

# 152<sup>nd</sup> FIGHTER SQUADRON



## LINEAGE

152<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron designated and allotted to NG, 21 Aug 1939  
Activated, 13 Oct 1939  
Ordered to active service, 25 Nov 1940  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron (Medium) 13 Jan 1942  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Observation Squadron, 4 Jul 1942  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron (Bombardment), 2 Apr 1943  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Reconnaissance Squadron (Fighter), 15 Jun 1943  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron, 11 Aug 1943  
Redesignated 37<sup>th</sup> Photographic Mapping Squadron, 9 Oct 1943  
Redesignated 37<sup>th</sup> Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, 29 Mar 1944  
Inactivated, 6 Nov 1945  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron, and allotted to ANG, 24 May 1946  
Activated as 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Bomber Squadron, 15 Sep 1948  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 1 Sep 1952  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Interceptor Squadron, 18 May 1956  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Fighter Training Squadron, Mar 1969  
Redesignated 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron

## STATIONS

Hillsgrove, RI, 13 Oct 1939  
Ft Devens, MA, 31 Jul 1941  
Reading AAFld, PA, 8 Jun 1943  
Camp Campbell AAFld, KY, 27 Jun 1943  
Esler Field, LA, 20 Nov 1943  
Muskogee AAFld, OK, 12 Apr-3 Oct 1943  
Naples, Italy, 18 Nov 1944

San Severo, Italy, 12 Dec 1944  
Bari, Italy, 8 Aug 1945  
Naples, Italy, 17 Sep-18 Oct 1945  
Camp Patrick Henry, VA, 6 Nov 1945  
Theodore Francis Green Airport, Warwick, RI  
Tucson, AZ

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Rhode Island NG, 13 Oct 1939  
First Corps Area, 25 Nov 1940  
VI Army Corps, 30 Dec 1940  
26<sup>th</sup> Observation (later Reconnaissance) Group, 1 Sep 1941  
73d Reconnaissance (later Tactical Reconnaissance) Group, 27 Jun 1943  
69th Tactical Reconnaissance Group, 9 Oct 1943  
II Tactical Air Division, 29 Mar 1944  
I (later III) Tactical Air Division, 12 Apr 1944  
5<sup>th</sup> Photographic (later Reconnaissance) Group, 15 Nov 1944-28 Oct 1945  
162<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

### **Mission Aircraft**

O-38B  
O-38E  
BC-1A  
O-47A  
O-52  
O-46  
O-49  
O-58  
O-9  
A-20  
B-25  
DB-7  
P-39  
P-38  
F-5  
F-47D  
F-51D  
F-51H  
F-84D, 1954  
F-86A, 1956  
F-84F, 1957  
F-100A, 1958  
F-100D, @1968  
F-102, 1968  
TF-102A

F-100C, 1969  
F-100F, 1970  
A-7D, 1975  
A-7K, 1981  
F-16C, 1986  
F-16D

#### **ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS**

P-51H

44-64197	44-64396	44-64491	44-64568	44-64597
44-64215	44-64407	44-64492	44-64571	44-64662
44-64223	44-64412	44-64540	44-64575	44-64672
44-64230	44-64418	44-64556	44-64593	
44-64372	44-64470	44-64562	44-64595	

F-100

531629

531639

XX1550

31531

525768

41741

563822

56315

XX897

F-100F, 56-3822

F-102, 56-0981

F-16

86236	90713	89135	90741	88156
85407	90715	89155	90790	88417
84384	90716	89156	90708	89002
84393	90720	89163	90726	89012
85406	87361	90785	88520	
85415	88173	89117	88427	
89091	89100	89123	87396	

#### **ASSIGNED AIRCRAFT TAIL/BASE CODES**

A-7: AZ

A-7K: AZ

F-16: AZ

#### **UNIT COLORS**

Red and yellow (Arizona flag)

The only distinguishing marking used by the 152nd TFTS on its camouflaged Huns was the state's name lettered in white on the vertical tail.

The 152nd flew F-100As in a natural metal finish from mid 1958 to 1961. Markings consisted of yellow alars on the fins that were trimmed in black. One leg of the alar was just over the tail number, and the other was parallel to the leading edge of the fin. The nose had a yellow band around it that was also edged in black. ARIZ AIR GUARD was lettered on each side of the forward fuselage. In 1961-62, all Air National Guard markings were removed and replaced by standard USAF/TAC markings.

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Paul L. Smith 13 Oct 1939-Dec 1941

LTC Ulay Littleton

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Antisubmarine, American Theater

North Apennines

Rhineland

Central Europe

Po Valley

Air Combat, EAME Theater

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

On a blue disc edged white, a caricatured animal having the head, shoulders, and forepaws of a black cat, the hind quarters of a jaguar orange with black markings, riding astride a jet-powered white rocket speeding to dexter chief, exhaust orange and red; the animal's head, incased in a pilot's helmet, black with white highlights and chin strap dangling, turned to look back over his left shoulder, his whiskers, eyeballs, paws, tip of tail and highlights white; his left forepaw swinging a white bucket trimmed red, holding orange paint, his right forepaw held behind him, applying orange paint to his back with a red-handled brush; outlines and details black throughout. (Approved, 26 Oct 1959)

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

Tigers

## **OPERATIONS**

In 1939, with war raging on both the European and Asian continents, President Roosevelt increased measures to prepare the Armed Forces for inevitable American involvement. The State of Rhode Island was allocated one of only two new observation squadrons authorized by Congress that year. The 152nd Observation Squadron was organized and less than one year later federalized for extended active duty. The training paid off. After American entry into World War II, the 152nd Observation Squadron immediately took up its primary mission of anti-submarine patrols along the Northeastern shipping lanes. In September 1944 the unit, now designated the 37th Photographic Reconnaissance Squadron, transferred overseas. Assigned to the 15th Air Force, squadron pilots flew Photo Reconnaissance missions in northern Italy, southern Germany and the Balkans until the end of the war in Europe in June of 1945.

In 1946 the unit was reassigned back to the State of Rhode Island and designated the 152nd Fighter Squadron, SE. In September 1948 the 152nd received Federal Recognition and was assigned to the Continental Air Command program which tasked Air National Guard units with the defense of United States airspace. Flying P-47 and later the P-51 the unit trained for this M-Day mission. The Air Force, in an effort to upgrade to an all jet fighter force, required Air National Guard ADC units to upgrade to jet powered aircraft, the F-84. This requirement ultimately proved to be the downfall of the 152nd. The Rhode Island Airport Commission and National Guard authorities found themselves in a conflict over the use of TF Green Municipal Airport in Warwick for tactical jet operations. Unable to resolve these differences the Air Force removed the jets from the state; quick negotiations and the National Guard Bureau's desire to have a flying unit located in every state brought a new mission and the numeric designation which is carried to this day, the 143d.

In early 1954, the squadron entered the jet age with the F-84D. Because the Rhode Island airport was not suitable for jets, the unit was officially transferred to, and federally recognized as a unit of the Arizona Air National Guard.

152 FIS, inactivated as a Rhode Island ANG unit on 19 Nov 1955.

On 15 May 1956, it became the 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Interceptor Squadron, and began flying the F-86A. The only commodity in abundance in Tucson at that time was dirt. Unit facilities were so scarce that activation ceremonies were conducted at the Army National Guard Armory. The Squadron consisted of tents, the old CARMA hangar, and a couple of out-houses. Making due was simply a way of life.

In Mar 1969 the squadron was redesignated the 152<sup>nd</sup> Tactical Fighter Training Squadron and chosen by the National Guard Bureau to become the first Tactical Fighter Training Unit in the Air National Guard. The squadron began training students for the first time in 1970, flying F-100F aircraft. During the 9-year period of F-100 training, the squadron graduated 1355 pilots and ground crews from the United States and several other countries.

In July of 1975, the squadron began yet another conversion, this time to the A-7D. The squadron began training A-7 students in Jan 1977, and for two years trained students in both the A-7 and F-100. A-7 training in basic, conversion and Fighter Weapons School courses continued until 1991, with the squadron training both Air Force and Air National Guard A-7 pilots.

The F-16 arrived at the unit in 1986 and 152nd F-16 training began in 1991. From 1993 until 1995, 152nd training was dedicated to the F-16A Fighter Weapons School. In 1995, the squadron transitioned to the newer F-16C which has improved avionics over the F-16A. Currently, the 152<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Squadron's primary mission is that of international training, to include students from Turkey and Bahrain.

Mountain Home Hosts Singaporean F-16 Student Pilots More than 30 Arizona Air National Guardsmen, five F-16s, and Singaporean student pilots from the 162nd Fighter Wing in Tucson visited Mountain Home AFB, Idaho, in August to help train Singaporeans in air-to-air combat maneuvers, according to a Mountain Home release. "Back home, it's very hard getting every student the required amount of flying hours, so we bring them up here and fly as red-versus-blue air forces," said Lt. Col. Julian Pacheco, Tucson's 152nd Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations. Tucson is home to Air Guard-led F-16 fighter pilot training. Another advantage of spending time at Mountain Home is the ability of the Singaporean F-16 pilots to train with the base's F-15s, including Singaporean F-15SGs flown by their countrymen who train at the Idaho air base, states the Aug. 27 release. "This is a huge benefit because it's their own countrymen they are training and fighting against, who fly a completely different aircraft," said Pacheco 2013

430319	O-52	40-2734FL-Lost Bush, Kelton G	Near Sherborn, MA
430612	O-52	40-2704KCRLoC Winburne, Marvin F	Into New York Harbor near Ft Wadsworth, NY
430804	P-39N	42-18899 TACMF	Parked Airplane Campbell AAF, KY
430804	P-39N	42-18818 TACMF	Pitts, Eugene P Campbell AAF, KY
430807	P-39D	41-7031LAC	Cohn, Carroll W Winston-Salem, NC
430915	P-39N	42-18882 LAC	Peterson, Robert M Key Field, MS
411221	O-52	40-2714TAC	Stewart, Robert D State Airport, Hillsgrove, RI
420221	O-52	40-2709TOAGL	Pett, Alexander I State Airport, Hillsgrove, RI
420428	L-1	40-278 LACF	Carter, Signey M Lincoln Park, RI
420530	O-52	40-2839TOAGL	Thomas, Earle R Fort Devens Airport, MA
420828	O-52	40-2708FLEF	Volkman, Clarence H Philadelphia Airport, PA
410521	O-38E	34-16 GMAC	Becker, August Pitchburg-Leominster Airport
410604	O-38E	34-14 LAC	Barrett, John F Lunenburg, MA
410818	O-47A	38-306 CRLoG	Barrett, John F Boston Harbor, E Boston, MA
410830	O-52	40-2705CRMAL	Wilkerson, Steven R Portland Airport, Portland, ME
411119	O-49	40-277 TOA (parked aircraft)	Knollwood Airport, Souther Pines, NC
411119	O-52	40-2711FLoGW	Tomlinson, Franklin E Pope Field, NC
411223	L-3C	42-459 FLEF	Kubach, Larenz F Fort Devens, MA
420421	O-52	40-2702KSSPCR	Booker, Robert W Fort Devens Airport, MA
420504	O-52	40-2713LACGL	Conklin, Howard E Fort Devens, MA
420610	O-52	40-2714TOANO	Volkman, Clarence H. Fort Devens, MA
450211	F-5E	44-24990 TAC	Farley, James J Gracie
450212	F-5E	44-24692 FLEFDF	Moore, Thomas J
450217	F-5E	44-23687 TAC	Miller, Loren W Gracie AF
450302	F-5E	44-24707 LAC	Howard, Clyde B Gracie
450505	F-5B	42-68198 CRDF	Martin, W T Lucera
440731	F-5C	42-67557 FLoG	Decker, Demon P Okmulgee Airport, Okmulgee, OK
511013	F-51H	44-64571 MACT	Hughes, Paul M. Narragansett Bay
500302	C-47A	42-24105 LACGLW	Gallant, Eugene G. Theodore F. Green APT
500324	F-47D	45-49475 KBOCRW	Thorsen, James G. 14 Mi WSW Tusayan
500731	F-51D	45-11358 LACGL	Eaton, Curtis A. Trumbull Field
501030	F-51D	44-73314 LACW	Hughes, Paul M. TF Green APT
501031	F-51D	44-73196 LAC	Cahill, George F. TF Green APT



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Air Force Order of Battle  
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.  
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.