

# **432<sup>nd</sup> TACTICAL RECONNAISSANCE GROUP**

## **MISSION**

### **LINEAGE**

432<sup>nd</sup> Observation Group constituted, 18 Feb 1943  
Activated, 22 Feb  
Redesignated 432<sup>nd</sup> Reconnaissance Group, Apr 1943  
Redesignated 432<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Reconnaissance Group, Aug 1943  
Disbanded, 1 Nov 1943  
Reconstituted, 14 Jan 1954  
Activated, 18 Mar 1954  
Inactivated

### **STATIONS**

Alachua AAFld, FL, 22 Feb 1943  
Keystone AAFld, FL, Mar-1 Nov 1943  
Shaw AFB, SC, 18 Mar 1954

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

AAF School of Applied Tactics

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-39  
L-3  
RF-80  
RF-84  
RB-26  
RB-57  
RB-66

### **COMMANDERS**

1LT Richard I. Purnell, 1 Mar 1943  
Cpt John J. Owen, Jr., 17 Mar 1943  
Cpt William C. Collins, 21 Mar 1943

Maj William B. Merrill, Jr., 23 Mar 1943  
LTC Eugene H. Rice, 18 Apr 1943-unkn  
Col Frank A. Sharp, 18 Mar 1954-unkn  
Col John G. Foster, 1955

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

Gules, a stylized owl, holding in his dexter claws two lightning bolts in saltire, all sable, detail of the field. (Approved, 2 Jun 1955)

## **MOTTO**

VICTORIA PER SCIENTIAM— Victory through Knowledge

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 10 Feb 2012

Updated:

### Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit yearbook. *Shaw AFB, SC, 1956*. Army and Navy Publishing Company of Louisiana. Baton Rouge, LA. 1956.