**Centaurus A**: (NGC 5128) A radio galaxy in the constellation Centaurus, 10 million light years from Earth.

**Credit**: NASA/CXC/SAO

The Chandra X-ray image of Centaurus A shows a bright source in the nucleus of the galaxy, which is thought to be due to a supermassive black hole. The main jet extending to the upper left far outside the galaxy is caused by explosive activity around the black hole. A smaller "counter jet" extending to the lower right can also be seen. The faint arc on the lower right is thought to represent a shock wave produced by energetic particles expanding away from the nucleus. Numerous point-like sources of X rays are also apparent. These are probably due to neutron stars or black holes that are accreting matter from nearby companion stars.

**Scale**: Image is 15 arcmin on a side.

*Chandra X-ray Observatory HRC Image*