



### **EMBLEM HISTORY:**

The 353rd Special Operations Group traces its origin to the 3rd Air Commando Group and the 553rd Reconnaissance Wing. The 353rd Special Operations Group's emblem was created by world-renowned cartoonist Milton Caniff ("Steve Canyon", "Terry and the Pirates") for the 553rd Reconnaissance Wing in 1967.

On July 31, 1985, the 3rd ACG was reestablished and consolidated with the 553rd RW. The same day, the 553rd RW was re-designated the 353rd Reconnaissance Wing. It wasn't until April 6, 1989, the Air Force re-designated the 353rd and activated the 353rd Special Operations Wing at Clark Air Base in the Philippines. The 353rd SOW was re-designated as a group in 1992.

### **EMBLEM 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 jagged lines of the lightning bolts as a star fix signify the electronic means used in shooting the stars in present day warfare. The sulfur sign at the point of the fix on the disc historically dramatizes the enormity of the power which can be delivered to such a place as a result of the skill of the group. The demi-globe represents the unit's ability to perform its functions anywhere in the world. The in dark and light coloration of the batcat suggests the day and night flying capabilities of the group.

(CURRENT AS OF JULY 2011)