

507 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

507 Air Police Squadron constituted and activated, 15 Feb 1963

Organized, 1 Apr 1963

Redesignated 507 Security Police Squadron, 25 Apr 1967

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1968

507 Weapons System Security Flight constituted, 22 Mar 1973

Activated in the Reserve, 25 Mar 1973

507 Security Police Squadron and 507 Weapons System Security Flight consolidated, 12 Oct 1984

Redesignated 507 Security Police Flight, 15 Aug 1988

Redesignated 507 Security Police Squadron, 1 Oct 1992

Redesignated 507 Security Forces Squadron, 1 Jul 1997

STATIONS

Kincheloe AFB, MI, 1 Apr 1963-30 Sep 1968

Tinker AFB, OK, 25 Mar 1973

ASSIGNMENTS

507 Combat Support Group 1 Apr 1963-30 Sep 1968

507 Support Group, (later 507 Mission Support Group) 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

Maj Robert Baird, 18 Mar 2006

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jun 1966-1 Jun 1968

1 Jan-31 Dec 1978

1 Jul 1985-1 Jul 1986

15 Aug 1988-31 Aug 1989

1 Jan 1992-31 Dec 1993

1 Jan 1994-31 Jul 1995

1 Aug 1996-31 Jul 1998

1 Jan 2009-1 Aug 2010

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award

11 Sept 2001-30 Jun 2004

EMBLEM



On a disc Sable, a demi-globe issuant from base Azure, gridlined Argent supporting a knight chevalier astride Proper grasping in dexter hand a natural ray of lightning fesswise and in sinister hand the same bendwise to the first Or, all within a diminished border of the first. Attached above the disc, an Argent scroll edged with a narrow Black border inscribed "507TH SECURITY FORCES SQ" in Black letters. Attached below the disc, an Argent scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "IN PEACE AND WAR" 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 globe represents the scope of Air Force operations and the unit's commitment to "round-the-clock" operations. The knight chevalier signifies the strength and protection the Squadron provides to its parent organization. The chain of lightning the knight grasps symbolizes the unit's control over powerful and deceptive forces in the defense of freedom. (Approved, 17 Feb 2000)

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

After six years, the 507th Security Forces Squadron members now have a place to call home. During a 10 a.m. ribbon cutting ceremony Dec. 3, 2005 507th ARW Commander Col. Dean Despinoy dedicated a new 8,740 square foot facility, building 1095, stating "We are very happy for the support from Tinker Air Force Base officials and everyone involved to help us make this new facility a reality."

For the Air Force reservists, the long exodus to their new work center began in 1999 after a second major flood wreaked havoc to their previous building on base. "Our original building was in the middle of the Reserve campus on base and unfortunately was located in what's called a 100-year flood zone," said Master Sgt. David Dickson, 507th SFS Air Reserve Technician. The term "100-year flood zone" is used to describe an area that may, under the right conditions, encounter major flooding once every 100 years.

"Our squadron got hit with two major floods virtually back to back," Dickson said. The second flood, which produced a 4 foot high crest throughout the entire squadron building, destroyed a major portion of the squadron's office equipment and deployable assets, including night vision goggles, two All Terrain Vehicles and personal chemical gear. "It was a terrible event," Dickson said. Immediately afterwards, the squadron took roost for four months in the maintenance complex before moving to office facilities with the 513th Air Control Group in building 240. In April of 2000, the squadron moved once again to the 38th EIG complex off Douglas Blvd. where they remained for the next four years.

The new \$1.2 million facility is designed to provide space for 50 Air Force Reserve Security Forces personnel with offices, two training classrooms, and attached warehouse storage for the squadron's deployable wartime assets. "Our security forces are a vital resource to the Air Force," Colonel Despinoy stated during the building dedication. "The support we have received from Base Civil Engineering and others here on base was critical to our being able to stand here today and mark a new beginning for our reservists.

Approximately 40 Air Force Reserve Security Forces members from the 507 Air Refueling Wing left January 17 for Kirkuk AB, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The reservists were activated Nov. 29, 2007, to help them prepare for their pending deployment. In December, the reservists went to Camp Swift near Bastrop, Texas where the members received 16 days of professional training specifically tailored to the challenges they may face while in theater. Once the reservists boarded their military transport here their mission will take them overseas for a minimum of 179 days.

"We are very proud of our security force members and wish them the best," said 507th Air Refueling Wing Commander Colonel Jeffery R. Glass. The colonel said the security forces had

been planning and preparing for their deployment since last spring. "Roughly last spring, we received an initial notification that our security forces might be tapped to deploy to the Southwest Asia Theater. They've been planning and preparing for that possibility ever since." Maj. Robert Baird, the 507th Security Forces Squadron commander, also expressed his confidence in the deploying members.

"Our people are very well trained and prepared to do their jobs. I have the greatest confidence in them." The biggest disappointment for the Major Baird was that the tasking for this deployment did not include the commander. "I want to go with my Airmen," he said. "They already have a commander assigned there, so I wasn't able to go with them." Major Baird had nothing but praise for the 507 when it came to helping provide for his personnel.

"Whenever we needed to purchase equipment for our folks, Colonel Glass approved it." Even with receiving all the authorized equipment, Major Baird said many of the reservists spent several hundred dollars apiece in preparing for the deployment. "Our people received all the gear authorized, but many bought additional equipment they felt they might need - from special container packs to personal items. They are going to be there for a long time." While the reservists are deployed, the 507th ARW Airman and Family Readiness Office will contact their families on a weekly basis to provide support.

"We have a full-time reservist here to provide for our family support operation. We take care of our people," Colonel Glass said adding, "My wife, Kim, has volunteered to help make those phone calls. She is looking forward to helping out while the security forces are deployed." "We'll all be praying for them while their deployed and looking forward to the tune they finally come back home," Glass said.

When it comes to protecting the base from aggressor assault the 507th Security Forces Squadron is ready to defend. The flight has a wartime mission to perform resource protection, system security and base defense. "We keep the area clear of aggressors so maintenance can prepare the aircraft and the pilots can complete their mission," said Maj. Robert Baird, commander of the 507th Security Forces Squadron. Among possible tasking, Baird said security forces teams man posts and patrol to protect systems against sabotage, man listening and observation posts, and establish defensive fighting positions.

The flight is organized into and trained as four-man fire teams and 13-man squads. "We train for deployment into any type of situation from bare bases to main operating bases," he said. Baird said the security forces mission could be compared to "guerrilla-style" combat. He described an airbase as an urban situation. Unlike infantry forces, which deal with direct large ground assaults, a higher threat to airbase security comes from terrorist or smaller-sized forces. "We are prepared to deal with that type of problem. If a large force were to attack, we would remain there to stop their movement," he said. "Security forces is the first into the area to secure the position and the last to leave." 2007

USAF Unit Histories

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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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.