

919 SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP

MISSION

LINEAGE

919 Operations Group established and activated in the Reserve, 1 Aug 1992
Redesignated 919 Special Operations Group

STATIONS

Eglin AF Aux Field #3 (Duke Field), FL 1 Aug 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

919 Special Operations Wing, 1 Aug 1992

WEAPON SYSTEMS

AC-130, 1992-1995

C-130, 1992

HH-3, 1992-1993

HC-130 (later, MC-130), 1995

MC-130, 1995

MQ-1, 2009

U-28/PC-12, 2009

COMMANDERS

Col Alan M. Mitchell, 1 Aug 1992

Col James E. Jones III, 20 Mar 1994

Lt Col Richard W. Champion, 4 Mar 1995

Col Gerald C. VonBerge, 7 Jul 1995

Col Richard W. Champion, 27 Jul 1997

Col Jason Grandy

Col Brett J. Clark, Jun 2002

Lt Col Daniel R. Posch

Col Michael P. Hayes, 5 May 200

Lt Col James D. Smith, 10 Jun 2002-unkn
Col Mark Blalock; Mar 2006
Lt Col James Phillips, 1 Dec 2009
Col Donald R. Buckley, Mar 2010

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device
1 Feb 2001-31 Jan 2003

Gallant Unit Citation
6 Oct 2001-1 Jul 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

[1 Aug] 1992-31 May 1994
1 Jun 1994-31 May 1996
1 Jun 1996-31 May 1998
1 Jun 1998-31 May 2000
1 Feb-30 Sep 2003
1 Oct 2003-31 Dec 2004
1 Jan-31 Dec 2005
1 Jan-31 Dec 2006
1 Jan-[30 Apr] 2007
1 Oct 2008-30 Jul 2010

EMBLEM

Group will use the wing emblem with the group designation in the scroll.

Emblazoned on the Air Force Shield piped in Air Force Yellow, against an Air Force Blue field, a spectre-like female figure clad in flowing grey robes and outlined in black, facing dexter (right). In the figure's left hand, a red ball of fire. A stream of light in Air Force Yellow flows sinister (left) from the figure's right sleeve. Behind the figure, a portion of a disc in Air Force Yellow, outlined in black. Against a white scroll piped in Air Force Yellow and Blue, the motto "Semper Paratus Pugnare" - "Always Ready to Fight." **SIGNIFICANCE:** The design is based on the distinctive history of the 919th Special Operations Group as the Air Force Reserve's only special operations group and the general function of the unit as a special operations organization. The Air Force Blue field represents the night sky; the Air Force Yellow disc represents the moon. Both are symbolic of night operations, which are the hallmark of special operations units. The spectre-like female figure represents the

liberty the unit is prepared to defend. It also represents the AC-130A "Spectre" special operations aircraft. The grey, flowing robes represent the ghost-like image of the aircraft in flight, the general function of the unit as a flying operation. The red ball of fire in the figure's left hand represents the unit's ability to defend the country against aggression and is also symbolic of the weapons mounted on the left side of the AC-130A "Spectre". The Air Force Yellow stream of light represents the night reconnaissance abilities of the unit and symbolizes the continuing vigilance and readiness of the Air Force Reserve. The design is two photographs of a rough draft.

MOTTO

SEMPER PARATUS PUGNARE-Always Ready to Fight

OPERATIONS

Activated in 1992 to control the flying operations of the 919th Special Operations Wing. Transitioned from a gunship mission to that of infiltration, exfiltration, resupply, and long-range refueling for special operations forces. Periodically deployed personnel and aircraft to support special operations forces in contingency and humanitarian operations worldwide. Beginning 1 Oct 1997, operated schoolhouse to provide flight portion of MC-130E Combat Talon I training for both Air Force Special Operations and Air Force Reserve Commands.

Activated in 1992 to control the flying operations of the 919 Special Operations Wing. Transitioned from a gunship mission to that of infiltration, exfiltration, resupply, and long-range refueling for special operations forces. Periodically deployed personnel and aircraft to support special operations forces in contingency and humanitarian operations worldwide. Beginning 1 Oct 1997, operated schoolhouse to provide flight portion of MC-130E Combat Talon I training for both Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) and Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC). Some personnel called to active duty after terrorists attacked the United States on 11 Sep 2001. Provided personnel and aircraft support for Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and Willing Spirit, c. 2002

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 29 Jul 2020
Updated:

Sources

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