

## 403 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

403 Air Police Squadron constituted, 8 Sep 1950  
Activated in the Reserve, 11 Oct 1950  
Ordered 10 Active Service, 11 Apr 1951  
Relieved from Active Duty, 15 Nov 1952  
Activated, 11 Jan 1953  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Jan 1953  
Ordered to Active Service, 28 Oct 1962  
Relieved from Active Duty, 28 Nov 1962  
Discontinued, and inactivated, 11 Feb 1963  
Redesignated 403 Weapons System Security Flight, 29 Sep 1983  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Nov 1983  
Redesignated 403 Security Police Flight, 15 Aug 1988  
Redesignated 403 Security Police Squadron, 1 Oct 1992  
Redesignated 403 Security Forces Squadron, 1 Jul 1997

### STATIONS

Portland Aprt (later, Portland IAP), OR, 11 Oct 1950 -29 Mar 1952  
Ashiya AB, Japan, 14 Apr 1952 - 1 Jan 1953  
Portland IAP, OR, 1 Jan 1953  
Selfridge AFB, MI, 16 Nov 1957- 11 Feb 1963  
Keesler AFB, MS, 1 Nov 1983

### ASSIGNMENTS

403 Air Base Group, 11 Oct 1950- 1 Jan 1953

403 Air Base Group, 1 Jan 1953 – 11 Feb 1963  
403 Combat Support (later, 403 Mission Support) Squadron, 1 Nov 1983  
403 Support Group, 1 Aug 1992  
403 Mission Support Group

## COMMANDERS

Capt Danny Holloway, 8 Dec 1996  
Capt Sean McGraw, Feb 2006  
Maj Sean McGraw  
Lt Col James Coleman, 9 Dec 2020

## HONORS

### Service Streamers

### Campaign Streamers

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

### Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards  
1 Jul 1984-30 Jun 1986  
1 May 1992-30 Apr 1994  
1 May 1994-30 Apr 1996  
1 May 1996-31 Aug 1997

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation  
14 Apr 1952 - 1 Jan 1953

## EMBLEM



On a disc Azure, gridlined Or, a shield Argent bearing a scarpe Gules, surmounted by a pistol bendwise, Sable, muzzle upwards, in base three mullets chevronwise of the second; all within a

narrow border Black. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed “DEFENDERS AD MORTEM” in Black letters. Attached below the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed “403D SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON” in Black 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 shield on the globe represents how the unit is willing to carry out any defense mission globally. The blood stripe across the shield signifies all of Security Forces fallen defenders. The stars denote the three Air Force Core Values. The flintlock pistol indicates tradition and the tools of the trade in Security Forces. (Approved, 14 Aug 2017)

## **MOTTO**

DEFENDERE AD MORTEM--Defend Unto Death

## **OPERATIONS**

Even though the 403rd Security Forces Squadron has been around for decades in one form or another, they’ve never had a symbol that represents who they are and what they stand for – until now. The squadron designed their new patch and recently had it approved for use by the Air Force Historical Research Agency at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. “We wanted to build a sense of identity in the unit,” said Master Sgt. Lucas Applewhite, 403rd SFS action officer. “We wanted to have something unique to the unit that instilled a sense of pride and represented our mission and leave a legacy long after we’re gone.”

“To have a unit-level patch shows that we are one of the elite organizations within Air Force Reserve Command,” said Tech. Sgt. Richard Potter, 403rd SFS assistant action officer. According to the official significance statement, each aspect of the unit emblem holds a meaning for the squadron. “I wanted to create something that embodied the culture of the Air Force, the security forces career field, and the 403rd SFS,” said Master Sgt. Bradford Hanberry, former 403rd SFS member and designer of the emblem. “That’s what helped me generate the pieces that make up the emblem. I hope the emblem acts as a beacon to guide every defender who wears it to live up to the Air Force core values and to honor all fallen defenders as well.”

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 23 Nov 2010

Updated: 3 Jun 2021

### Sources

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

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.