a formable presence in the Adversary Tactics Group. The ATG provides a unified and coordinated "Red Force" ready to combat the United States' and its coalition partners during training exercises and deployments. The 57th ATG also provides intelligence support and standardization and evaluation oversight to Nellis Air Force Base operational, test, and training units, as well as air traffic control, airspace and airfield management, and base weather services. Future initiatives will bring the strength of the Air National Guard and its people to all these missions.

The 232nd plays a vital role in combat operations, operational testing and advanced training for the Air Force and the Air National Guard. The 232nd Operations Squadron includes operations, intelligence and maintenance elements that all combine to support remote-piloted aircraft and manned fighter aircraft. They work seamlessly with several active duty units and have taken on more numerous and visible roles within the active duty structure in southern Nevada. At Creech Air Force Base north of Las Vegas, the active-duty Air Force's 432nd Wing continued to expand its MQ-1 and MQ-9 combat air patrol missions at an exponential rate while working closely with the Nevada Air Guard, the Air Force Reserves and the British Royal Air Force. The experience level and reputation of the 232nd High Rollers is reflected by the key positions held by its Airmen within each of the 10 air combat command squadrons associated with unmanned operations. Nevada pilots, sensor operators, intelligence specialists and maintainers fill many key positions including those of commander, director of operations, assistant director of operations and several shop chiefs and supervisors. In fact, the 432nd recently selected a Nevada Guard member to command the 30th Reconnaissance Squadron which flies the Air

Force's newest and most advanced remote-piloted aircraft. Another active duty squadron at Creech is responsible for training hundreds of initial, senior officer, launch and recovery, instructor-upgrade, and U.S.-allied Predator crews each year. Many Nevada Guard pilots work with that unit, using their acumen to strengthen the training experience. The 232nd also holds key positions within the RPA testing community and is rapidly expanding that role as its long-time operators' corporate knowledge provides necessary operational test and tactics development to the U.S. Air Force's Warfare Center. Nearly 50 percent of the 232nd is employed in the maintenance field. These Airmen support, test and conduct training missions in the MQ-1 and MQ-9 at Creech and, like their operational counterparts, train Guardsmen from other states. Aside from flying and maintaining, the unit's intelligence flight augments numerous combat squadrons at Creech. The flight's sensor operators and mission intelligence coordinator teams worked thousands of combat support hours during the biennium assisting ground troops in multiple theaters. In addition to its RPA, the 232nd also provides support to fighter operations at the warfare center. The squadron's Airmen act as advisors to the USAFWC commander and his staff.

LINEAGE

232nd Operations Squadron

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a disc per fess Azure and Tenné (Gold Brown), a five-pointed sun Or, issuant from a fesswise mountain range Braun, snow capped Argent and in base three horses in full gallop to sinister of the like, detailed Sable; all within a narrow border Blue. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "BATTLE BORN" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "232D OPERATIONS SQUADRON" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The sun represents emerging missions. The sun rays denote the core values of the Air Force: Integrity First, Service Before

Self, and Excellence in All We Do, as well as the Air National Guard commitment to the core values of Citizen Soldier Heritage and Strength of Our Diverse Family. The mountains depict stability and the solid relationship with the communities which the Air National Guard serves. The three horses represent the close family bond between the Active Duty Air Force, Army National Guard, and Air Force Reserves, as well as their commitment to Total Force Integration. The unit adopted the State motto of Nevada, "BATTLE BORN" and is reminiscent of September 11th, 2001.

MOTTO

BATTLE BORN

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.