

# 387<sup>th</sup> EXPEDITIONARY SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



## MISSION

## LINEAGE

387<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

## STATIONS

## ASSIGNMENTS

387<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Mission Support Group

## COMMANDERS

LTC Vanessa Schoon

## HONORS

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

## Decorations

## EMBLEM

On a disc Argent, a falcon stooping bend sinister Sable, detailed Silver Gray, its talon holding a globe of the same, gridlined of the second, a point bendy Or and Black in base, all within a narrow bordure Blue. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "DONEC DOMUM REDEANT" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "387TH EXP SECURITY FORCES SQ" in Blue letters. **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 falcon holding the globe represents the unit's career field and its ability to strike quickly and accurately anywhere, any time. The globe by itself symbolizes the alliance of all security forces worldwide. The stripes represent the unit's lineage from the 387th Bombardment Group, nicknamed "Tiger Tails."

## **MOTTO**

DONEC DOMUM REDEANT-- Until They Return Home

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

KUWAIT (AFNS) -- Over the past few months, the 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron has increased joint security operations through host nation cooperation at Abdullah Al-Mubarak Air Base, where a large-scale, temporary cargo facility is currently under construction. U.S. forces are working with their Kuwaiti counterparts to move aerial port operations to Cargo City, a previously undeveloped area adjacent to an available ramp at the Kuwait International Airport. Since both the Kuwait Air Force and U.S. military coalition are temporarily located there until the new West Al-Mubarak Air Base is complete, it provides a strategic opportunity to work closer with host nation counterparts while implementing essential changes to security operations and procedures.

Lt. Col. Vanessa Schoon, 387th ESFS commander, said the new construction provides an opportunity to review and implement these measures, which meet both coalition forces' and host nation's needs, strengthening a mutually functional and cooperative relationship. "I think the hardest thing we take for granted is that (our counterparts) stay here and we rotate every six months, so the amount of effort they put and trust in us has to be rebuilt every six months," Schoon said. "As long as we tell our defenders that are coming in behind us, 'listen, this is a relationship we are in together. Keeping everybody safe...That's what the goal should be.'"

The aerial port at Cargo City is the largest strategic logistics point for passengers and cargo in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, which requires more cooperative integration with the host nation security force. "Progression is based off of what we are able to do; just like we have our manning capabilities and restrictions, they're in the same boat," said Master Sgt. Benjamin Hathaway, 387th ESFS training noncommissioned officer in charge and operations (NCO). "We know when we go to Cargo City that we are going to be doing joint operations. In preparation for that, we shouldn't just one day pick up and work together, we need to build up to that and have an understanding of how everything is going to operate. That's why we are trying to do these things in methodical manner." The 387th ESFS participated in joint exercises with their counterparts leading up to move to Cargo City. Future plans include having host nation counterparts work entry control points, do vehicle searches and security patrols in cooperation, and in many cases side-by-side with Airmen.

"The training has been progressively on going since 2016, however it has been fairly recently that we have been working together at the gates," said Maj. Mahammad Boesli, a security officer with the host nation forces. "For me the knowledge and experience has been good for my team. I love being able to exercise with our two nations and gain the expertise needed." The first thing U.S. leadership looked at was how to train the host nation to our standards of vehicle searching. "The mentality they had going into it was what do the Americans do and why do they do it this way," Hathaway said. "We see how they run their operations and they have a different mindset than us. We are really trying to envelope them into what our mindset is and why it is our mindset."

Schoon said part of this envelopment is getting both Airmen and the host nation military to become comfortable sharing information with each other so they can work effectively together. "We sent out one of our interpreters to an entry control point where both U.S. and host nation Airmen hang out a lot together, to get them out there talking and having tea," Schoon said. "Every time I go through the gate I ask my Airmen, 'have you talked to your friend today?' I'm telling them to go talk to them. That's the direction I give them every morning and every night when I leave through the gate." Hathaway agreed and said he pointed out to his counterparts that they are one family.

"We are all brothers and sisters here, all with the same goal and same mindset," he said. "When you say that, every one of them can see it on their face. It's about maintaining peace and looking out for each other cause at the end of the day I don't care who you are. Kuwaiti, Italian, Canadian or American, it doesn't matter, we are all on the planet together surviving and looking to survive and wanting to live. What I told them is, we want to live so being brothers and sisters is the best way to do that."

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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.