

## 70<sup>th</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

70<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Squadron (Interceptor) constituted, 14 Dec 1940

Activated, 1 Jan 1941

Redesignated 70<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 15 May 1942

Redesignated 70<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, Single Engine, 20 Aug 1943

Redesignated 70<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, Two Engine, 24 May 1944

Inactivated, 26 Dec 1945

Redesignated 70<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Squadron, 8 Sep 1975

Activated, 30 Sep 1975

Redesignated 70<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron, 1 Nov 1991

#### STATIONS

Hamilton Field, CA, 1 Jan 1941–12 Jan 1942

Fiji, 29 Jan 1942 (operated from Guadalcanal, 21 Dec 1942–Apr 1943)

Guadalcanal, 6 Apr 1943

New Georgia, 18 Oct 1943

Sansapor, New Guinea, 23 Aug 1944 (operated from Morotai, 9 Nov 1944–16 Jan 1945)

Lingayen, Luzon, 19 Jan 1945

San Jose, Mindoro, 26 Feb 1945

Zamboanga, Mindanao, 4 May 1945

Puerto Princesa, Palawan, 10 Nov–26 Dec 1945

Moody AFB, GA, 30 Sep 1975

#### DEPLOYED STATIONS

Ramstein AB, Germany, 29 Aug–28 Sep 1989

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

35<sup>th</sup> Pursuit Group, 1 Jan 1941–15 Jan 1942

US Army Forces in Fiji, 28 Jan 1942

347<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, 3 Oct 1942

18th Fighter Group, 30 Mar 1943

347<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group, 1 Nov–26 Dec 1945

347<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Wing, 30 Sep 1975

347<sup>th</sup> Operations Group, 1 May 1991

### **ATTACHMENTS**

86<sup>th</sup> Tactical Fighter Wing, 29 Aug–28 Sep 1989

### **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-36, 1941

P-36A

P-39, 1942–1944

P-39A

P-39D

P-39K

P-40, 1943

P-40D

P-38, 1943–1945

RA-24, 1944

F-4, 1975–1987

F-16, 1987

F-16C

F-16D

A-10

### **COMMANDERS**

1Lt Henry Viccellio, #1941

### **HONORS**

#### **Service Streamers**

None

#### **Campaign Streamers**

World War II

China Defensive

Guadalcanal

New Guinea

Northern Solomons

Bismarck Archipelago  
Western Pacific  
Leyte; Luzon  
Southern Philippines  
Air Combat, Asiatic-Pacific Theater

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamer**

None

**Decorations**

Distinguished Unit Citation  
Philippine Islands, 10–11 Nov 1944

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jan 1977–30 Apr 1978

1 May 1978–31 May 1979

23 Feb 1991–22 Feb 1993

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation (WWII)

**EMBLEM**



On an Ultramarine Blue disc, border Yellow Orange, a knight in armor on the back of a White charger with Yellow Orange wings, galloping toward dexter, while holding a lance in the form of a large, jagged, Yellow Orange lightning flash. (Approved, 17 May 1945)

**MOTTO**

**NICKNAME**

White Knights

**OPERATIONS**

Air Defense of Fiji, Feb–Dec 1942. Combat in South and Southwest Pacific, 21 Dec 1942–21 Jul 1944, and 9 Sep 1944–9 Aug 1945.

To replace the 18th the 70th Squadron was organized from within the Group, with Captain H. B. Wright in command.

The Squadron Commanders of the 35th Pursuit Group are First Lieutenant William Lane, Jr., Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron; First Lieutenant Henry Viccellio, 70th Pursuit Squadron, and Lieutenant William E. Dyess, the 21st Squadron; Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Marett, the 34th Pursuit Squadron. First Lieutenant Herbert H. Ball is the Group Adjutant and is assisted by Second Lieutenant Carroll M. Mershon.

70 FS competed in Cooperative Zenith at Patrick AFB, FL, 9-20 May 96.

70 FS Deployed to Ahmed Al Jaber Ab, In support of OSW, 15 Sep-15 Dec 96.

70 Fighter Squadron deployed to Ahmed Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait, in support of operation Southern Watch 8 Dec 95 Through 21 Mar 96.

70 FS supported Exercise Hammer handle during deployment by flying 126 sorties.

Deployed aircraft and personnel to Southwest Asia, 10 Jan–16 Sep 1992.

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 15 Feb 2014

Updated:

**Sources**

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

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