

# 418<sup>th</sup> TACTICAL FIGHTER TRAINING SQUADRON



## MISSION

### LINEAGE

418<sup>th</sup> Night Fighter Squadron constituted, 17 Mar 1943

Activated, 1 Apr 1943

Inactivated, 20 Feb 1947

Redesignated 418<sup>th</sup> Fighter-Day Squadron, 6 Dec 1957

Activated, 10 Dec 1957

Inactivated, 1 Jul 1958

Reactivated as 418th Tactical Fighter Training Squadron on 15 October 1969

Inactivated on 1 October 1976

### STATIONS

Orlando, FL, 1 Apr 1943

Kissimmee AAFM, FL, 21 Aug-25 Sep 1943

Milne Bay, New Guinea, 2 Nov 1943

Dobodura, New Guinea, 22 Nov 1943

Finschhafen, New Guinea, 28 Mar 1944

Hollandia, New Guinea, 12 May 1944

Owi, Schouten Islands, 16 Sep 1944; Morotai, 5 Oct 1944 (ground echelon at Dulag, Leyte, 14-30 Nov 1944, and at San Jose, Mindoro, 15-26 Dec 1944)

San Jose, Mindoro, 26 Dec 1944

Okinawa, 9 Jul 1945

Atsugi, Japan, 6 Oct 1945

Okinawa, 7 Mar 1946-20 Feb 1947

Misawa, Japan, 10 Dec 1957

Clark AFB, Luzon, 25 Mar-1 Jul 1958

Luke AFB, Arizona, 15 October 1969 – 1 October 1976

### ASSIGNMENTS

Air Defense Department, AAF School of Applied Tactics, 1 Apr 1943  
V Fighter Command, c. 15 Nov 1943  
301<sup>st</sup> Bombardment Wing, 20 Mar 1946-20 Feb 1947  
39<sup>th</sup> Air Division, 10 Dec 1957  
Thirteenth Air Force, 25 Mar-1 Jul 1958  
58th Tactical Fighter Training Wing, 15 October 1969 – 1 October 1976

## **ATTACHMENTS**

481<sup>st</sup> Night Fighter Operational Training Group, 17 Jul-25 Sep 1943  
First Air Task Force, 22 Nov 1943  
308<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 1 Feb 1944  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, c. 15 May 1944  
Thirteenth Air Force, 10 Nov 1944  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 26 Dec 1944-30 Jan 1945  
308<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 9-c. 30 Jul 1945  
310<sup>th</sup> Bombardment Wing, 22 Oct-10 Nov 1945  
V Bomber Command, 10 Nov 1945-20 Mar 1946

## **WEAPON SYSTEMS**

P-70, 1943-1944  
P-70A  
P-38, 1943-1944, 1946  
B-25, 1944, 1945-1946  
P-61, 1944-1947  
A-20G  
P-61B  
F-100, 1958  
F-104, 1969

## **COMMANDERS**

Maj Carroll C. Smith, Apr 1, 1943-Feb 15, 1945  
Cpt William B. Sellers, Feb 15-Nov 1945

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Air Offensive, Japan  
New Guinea  
Bismarck Archipelago  
Western Pacific  
Leyte  
Luzon with Arrowhead  
Southern Philippines

Ryukyus  
China Offensive

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

#### **Decorations**

Philippine Presidential Unit Citation

#### **EMBLEM**

Over and through a blue-green disc, a king bee black and golden orange, wearing a red crown, holding aloft a lighted lantern proper with the right foreleg, and grasping a gray machine gun in the left foreleg, tip-toeing across a white cloud formation in base, and peering over the edge with a look of ferocity on his face; a crescent moon and two stars of yellow in background. (Approved, 11 Oct 1943)



#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Combat in Southwest and Western Pacific, 2 Jan 1944-14 Aug 1945. Not manned, 10 Dec 1957-25 Mar 1958.

First P-61 received: early September 1944

First enemy aircraft destroyed by P-61 crew: Oct. 7, 1944

Squadron total enemy aircraft destroyed by P-61 crews: 18

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 12 Feb 2012

Updated: 25 May 2012

#### **Sources**

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